

Safety in your building

11 September 2020

The Archer Tower
Berger Road,
Hackney
E9 6FG

Dear Residents,



The Hive
22 Wembley Park Boulevard
Wembley
HA9 0HP

www.networkhomes.org.uk
customerservice@
networkhomes.org.uk
0300 373 3000

Recent evacuation of Archer Tower

On Wednesday 9 September the fire service was called to The Archer Tower at 8pm while a partial evacuation of the building was underway. They attended within minutes and quickly confirmed there was no fire, instructing residents to return to their homes.

When the fire service spoke to the concierge and looked at the fire panel, they confirmed that the decision to begin an evacuation and call emergency services was correct.

AJS (our contractors that service the alarm system) attended the site within 24 hours and have confirmed the system is operational and working. They are still investigating to understand if there are any faults with the fire alarm system.

Thank you all for your feedback on the frequency of alarms since we went live with the new system at the beginning of August, as well as how best the concierge can communicate with you all in the event of an evacuation. Once we have the report from AJS, we will look at how we can improve and any training that may be required.

General fire safety information

The alarm system will be **routinely tested every Friday at 4pm.**

To be clear, **if you hear the alarm sound, you should evacuate the building** – this includes if the alarm does not stop at 4pm on a Friday.

All escape routes need to remain clear, so please ensure no items are left in the communal areas.

We will remove and dispose of all items in the communal areas. Flammable items such as BBQs, gas bottles, cardboard and packaging should not be stored in your home. You also should **never have a BBQ on your balcony** and try to **avoid smoking on your balcony** as the London Fire Brigade advise these are some of the leading causes of fire in blocks of flats. Last year, a fire in Barking destroyed 20 flats and this was started by a BBQ on a balcony.

Your fire strategy

Here's a recap of what to do if there is a fire in your flat, you hear the alarm or the concierge tells you to evacuate:

- Evacuate immediately closing all doors behind you as you leave your flat.
- Leave the building using the nearest staircase. This will be shown on the fire signage within your block. **Do not use the lift.**

- Call 999.
- If the fire is in your flat, you should alert the concierge so they can raise an alarm.
- If you are responding to an alarm raised by the concierge, you should follow any instructions they give you.
- Tell the concierge and Fire Brigade if any members of your household require assistance to evacuate.
- Gather at the assembly point **Pavement in Berger Road, opposite Homerton Station** (map below). Wait at the assembly point until you are told by the fire brigade/warden/concierge to return to your home.



Got a question? Then get in touch on customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk or **0300 373 3000**.
Thank you again for allowing us access into your homes to make these improvements.

Yours sincerely



Sam Drinkwater
Neighbourhood Team Leader (Building Safety)