

**Fire Risk Assessment
South Liverpool Homes
9 Eastern Drive
Garston
Liverpool
L19 0NB**



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Approved by: Scott Brookes Technical Manager	

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Contents

1 Introduction	3
2 Summary	4
3 Risk Score	5
4 Fire Prevention.....	6
5 Escape Routes & Fire Spread	8
6 Detection & Warning	12
7 Firefighting	13
8 Lighting.....	14
9 Signs & Notices.....	15
10 Fire Management.....	16
11 Action Plan	18

1 Introduction

The purpose of this fire risk assessment is to provide an informed and structured examination of the potential fire hazards, which could cause harm to those who work in, visit, reside, or try to escape from the above property. As appropriate, it will help decisions to be made on the status of existing fire safety control measures and to ensure compliance with the current fire safety legislation. The observations and recommendations contained in this fire risk assessment are pertinent to the conditions on the date of inspection only.

Types of survey

The survey which has been undertaken, is a non-destructive type survey (Type 3), and unless there has been any reason to suspect otherwise, the inspection has been purely visual. There may have been a requirement, however, to lift ceiling tiles in communal areas if compartmentation or fire stopping issues were suspected.

The fire risk assessment completed, included the assessment of the structure and external walls of the building, including any cladding systems, balconies and windows.

Limitations

The report has been completed on the basis of the scope of works agreed with the client. Therefore, AEC cannot accept responsibility for elements that lie outside the agreed scope. The report is issued to our client in confidence and AEC has no responsibility(s) to any third parties to whom this report may subsequently be circulated in part or in full and any third parties that rely on this report do so at their own risk.

Disclaimer

The report provides an assessment of the risk to life from fire in these premises, and not building protection issues, and where appropriate, makes recommendations to ensure compliance with fire safety legislation. Whilst the assessor has taken reasonable care to ensure the accuracy of the information provided, the company will not accept liability for any loss (including loss of anticipated profits, loss of expected future business or damage to goodwill) or claim in connection with the information contained within this report.

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2 Summary

The Property

Property address	9 Eastern Drive, Garston Liverpool, L19 0NB
Number of flat assessed (Type 3)	2
Version	1
Assessment date	March 2025
Assessor	Jack Smart Level4DipFRA, DipFD, AIFSM
Reviewer	Lee Smart BEng (Hons) MCIOB MIFSM
Client	South Liverpool Housing

Building Information

Property use	Flats Purpose Group 2 (b)
No of floors	2
No of flats	2
Approach to flats	Via protected route
Approximate age and construction details.	It is of traditional construction, built approximately 1930 and appears to be of masonry construction, wooden floors, wooden stairs and a pitched roof of timber construction overlaid with tile. The communal area consists of a very small lobby, the internal partitions appear to be a mixture of masonry construction and plasterboard on wooden stud, the internal fire spread of linings on the escape, circulation routes and other areas appears to be Class 0.

Building height

Approximate total building height to ridge of roof.	9m
Height of top floor slab	2.5m
External window construction	UPVC

Occupants

Are there any occupants especially at risk from fire?	At the time the audit was carried out the assessor was not made aware of any occupants that may be especially at risk from fire.
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3 Risk Score

Following consideration of current fire safety standards and controls within the premises, the assessor is of the opinion that:

The likelihood of fire occurring is _____

The potential severity of harm is _____

The current risk to life is (Use the table below) _____

Low
Moderate Harm
Tolerable

		Potential severity of harm		
		Slight Harm	Moderate Harm	Extreme Harm
Likelihood of fire occurring	Low	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
	Medium	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
	High	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable

ESTIMATED RISK LEVEL	Action and timescales
Trivial	No further action is required other than maintaining the control measures that are currently in place
Tolerable	No major additional controls required. However, there might be a need of improvements.
Moderate	It is essential that efforts be made to reduce the risk. The additional control measures that are recommended should be implemented within a defined time period.
Substantial	Urgent action should be taken to reduce the risk. The additional control measures, that are recommended, should be implemented as soon as possible or limitations should be imposed on the parts of the premises affected.
Intolerable	The premises or the part of the premises affected should not be occupied until the additional control measures that are recommended have been implemented.

4 Fire Prevention

Electrical

Are electrical installations and appliances free from any obvious defect?	Yes
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Are fixed installations periodically inspected and tested?	See comments
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Are portable appliances used?	No
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Comments:

Records have been provided stating that the 5 yearly electrical hard wire testing was completed 19/01/2022.

