



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

After the fire

www.cymru.gov.uk

This leaflet will give you advice on what to do, or what advice and assistance can be provided for you from other organisations.





After a fire you will be eager to get your life and your property back to normal as soon as possible.

Our hope is that the information given in this leaflet will help you to deal with the immediate situation.

Accommodation

If you have any doubts about the safety or habitability of your property following the fire you can contact your local Housing Authority. Alternatively, if your property is unfit to live in, then try to arrange temporary accommodation with relatives or friends until you can make more permanent arrangements.

If your property is unsecured and you have to leave it unattended, close all windows and doors. Should windows and doors require boarding up, contact your Local Authority if appropriate. Telephone numbers of contractors can be found under “Glaziers” in the telephone directory.

Contact your local Police to ensure they are aware that the property is empty.

Insurance

If you are insured, contact your Insurance Company as soon as possible. They may wish to inspect your property/contents before anything is moved. Obtain and complete a claims form.

If possible, photograph contents and damage which may help your insurance claim, especially if wide-scale damage has occurred.



Power Supplies

Electricity

If the internal electric supply has been affected, this will probably have been switched off by the Fire and Rescue Service.

Do not attempt to reconnect the supply until checked by a qualified electrician, or until your electricity supplier has attended.

Gas

If your gas supply or appliances have been affected by fire, the Fire and Rescue Service or gas company will make the premises safe, by either turning off or disconnecting the gas supply. There is no charge for this service.

Do not turn the supply back on until the system has been checked by a qualified engineer.



Local Authority tenants are advised to contact the Local Housing Department who will organise any repair work necessary to the domestic side of Gas, Water or Electricity.

Chimney Fires

After a chimney fire:

- Place fireguard in front of the fireplace.
- Leave the chimney to cool for at least 24 hours before re-lighting.
- Have your chimney swept as soon as possible, and regularly thereafter.

Vehicle Fires

If your vehicle has been involved in fire it is your responsibility to remove it from the roadway. If you are not a member of a breakdown organisation, the Police may call out a local garage to remove the vehicle.

**If your vehicle
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Fire Prevention

The experience you have been through is now in the past, although it will probably have cost you a lot. A few minutes of your time to consider some fire precautions in your new environment would mean your family and your property are better protected and could ensure that the same thing cannot happen again.

A smoke detector could save your life. It will give you and your family valuable minutes to escape from fire and alert the Fire and Rescue Service. Firefighters will carry out a free home fire safety check and fit smoke alarms for free. They will also help you to design a fire escape plan in your new environment and provide general fire safety advice.

**For a free home fire safety check from
your local Fire and Rescue Service
please call **0800 169 1234**
www.wales.gov.uk/fire**



**It is important to test
your smoke detector
every week, and
change the battery
every 12 months or
sooner if needed**