## Fire Safety Advice Balconies &Winter Gardens



We are committed to ensuring your homes are safe places to live and take our responsibilities for doing so very seriously, but we also need your help. One of the ways you can help is by taking time to read and understand the advice below regarding safe use of balconies and winter gardens (balconies with sliding glass windows).



**Keep balconies free from clutter** – these are an important access point for firefighters so, never use them for storage.

**Avoid smoking on balconies if you can** -if you do, never discard cigarettes of smoking materials on or over the balcony. Use a sturdy ashtray and dispose of smoking materials responsibly.

Barbecues, fire pits, patio heaters and chimeneas should never be used on a balcony – they pose a fire and carbon monoxide risk.

**Avoid storing combustible materials on balconies** such as mattresses, garden furniture and electrical appliances including white goods.

Glass vessels and mirrors could amplify sunlight to cause a fire, so never store on balconies.

Do not modify your balcony or install combustible screening or netting.

Only use seats and tables made from non-flammable materials on balconies.

Never store flammable or hazardous materials.

Do not use or set off fireworks or sky lanterns from a balcony.

If your neighbours are using their balconies in a way that compromises fire safety or have any concerns, please call us on 0121 569 6000.