



NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Smoke Detector fitting in domestic premises Prevention and Protection Public Guidance Note

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Guidance has been prepared with the objective of providing guidance for members of the public living in domestic premises who wish to have an domestic smoke detector fitted by the Fire and Rescue Service.
- 1.2. Working domestic smoke detectors are a vital protection from the dangers of fire in the home. They provide the early warning and precious time which can save lives and prevent injury. The promotion of the widespread ownership of domestic smoke detectors is one of the most important community fire safety initiatives for the Fire and Rescue Service.

2. Making Contact

- 2.1. Should you wish to have a HFRC carried out you can contact us either via the web www.northyorksfire.gov.uk or by telephone 01609 788545 and follow the instructions.
- 2.2 Your name, address and telephone number will be taken. You will be contacted at a later date to arrange a date for a domestic smoke detector fitting.

3. What to expect when the fitter arrives at your home

- 3.1. Our appointments are occasionally subject to change due to operational commitments and other incidents however under most circumstances the local community safety officer will arrive at your home at the agreed date and time (if changes need to be made we will try to contact you as soon as possible).
- 3.2. NYFRS staff will have an identification card and it will be shown to you on arrival.
- 3.3. NYFRS will provide all tools and equipment in order to complete the installation.

4. Positioning the Domestic smoke detector

- 4.1. NYFRS staff are trained to advise you on the most appropriate location to site domestic smoke detectors to give an early warning of fire. The location will be discussed with you prior to work commencing.
- 4.2. In domestic premises on one level, as a minimum, a domestic smoke detector should be installed on the ceiling of the main hallway or other similar compartment.
- 4.4. In domestic premises on more than one level a greater degree of protection is afforded by the installation of one domestic smoke detector at the bottom of the stairs and further domestic smoke detectors on each stair landing.
- 4.5. In non traditional dwellings, for example caravans, a domestic smoke detector should be installed so that it provides a warning to the occupants of the sleeping areas.
- 4.6. NYFRS staff will be able to recognise when there are circumstances which fall outside this general guidance and therefore domestic smoke detectors may be installed in other locations which provide you with early warning in the case of fire.

5. Method of Fixing

- 5.1. There are a number of methods of fixing the domestic smoke detector to the ceiling. The fitter will discuss and agree the method with you.
- 5.2. Each method of fixing creates little or no disturbance to the internal décor of your home

6. Testing the Domestic smoke detector

- 6.1. The fitter will test the domestic smoke detector to ensure it is functioning at the time of installation.
- 6.2. You will be given advice and instruction on how to test and maintain the domestic smoke detector.
- 6.3. The fitter will use the opportunity of this visit to your home to assess the risk of fire.

7. Vulnerable risk groups

- 7.1 NYFRS have adopted the regional CFOA definition of vulnerable person;

“A person or family who is or may be in need of care because they have a learning, physical or sensory disability, mental illness or age related problem and who is or may be unable to protect themselves against harm or exploitation”.

- 7.2 If you think you may fall within these groups you may be eligible for a Home Fire Risk Check and domestic smoke detector installation free of charge.

8. Premises outside the scope of the initiative

- 8.1 The following classes of premises are not eligible to have domestic smoke detectors fitted by NYFRS staff;-

- Non-Domestic/Trade or Business premises
- Premises that are required by statute to have a mains powered electrical fire alarm system
- Premises that are covered by recommendations in other standards or guidance where mains powered electrical fire alarm systems are specified.

8.2. Specific advice and guidance is available for these types of premises and you will be directed to our Technical Fire Safety department where you will be able to discuss your case with a specialist officer.

9 Specialised Domestic Smoke Detectors

9.1 Where an external agency or partnership make a request or referral to fit a specialised domestic smoke detector the external agency will be responsible for the funding of the Unit. NYFRS will offer advice on the procurement and supply these types of alarms in conjunction with assessing the overall fire risks and offering safety advice.

9.2 Where NYFRS staff consider that an individual may experience difficulty hearing a standard domestic smoke alarm or where a HFRC identifies that a specialised smoke detector (i.e. Deaf Alarm) as opposed/or in addition to a standard domestic smoke detector they should pass on a request for funding via the Outlook Referral Form to the safeguarding e mail box.

9.3 ACS will carry out their own assessment of the need based on their own criteria. Should they require any further assistance they will contact to confirm that they wish NYFRS to install the detector and accept an invoice for the cost of the unit. CAO Performance staff will deal with the procurement and supply of the equipment and pass the request to district based staff for installation.

9.4 Within the North Yorkshire county area the fiscal responsibility for funding this equipment is lodged with NYCC Adult Services at County Hall, Northallerton. NYFRS staff should not approach a local Adult and Community Services Managers at district level.

9.5 The fitting of specialised alarms in the CYC area is subject to the requirement to source suitable funding prior to installation. NYFRS will refer the individual to the most appropriate support agency who may decide to fund the system and ask NYFRS to install it or make other arrangements following their own assessment. In some circumstances the NYFRS may fund a specialist alarm through central government or other third party grant funding when available.

Supporting Documentation

Smoke Alarm Fitting in Domestic Premises SGN
 Smoke Alarm Fitting in Domestic Premises Policy
 Smoke Alarm Fitting in Domestic Premises Risk Assessment
 Smoke Alarm fitting in Domestic Premises SOP