



Northern Ireland
Fire & Rescue Service

Protecting Our Community

COMMUNITY INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 36

PROVIDING SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION FOR THE 148th OPEN, ROYAL PORTRUSH

If you are considering renting your property or providing sleeping accommodation for paying guests during the 148th Open, Royal Portrush, then Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service has provided this bulletin to assist you. It offers some practical advice for owners of small bed and breakfasts (B&Bs), Airbnb's, guest houses and self-catering accommodation and those considering providing sleeping accommodation on how to comply with The Fire and Rescue Services (NI) Order 2006 and The Fire Safety Regulations (NI) 2010.

It is also a legal requirement that all tourist accommodation providers in Northern Ireland must receive certification by Tourism NI in order to operate. Anyone providing sleeping accommodation or renting out their property for this event should be registered with them. Further information on setting up and operating tourist accommodation can be found at: www.tourismni.com/startup-advice/

Alternatively, you can apply to register your property online at <https://forms.tourismni.com/forms/>

Your responsibilities under the law are to protect people using the premises from the risk of fire. This is achieved by:

- carrying out a fire risk assessment;
- improving the fire safety measures on your premises, if necessary; and
- keeping the risks and fire safety measures under regular review.

A fire risk assessment is a thorough look at your premises and the people who are likely to use them, including the elderly, very young children and disabled people. It considers the risk of fire breaking out and what measures you need to put in place to prevent it and keep people safe.

There are five key steps that are important for carrying out a fire risk assessment:

- 1 Identify the fire hazards on the premises; sources of heat and fuel.
- 2 Identify the people at risk; some are more at risk than others.
- 3 Evaluate the level of risk in your premises; reducing and removing any fire hazards and protecting people from the fire risk, eg, provide an automatic fire detection system.
- 4 Record the significant findings, what actions you have taken and what further actions you plan to take.
- 5 Review the fire risk assessment regularly.

The following guidance has been published to assist you and is available at the link below:

- Small B&B Premises Guide
- Small Self-Catering Premises Guide
- Sleeping Accommodation

www.nifrs.org/fire-safety/dhssps-fire-safety-risk-assessment-documents/

You are breaking the law if you don't carry out a fire risk assessment, and you could be putting people's lives at risk. You may be inspected by the Fire Service, as part of its responsibility to enforce the law, but you will be inspected if you have had a fire or if someone staying with you or working for you feel at risk.

For further information phone NIFRS at 028 9266 4221 or visit www.nifrs.org



#STOPfire