

Working from home – Fire Safety

There are such simple things we can all do to ensure we are keeping safe while we are all spending more time at home. The first thing you can do is **test that your smoke alarms are working.**

Cooking fires are a major concern as people are expected to cook more during the day and with schools shut and children at home, parents could get distracted.

An increase in smoking-related fires, which are the most common cause of fire deaths, is also thought to be a possibility as smokers may start smoking inside more as people are continually advised not to go out unnecessarily. While it may not be possible to visit vulnerable friends and family members at the moment, advisors are suggesting to please speak to them and remind them about the dangers of smoking.

As people who don't usually work from home set-up temporary offices, there is also a risk of an increase in electrical fires.

Hazards include **overloading plug sockets, using counterfeit or incorrect chargers for tablets, laptops and mobile phones and "daisy-chaining"** – plugging multiple extension leads together or plugging many multi-socket adaptors into a single socket.

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Always completely shut down your workstation, etc. at the end of your working day and turn off at the wall.

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Before you retire for the evening close all doors from temporary offices and kitchens.