23 February 2021



The Hive 22 Wembley Park Boulevard Wembley HA9 0HP

www.networkhomes.org.uk

customerservices@ networkhomes.org.uk 0300 373 3000

Residents Park Heights 25 Robsart Street London SW9 0FD

Dear Residents

Changes coming – fire strategy

Further to our recent communication, we are pleased to advise that the works to replace the ACM cladding is nearly complete. This has been a huge programme of works and we would like to thank you for your patience and support over the last 3 years.

Now that the works are nearly complete, and all the necessary fire barriers are installed, Network Homes' fire engineers have advised that we can revert to the 'stay put' fire strategy. This means we will be standing down the fire marshal (waking watch) and will be removing the communal fire alarm.

Once these works are completed you will only be alerted to a fire when directly affected, through the detection within your flat. If the detection within your flat is activated, you should immediately evacuate your flat closing the door behind you. As soon as it is safe to do so, you should call 999 to report the fire. Remember: do not use the lifts when evacuating.

When are these changes coming?

We intend to implement the 'stay put' strategy from Monday 1 March 2021 at 9am. New Fire Action Notices detailing information on what you should do in the event of a fire will be displayed within 24 hours of this change. If you need assistance developing an escape plan, please call Network Homes' dedicated Fire Safety Team on 0300 373 3000.

We will also be arranging for a new Fire Risk Assessment to be completed by Savills over the coming weeks. Once received this will be published on our website.

How can you help keep both you and your neighbours safe?

Whilst the building has now been fitted with fire rated cladding, we all still play a crucial role in continuing to reduce the risk of a fire occurring. Therefore please:

- 1. Do not leave food cooking unsupervised.
- 2. **Test your smoke alarms weekly** to ensure they are working as they should. If you feel your smoke detector is not working, please call SW9 Community Housing for assistance.
- 3. Always ensure the corridors and escape routes are sterile. We will continue to remove any items found. Notice of removing items will not be given.
- 4. Ensure your flat entry door can self-close. If your door isn't closing on its own please report it to SW9 Community Housing.
- 5. Do not use BBQs or patio heaters on balconies.

This is not an exhaustive list and more information on fire safety can be found on the SW9 website: <u>https://www.sw9.org.uk/advice-and-support/fire-safety/</u>

Finally, I would like to give you assurances that our residents and their homes are our number one priority and we have sought expert advice before taking this decision to change the fire strategy. We have also informed the London Fire Brigade of the intended action.

I do hope this letter has clearly set out our intentions, but if you have any further queries please do contact Network Homes' Fire Safety Team on 0300 373 3000. Alternatively you can email us at <u>firesafety@networkhomes.org.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Jones Fire Safety Contracts Manager