

Safety in your building

20 December 2023

To the family/contact of Helmi House residents,

Changes to the Building Fire Strategy following completion of internal fire safety work

Sovereign Network Group (SNG) is a new organisation formed from the merger of Network Homes and Sovereign Housing Association in October 2023. Network Homes, now SNG, is the parent company of SW9 Community Housing and owns Helmi House. We are responsible for building safety work at Helmi House, with SW9 Community Housing and London Care managing the site day to day.

Internal fire safety work

You will recall we sent you a letter on 7 September, regarding change in the fire strategy at Helmi House and introduction of additional staff to assist residents to evacuate their flat in case of fire.

I am pleased to confirm that the highest priority internal fire remediation work is complete. All flat fire doors and majority of communal fire doors have now been replaced. This has allowed us to revisit the building fire strategy which since 7 September has been to evacuate an entire floor if there is a fire.

As a result, with effect from Friday 22 December at 8am, the fire strategy at Helmi House will evolve to only evacuating the resident of the flat where a fire breaks out and also the resident of the neighbouring flat. This will be the case until we complete some final works inside flats to wall lights, and behind electrical sockets in January 2024. The additional care staff that we employed these last few months will no longer be required at Helmi House.

There is a range of different works that will continue in 2024:

- The works to install the portable misting systems in each flat.
- The remaining fire doors leading to stairwells and riser cupboard doors will be replaced.
- External wall works are expected to complete by March 2024.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience whilst all of this work has been completed in Helmi House.

Further support

You can check back the updates surrounding fire safety issues at Helmi House on this link on our website: <https://www.networkhomes.org.uk/robsart1buildingsafety/>. If you have any questions or concerns about the fire safety arrangement, you can get in touch with SNG on customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk. You can also get in touch with SW9 Community Housing or London Care on site.

Kind regards

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A summary of this letter

Highest priority internal fire remediation work is complete.

As a result, the fire strategy at Helmi House will change to evacuate only the flat where a fire breaks out and also the neighbouring flat. This will change from 8am on Friday 22 December.