



Home Safety & Security



Better Homes • Stronger Communities

As burglaries cause a great deal of distress, we want to make our homes as secure as possible, but we need your help to do this. Remember the following points:

- Close all windows and use locks where they are fitted.
- Close and lock all external doors at all times - even when you are at home.
- Never leave cash or valuables lying around.
- Lock up before you go to bed and make sure windows are secure and curtains closed.
- Never let strangers into your home unless they can prove their identity. All North Lincolnshire Homes staff and partners have official identification cards showing the organisation's logo, their name and photograph.
- Keep sheds and outside buildings secure.



- If you live in a block of flats make sure the entrance and exit doors are kept closed. Do not let any callers in to the block unless they are your own visitors.
- Do not leave ladders, steps or tools out; they could be used by a thief to break-in.
- If you see anyone behaving suspiciously in your neighbourhood, report it to the police.
- Never leave a spare key in a hiding place such as under a doormat, in a flowerpot or inside a letterbox - a thief will look there first.
- If you have to use a key to open your door, keep it nearby - you may need to get out quickly in the event of fire.
- Take house and car keys with you when you go to bed.



When you are away


When you are away from your home try and make it look occupied:

- Let neighbours you trust know if you are going away, ask them to keep an eye on your home and report anything suspicious to the police.
- Leave some lights on in the evening by asking a neighbour to come and switch them on or by using an automatic timer switch.
- Remember to cancel papers, milk and other regular deliveries before going on holiday.
- Never leave valuable or easily transportable items like DVD's or car keys where they can be seen from the windows.
- If you are going to be away from your home for four weeks or more you must tell your Housing Officer.




Fire safety advice

Top tips for keeping your home safe from fire:

- 1 Fit smoke alarms on each level in your home. Keep them free from dust and test them once a week. Consider buying a ten year alarm; otherwise remember to change the batteries in your alarm every year.
 - 2 Make a fire action plan so that everyone in your home knows how to escape in case there is a fire. If you need advice about this, please let us know straight away.
 - 3 Keep the exits from your home clear so that people can escape if there is a fire. Make sure that everyone in your home can easily find keys for doors and windows.
 - 4 Take extra care in the kitchen - accidents while cooking account for over half of fires in homes. Never leave young children alone in the kitchen.
 - 5 Take extra care when cooking with hot oil. If you often deep fry food, consider buying a deep-fat fryer which is controlled by a thermostat.
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- 6 Never leave lit candles in unoccupied rooms or where children are alone. Make sure candles are in secure holders, on a flat surface that does not burn and are away from any materials that could burn.
- 7 Make sure cigarettes are stubbed out properly, disposed of carefully and never smoke in bed.
- 8 Get into the habit of closing doors at night. If you want to keep a child's bedroom door open, close the doors to the lounge and kitchen, it may well help save their life if there is a fire.
- 9 Don't overload electrical sockets. Remember one plug for one socket.
- 10 Keep matches and lighters where children cannot see or reach them.
- 11 Take special care when you are tired or when you've been drinking.

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- 12 Don't leave the TV or other electrical appliances on standby as this could cause a fire. Always switch it off and unplug when not in use.
 - 13 Unplug all electrical appliances when you go away for more than a few days.

Fire safety

- Consider inviting Humberside Fire and Rescue to carry out a home fire safety check on your property. The Community Safety Team can be contacted on **01724 295900**.

In case of fire

- Alert the Fire Service, dial **999**.
- Keep calm.
- Do not try to put the fire out unless you are sure that you can do so quickly and safely.
- Get everyone out of the property.
- Do not stop to collect anything or get dressed.
- Follow your planned escape route.

- Remember to close all doors behind you as you leave your home.
- Stay out of the building until the Fire Service advises you that it is safe to return.
- In the unlikely event that you are unable to leave your home because of a fire, close all windows and doors and seal the bottom of the door with a cloth to prevent smoke coming in. If smoke does enter the room, stay close to the floor whenever possible, cover your mouth with a cloth (preferably damp), take short shallow breaths and await the arrival of the Fire Service.



Calling the Fire Service

- When you dial the Fire Service let the operator know if there are people in the building and if anyone has a disability.
- Make sure you or your visitors do not block emergency services access with parked vehicles.

Special advice for people living in flats

- If there is a rubbish chute in your building make sure that discarded smoking materials are extinguished with water before you put them into the chute.
- Do not block fire escape routes.
- Do not place rubbish or other material that can catch fire easily in communal areas.
- Ensure that fire doors are kept closed.
- Make sure you know where the fire escape stairways and doors are located.
- Avoid using lifts in the event of a fire.
- Do not store furniture or other personal belongings in shared areas, especially stairwells and corridors. We may have to remove anything we find in these areas and charge you for the cost of this work.
- Follow advice that is specific to your house and any fire safety notices.



Community safety

You can also help us prevent crime by telling us about community safety issues. For example, where a security light is needed, or a door entry system to a block of flats is faulty or damaged.

We will carry out regular inspections of neighbourhoods with tenants to identify community safety concerns and develop ways to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Neighbourhood Watch schemes are a way for residents to get together, to help prevent crime and make their neighbourhood a safer place by looking after one another and their community.

These schemes develop close links with the police, who can provide advice and information about local problems. Well-run schemes can have a big impact on local crime.

Visit us online
www.nlhomes.org.uk

For more information contact the Humberside Association of Neighbourhood Watch Groups on (01724) 274222 or go to www.hanwag.org.uk

If you are concerned about safety and security in your home talk to us about it.

We may be able to help you or put you in touch with someone who can.

Contact us on
01724 279900 or 0800 032 63 63
Or visit www.nlhomes.org.uk



No English?

For information please call:

08000 193530 (Arabic) للحصول على المزيد من المعلومات اتصل بـ: 08000 193530

তথ্যগুলি বাংলায় জানতে হলে এই নম্বরে ফোন করুন: 08000 193531 (Bengali)

欲知粵語版的息，請致電: 08000 193532 (Cantonese)

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بۆ زانیاری به کوردی سۆزانی تەلهفۆن بۆ ژماره 08000 193537 بکە. (Kurdish Sorani)

Para mais informação em português contacte-nos através do telefone 08000 193538 (Portuguese)

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ 08000 193539 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ (Punjabi)

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Nie mówisz po angielsku? Po informacji zadzwoń pod numer 08000 195587 (Polish)

Не знаете английский? Для информации звоните 08000 195586 (Russian)

**For information in large print, audio or other formats
please call 01724 279900**

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