

Fire Safety for tenants with hearing loss

One in five of the Scottish population are deaf and may not be woken up by a conventional fire alarm system in their home.

Under new legislation, every home in Scotland must have a standard interlinked fire alarm systems fitted to alert people to any potential danger. The legislation specifies the type, and required location of these.

Specialist fire alarm accessories / alerts are available for those who may not hear a standard alarm.

This includes flashing strobe lights, vibrating pads, vibrating pager alerts and mobile phone alerts, which will alert a person should there be a fire. This ensures that deaf people and those with hearing loss have the same protection from fire as everyone else.

Who is responsible for providing specialist fire alerts / accessories?

Under the Equality Act 2010, tenants (local authority, housing association and private) can ask their landlord to make specific changes to the property that are needed to avoid the disabled person being at a disadvantage. Appropriate fire alarm alerts / accessories for people who have deafness or hearing loss fit into that category.

The local authority is responsible for installing specialist fire alarm alerts / accessories for deaf or hard of hearing tenants. The tenant does not cover the costs, although some tenants may wish to pay for an upgrade or additional specialist equipment.

The South Ayrshire Sensory Team are available for advice, support or information for people with vision loss and / or hearing loss and for people who are Deaf .

Contact the team today:

- **Telephone: 01292 616637**
- **Text: 07977 540721**
- **Email: Sensory@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

For more information about fire safety for tenants with hearing loss scan the QR Code.



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