Gas

Are gas installations and appliances free from any obvious defect?	See comments
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Is gas equipment protected / located so as not to be prone to accidental damage?	See comments
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Comments:

No gas installations in the communal areas

Heating

Are fixed heating installations free from any obvious defect?	See comments
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Are portable heaters used?	No
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Comments:

No heating in communal areas

Cooking

Does cooking take place on the premises?

See comments

Are reasonable measures taken to prevent fires as a result of cooking?

See comments

Comments:

Yes, but within the individuals flat. Cooking is not carried out in the communal areas. The audit was to inspect communal areas and not individual flats as individual flats fall outside the Regulatory Reform (fire safety) Order 2005.

Arson

Does basic security against arson appear reasonable?

See comments

Is there a reasonable absence of external fuels and ignition sources?

Yes

Comments:

Access control on the front door which was last serviced 09/10/2024. Waste bins are stored away from the premises.

Housekeeping

Is accumulation of combustibles or waste avoided?

See comments

Are there appropriate storage facilities for combustible & hazardous materials?

Yes

Comments:

Good level of housekeeping identified on the day inspection, escape routes were clear and sterile.

Hot Works

Are there any hot works being carried-out? N/A

Comments:

Smoking

Are there suitable arrangements taken to prevent fires caused by smoking? Yes

Comments:

No smoking evident in the communal area and "no smoking" signage is displayed.

Dangerous Substances

Are dangerous substances present, or liable to be present? No

Comments:

Lightning

Is a lightning protection system installed? No

Comments:

Not required.

5 Escape Routes & Fire Spread

Ease of Use

Are exits easily and immediately openable? See comments

Do fire exits open in direction of escape where necessary? See comments

Are escape routes unobstructed and safe to use? Yes

Are there reasonable measures for the evacuation of disabled people?	See comments
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Comments:

Thumb turn installed on the entrance door ensuring occupants can escape in a single action.

The final exit door can open in either direction as there will never be more than 60 people in the building.

At the time the audit was carried out the assessor was not made aware of any disabled persons in the premises

Dimensions

Are travel distances reasonable?	Yes
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Is there sufficient exit capacity?	Yes
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Comments:

Travel distances are compliant and in accordance with Approved Document B Vol 2 and DCLG Government Guidance.

Fire Doors

Doors which are expected to be fire resisting:	• Electrical cupboards • Flat doors • Store cupboards
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Standard of electrical cupboard doors:	Acceptable
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Standard of flat doors:	See action plan
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Are fire doors to a suitable standard?	Yes
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Is there suitable provision of self-closing devices?	See action plan
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Is there suitable provision of hold-open devices?	N/A
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Are doors kept locked where appropriate?	Yes
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Comments:

See action plan regarding Flat 2 entrance door not closing flush.

Construction & Glazing

Are escape routes protected with suitable walls and floors?

Yes

Is there adequate compartmentation?

It appears that there is adequate compartmentation between the common areas and the flats. However, this is not a destructive FRA.

Is the fire stopping in the roof space adequate?

See comments

Is there reasonable limitation of linings that might promote fire spread?

Yes

Glazing which is expected to be fire resisting, including vision panels and fanlights:

N/A

Is glazing reasonable and free from any obvious defects?

N/A

Comments:

Unable to gain access to the loft as the hatch is in the first-floor apartment. Access not required as the roof space is over a single apartment.

Dampers, Ducts & Chutes

Are there suitable measures to restrict fire spread via ducts and concealed spaces?

As this inspection was a type 3 (non-destructive) inspection the assessors cannot verify if there are sufficient cavity barriers or dampers.

Comments:

Smoke Ventilation

Areas where smoke ventilation is expected:

N/A

Staircase smoke ventilation:

N/A

Is smoke ventilation reasonable and free from any obvious defects?

Yes

Comments:

Due to the premises operating a simultaneous evacuation, ventilation is not required.

6 Detection & Warning

Is an electrical fire alarm system expected?	Yes
Why not?	N/A
Is a fire detection and/or alarm system provided?	Yes
Areas covered	Flats and common areas
Comments: A BS5839-1 fire alarm is installed in the small communal lobby with a heat detector extended into the hallway of flats. The heat detectors have sounder bases to provide adequate decibel levels. The fire alarm panel is located in the small entrance lobby with a zone plan sited adjacent.	
Flats	
System Category	BS5839 Grade D LD2
Cause & Effect	Sounds alarm in flat of origin
Is the level of false alarms reasonable?	Yes
Is the fire detection & alarm provision reasonable?	Yes
Are there suitable measures for inner rooms?	N/A
Comments: Both flats inspected contained BS5839-6 Grade D detectors configured to an LD2 Speciation (Smoke detector on the escape route for early warning and a heat detector in the kitchen).	

