HEALTH AND SAFETY IN YOUR HOME

Heyford Regeneration is committed to creating and maintaining an outstanding community at Heyford Park. This includes ensuring our clients and customers stay safe in their homes and that they know what to do in the case of an emergency.

All of our homes are built to a high standard and meet the health and safety requirements for new build properties. However, it is important you are aware of the steps you can take to minimise the risks in your home and what to do if an emergency was to occur.

**1 What to do in an Emergency**

It might be necessary to urgently shut off the water, gas and electrical supplies in the case of an emergency. So make sure you know where to find the following:

• The gas meter and gas supply tap

• The cold water stop cock

• The electricity meters, circuit breakers and isolation switch

All of these locations will be listed in your Home User Guide.

**2 Fire Safety**

There are a number of things you can do to prevent fire in your home:

• Test the smoke alarms weekly (periodic bleeping from your smoke alarm may indicate that the battery is due for renewal).

• Never leave burning candles unattended and keep them away from bedding, curtains and other flammable materials.

• Keep matches and lighters away from children.

• Switch off heaters and cookers when they are not in use.

• Keep communal areas free of obstructions.

It is important to be aware of the fire exits within your home and to keep them free from obstructions, such as furniture, rubbish, prams etc.

**3 Gas Safety**

If you suspect a gas leak, you should immediately:

• Turn off the gas at the meter

• Call the National Gas Emergency Service on 0800 111 999

You should also:

• Put out any cigarettes

• Turn off gas cookers, fires and anything else with a naked flame

• Stop using all electrical equipment

• Open all doors and windows

**4 Electrical Safety**

To reduce the risk of fire or injury in your home you should:

• Switch off and unplug appliances when not in use

• Never touch electrical appliances with wet hands

• Be careful not to overload sockets or extension leads with too many plugs

• Make sure cables and flexes are not damaged in any way

**5 Water Safety**

It is important to make sure your water is fresh and clear from bacteria.

There are a number of steps you can take to prevent the build-up of bacteria:

• Regularly clean your shower head to prevent the build-up of bacteria

• If you have a shower that is not used regularly, run it once a week to stop water stagnating in the pipes

• Run outdoor taps regularly to stop water stagnating in the pipes

**6 Carbon Monoxide Safety**

Carbon Monoxide is a colourless, odourless and poisonous gas which is produced when gas is not burned properly. Your home will come fitted with a Carbon Monoxide detector that will beep if it detects Carbon Monoxide.

There are a number of signs to look for if you believe an appliance is leaking Carbon Monoxide:

• Yellow or orange flames rather than blue flames

• Soot or yellow/brown staining around or on appliances

• Pilot lights that frequently blow out

• Increased condensation inside windows

The following are some of the symptoms caused by Carbon Monoxide poisoning:

• Tiredness

• Drowsiness

• Headaches or dizziness

• Nausea

• Pains in the chest or stomach

If you suspect a Carbon Monoxide leak, you should:

• Turn off the gas at the meter

• Call the National Gas Emergency Service on 0800 111 999

• Open all doors and windows to ventilate the room

• Visit your GP urgently and explain you may have been exposed to Carbon Monoxide