



### CLEAR CORRIDORS SAVE LIVES

This guidance helps keep you and your neighbours safe.

- Fires can start in seconds and spread very quickly.
- Toxic smoke can fill a corridor in minutes.
- Clear escape routes give you time to get out.
- These rules protect you, your neighbours and firefighters.

### NATIONAL GUIDANCE

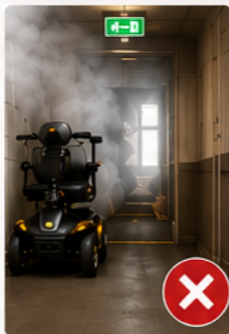
The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) states mobility scooters should not be stored, parked or charged in communal corridors forming part of escape routes.

### 1 WHY THIS MATTERS

Mobility scooters help many residents live independently.

However, if stored or charged unsafely they can cause devastating fires and block escape routes.

**Clear corridors save lives.**



### 2 WHAT IS AN ESCAPE ROUTE?



Corridors, stairways and common areas are designed for everyone to escape safely in an emergency.

### 3 FIRE RISK OF BATTERIES



#### DID YOU KNOW?

- ⚠️ Lithium battery fires can spread extremely quickly
- ⚠️ Fires produce toxic smoke that can kill
- ⚠️ Charging faults can start fires unexpectedly
- ⚠️ Overnight charging increases risk while you are asleep
- ⚠️ Always follow the manufacturer's instructions

⚠️ If a battery is damaged, swelling or getting hot – STOP USING IT and report it immediately.

### 4 SAFE STORAGE & CHARGING – DO THIS



- ✔ Store your scooter in an approved area.
- ✔ Charge using a direct wall socket.
- ✔ Keep the area clean, tidy and well ventilated.
- ✔ Keep fire doors closed.
- ✔ Keep corridors and exits clear.
- ✔ Charge during the daytime where possible.
- ✔ Use the correct charger provided by the manufacturer.

### 5 UNSAFE STORAGE & CHARGING – DON'T DO THIS



- ✘ Do not store in corridors or communal areas.
- ✘ Do not charge in corridors or stairwells.
- ✘ Do not use extension leads or adaptors.
- ✘ Do not block fire exits, doors or escape routes.
- ✘ Do not store near rubbish or combustible items.
- ✘ Do not charge overnight in communal areas.

### 6 WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 🏠 Ask the Council for permission before buying or storing a scooter.
- 🔌 Charge safely during the day where possible.
- 🚶 Store your scooter only in an approved location.
- 📞 Report any damage, faults or concerns straight away.
- 🚶 Keep escape routes, corridors and doorways clear.
- 🔌 Use the correct charger and equipment provided.

### 7 WHAT YOU CANNOT DO

- ✘ Do not store or charge your scooter in communal corridors, landings or stairwells.
- ✘ Do not use extension leads, multi-sockets or adaptors.
- ✘ Do not leave chargers connected unattended or overnight in communal areas.
- ✘ Do not block fire doors, fire exits or emergency equipment.
- ✘ Do not make any electrical alterations or use damaged chargers or batteries.

### 8 EXAMPLES OF MOBILITY SCOOTERS AND POWERED WHEELCHAIRS



Larger scooters can create greater obstruction and fire risk in communal buildings.

### 9 DIFFERENT BUILDINGS – DIFFERENT RULES

#### HOUSES & BUNGALOWS

You may be able to store and charge in:

- ✔ Shed or outbuilding
- ✔ Garage
- ✔ Private external store
- ✔ Inside your home (if safe and practical)

#### FLATS & SHELTERED HOUSING

Communal areas must be kept clear.

- ✘ Corridors
- ✘ Landings
- ✘ Stairwells
- ✘ Lift lobbies
- ✘ Escape routes

📍 If you need an alternative storage solution, contact the Council – we may be able to help.

### 10 FIRE SERVICE SAFETY CHECKLIST

#### BEFORE YOU CHARGE

- ✔ Use the correct charger provided
- ✔ Keep the area well ventilated
- ✔ Keep away from curtains, furniture and clutter
- ✔ Do not cover the charger
- ✔ Unplug when fully charged

#### NEVER

- ✘ Charge overnight in communal areas
- ✘ Use damaged batteries or chargers
- ✘ Use extension leads or multi-sockets
- ✘ Block exits, doors or fire equipment
- ✘ Leave charging unattended

### 11 WHAT HAPPENS IF RULES ARE NOT FOLLOWED?

We will always try to work with you to find a safe solution.



1. We may issue a warning and request action.
2. We may carry out further assessments or inspections.
3. Serious breaches may result in removal of the scooter for everyone's safety.

**Our priority is safety, fairness and support.**

### 12 FACTS FROM HAMPSHIRE FIRE SERVICE



- Mobility scooters and e-mobility device fires are increasing.
- Lithium battery fires burn hotter and are harder to extinguish.
- These fires produce toxic smoke very quickly.
- Corridors and stairwells must be kept sterile for safe evacuation.
- Working smoke alarms save lives – never remove or disable them.

If you discover a fire – GET OUT, STAY OUT, CALL 999.

### 13 NEED HELP OR MORE INFORMATION?

We are here to help you stay safe and independent.

Apply for permission or storage support  
01962 848 400

Email us  
policy@winchester.gov.uk



For fire safety advice visit  
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service  
www.hantsfire.gov.uk