7 Firefighting

Fire Extinguishers

Are fire extinguishers expected?	No
Why not?	No statutory requirement
Are fire extinguishers provided?	No
Is the provision of fire extinguishers reasonable?	Yes

Fixed Systems

Are any fixed systems provided?	No
Is provision of fixed systems reasonable?	Yes

Fire Service Facilities

Are there any specific fire service facilities?	No
Types of facility	N/A
Is provision of fire service facilities reasonable?	Yes

Comments:

Fire extinguishers are not required due to residents not being trained on their use. Occupants could potentially injure themselves fighting a fire or accelerate the fire.

8 Lighting

Normal lighting

Is there adequate lighting of internal escape routes?	Yes
Is there adequate lighting of external escape routes?	Yes
Is there adequate lighting in risk critical areas?	N/A

Emergency lighting

Method of emergency lighting of internal escape routes:	Non-maintained emergency lighting
Is this provision reasonable?	Yes
Method of emergency lighting of external escape routes:	Adequate borrowed lighting
Is this provision reasonable?	Yes
Method of emergency lighting of other areas:	None
Is this provision reasonable?	Yes
Comments: Non maintained bulkhead emergency lighting unit installed within the small entrance lobby.	

9 Signs & Notices

Escape Routes

Is escape route signage necessary?	No
Why not?	Single escape route
Is escape route signage provided?	No
Is provision of escape route signage suitable?	Yes

Fire Doors

Is there signage suitable for self-closing fire doors?	N/A
Is there signage suitable for locked fire doors?	Yes
Is there signage suitable for automatic fire doors?	N/A

Other signs & Notices

Is there suitable signage for fire service facilities?	N/A
Are fire action notices suitable?	Yes
Are there suitable notices for fire extinguishers?	N/A
Is there suitable zone information for the fire alarm system?	See comments
Comments: A zone plan has been installed adjacent to the fire alarm panel.	

10 Fire Management

Procedures & Arrangements

Current evacuation policy	Simultaneous Evacuation
Are fire action procedures suitable and appropriately documented?	Yes
Are there suitable arrangements for calling the fire service?	Yes
Is there a suitable fire assembly point?	Yes
Are there suitable arrangements for the evacuation of disabled people?	See comments

Training and Drills

Are staff regularly on the premises?	No
Do staff receive suitable training on the following areas:	
Fire risks on the premises & fire prevention measures?	N/A
Action to take on discovering a fire?	N/A
How to raise an alarm?	N/A
Responding to the fire alarm?	N/A
Calling the fire service?	N/A
Location & use of firefighting equipment?	N/A
Are fire drills carried out at appropriate intervals?	N/A

Are employees from outside organisations given appropriate fire safety information?	N/A
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Comments:

No disabled persons identified; adaptations will be put into place for any persons that require them.

Testing & Maintenance

Is the fire alarm tested & records kept?	See Comments
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Is the emergency lighting tested & records kept?	See Comments
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Door entry test records	See Comments
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Are fire extinguishers subject to suitable tested and records kept?	N/A
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Have sprinklers been tested	N/A
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Have smoke vents been tested	N/A
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Has the Dry Riser been tested	N/A
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Comments:

Fire alarm	04/02/2025
Emergency lighting	09/10/2024
Door entry system	09/10/2024

11 Action Plan

Task		
Priority	Medium	
Category	Escape Routes & Fire Spread	
Sub category	Fire Doors	
Significant findings	Flat 1 – missing two screws from the top hinge.	
Actions required	All of the screws should be installed to hinges to aid the integrity of the door.	
Status	Identified	
Due Date	1 st August 2025	

Task		
Priority	Medium	
Category	Escape Routes & Fire Spread	
Sub category	Fire Doors	
Significant findings	Flat 2 – When released from any angle, the entrance door does not close flush into the frame under its own weight. The door currently contains an uncontrolled type perko self-closing device. There are holes in the door frame that suggest the entrance door contained an overhead-controlled type self-closing device and it has been removed.	
Actions required	Flat entrance doors that are not closing flush into the frame require an updated self-closing device. Currently entrance doors contain 'uncontrolled' Perko type self-closing devices. These should be replaced with a 'controlled type' self-closing device, which may be a positive action overhead or concealed door jamb type self-closing device compliant with BS EN 1154. This will ensure doors close flush into the framework under their own weight.	
Status	Identified	
Due Date	1 st August 2025	