

Press release

19th March 2010

Is your gas appliance safe?

Gas is one of the most dangerous things in your home. Sometimes you can't smell it but it can cause injuries and even death in just a matter of hours.

As a resident, you are responsible for ensuring that you do not carry out Do-it-yourself work on gas appliances or fittings and that you do not use appliance that may be unsafe as this could be dangerous to you and your neighbours. This is also illegal.

Here are some simple things you can do to reduce the risks:

- **NEVER** use a gas appliance if you think it is not working properly.
- **NEVER** cover an appliance or block the convection air vents.
- **NEVER** block or obstruct any fixed ventilation grilles or air bricks.
- **NEVER** block or cover outside flues.

Hackney Homes is responsible for ensuring that gas fittings and flues are maintained in good order and are checked for safety once in a period of 12 months. We will visit you once a year and carry out a gas safety check. We will also issue you with a certificate to confirm the safety of your home.

If you smell gas, or suspect there is a gas escape or a carbon monoxide leak, you should immediately do the following:

- Open all doors and windows.
- Call the Gas Emergency Freephone Number 0800 111 999.

Notes to Editors

- Hackney Homes is an arms-length management organisation managing around 30,000 council properties in the borough of Hackney.