How to test your smoke alarm

All Westminster City Council properties are fitted with smoke and heat detection. Your housing officer will show you how to test your smoke alarm as part of your welcome visit.

You should test your alarm(s) every week.

To do this, press the 'test' button on the alarm. Gently run your vacuum cleaner nozzle over the alarm every month to remove dust etc.

If your alarm(s) do not work when you press the test button or starts to beep, there is a fault. Please report this to Westminster City Council on 0800 358 3783.

Each year we will arrange for a contractor to test and maintain your alarm(s). Please keep your appointment to ensure that your alarm(s) continue to work and keep you safe.

What to do if there is a fire

Fire Action notices are located in the ground floor entrance lobby of all Westminster City Council properties. They tell you what to do in the event of a fire in your building.

Please make sure you read the notice and understand the instructions.

Do inform your housing officer if you have any difficulty following the notice's instructions or have any questions.

We will write to let you know if the fire evacuation plan changes during your tenancy.

Fire exits

Most properties only have one way in and out - the front entrance door.

A small proportion of flats have a second way out, called a secondary means of escape.

Your housing officer will show you if your new property has a secondary means of escape, where it is, how to use it and tell you what you need to do (and not do) to maintain it.

If you need further information or advice about fire and gas safety in Westminster City Council properties, please contact the Westminster City Council health and safety team www.westminster.gov.uk/housing