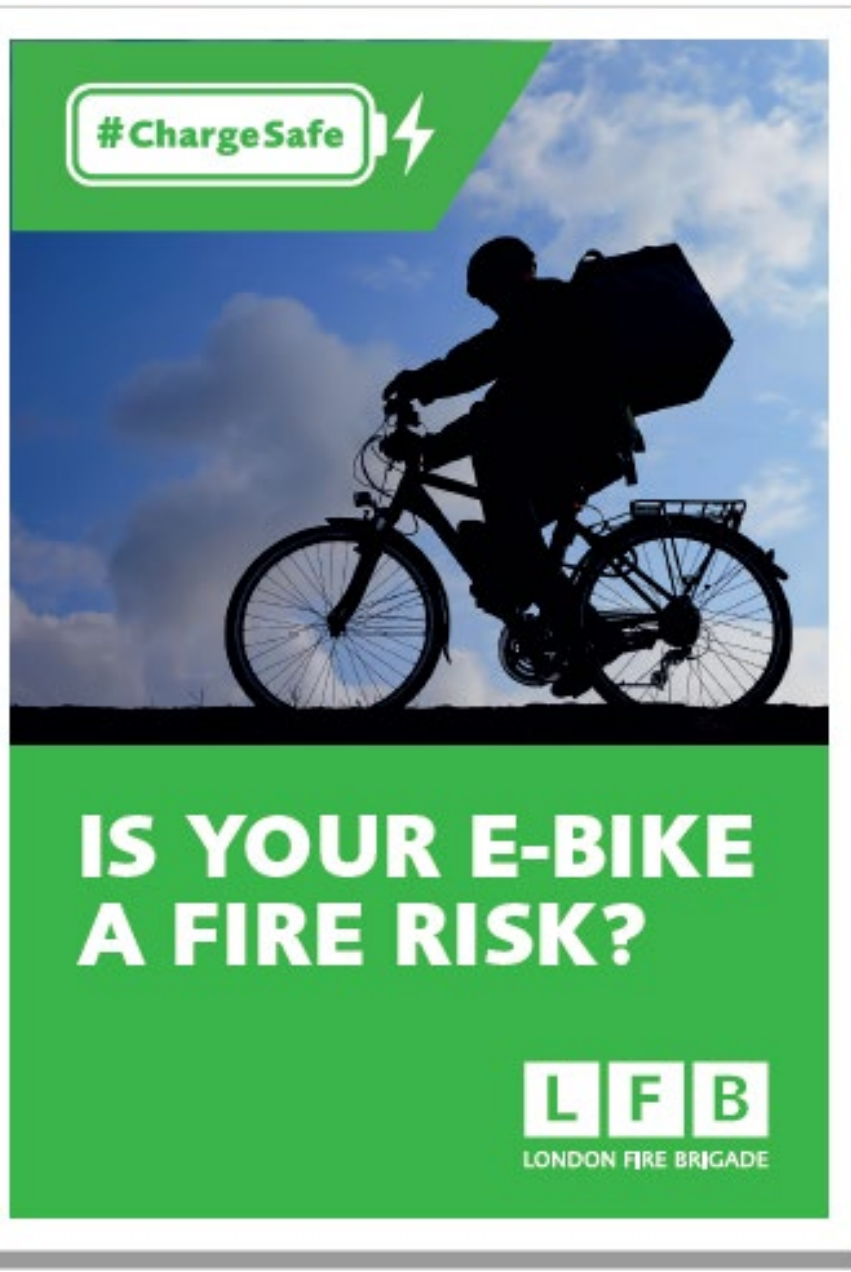


**E-Battery fire safety Campaign with LFB and Newham Community Project-**  
**(Sent to 98 Universities for their September induction packs who are linked to Newham based international students)**



**#ChargeSafe** ⚡

- Never leave your device charging unattended or when you're asleep.
- Do not attempt to modify or tamper with your battery. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Converting pedal bikes into e-bikes using DIY kits bought online can be very dangerous and poses a higher risk of fire.
- Never block your escape routes with your e-bike or e-scooter.
- Ensure you have a working smoke alarm.

Scan the QR code for more information on keeping your e-bike and home safe or visit:  
[london-fire.gov.uk/charge safe](https://london-fire.gov.uk/charge safe)

**LFB**  
LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

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Dear University student induction contact,  
With the new academic year about to begin, I would like to call on your help in warning your students about the dangers of fire linked to electric bike batteries.

We note that some of your international students reside in London Borough of Newham, which is experiencing increasing number of e-bike fire incidents, resulting in students displaced from their homes.

We are working closely with London Fire Brigade, University of East London and Newham Community Project to raise fire safety awareness – we would like to ask you to please raise awareness of this issue with all students.

The lithium batteries used in e-bikes and e-scooters can burn ferociously, causing large fires that put lives at risk. In the capital this year, London Fire Brigade has on average been called out to an e-bike or e-scooter fire once every two days.

Electric-powered personal vehicles are popular among students – especially those with jobs in the gig economy, such as food or parcel deliveries – so the risk from failing batteries, overloaded chargers or blocked fire exits is high.

### **Key messages for students:**

- **The amount of energy in e-bikes/e-scooters battery packs is sufficient to set on fire a double bedroom in 10–15 seconds.**
- **Often bikes are charged up in hallways, but if a fire occurs, it will prevent the means of escape from the property for all occupants.**
- **If batteries are charging in bedrooms, whilst the exhausted student falls into a deep sleep, then other flatmates are put at risk.**
- **Retrofit kits are unregulated and not been tested for fire safety.**



One of the latest major fires occurred inside a flat on New Orleans Walk in Highgate on 12 September. An e-bike caught alight inside a bedroom and its owner tried to put the fire out with an extinguisher. He sustained burns to several parts of his body as a result before firefighters attended and safely put out the blaze.

### **How you can help**

We want to make all students aware of the dangers involved with lithium batteries, particularly when they are unsafe or damaged.

London Fire Brigade has produced some posters and leaflets with simple steps that all e-bike owners can take to reduce the risk of a fire.

### **You can help to raise awareness by:**

- Printing and displaying the attached posters on campus and in halls of residence: Including links to London Fire Brigade's #ChargeSafe website, <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/lithium-batteries/charging-electric-bike-and-electric-scooter-lithium-batteries/>
- Printing the attached leaflet and including it in new student packs or sharing with student groups and societies.
- Posting the attached graphics to student-facing social media accounts or sharing via internal computer systems.
- Sharing the assets with registered landlords to share with students living in privately rented accommodation.

**Thank you for your support in sharing this important information with as many of your students as possible.**

Regards,

*Helen Masterson*

Helen Masterson MCIEH CEnvH | She/Her

**Head of Private Sector Housing Standards**

Inclusive Economy and Housing Directorate

**London Borough of Newham**

Newham Dockside | 1000 Dockside Road, London E16 2QU

DDI: 0203 373 0431 Internal: 30431

[www.newham.gov.uk](http://www.newham.gov.uk) | Follow us on Twitter: @newhamlondon



Newham Council has adopted an ambitious programme: Building a Fairer Newham.

[Read more here](#) and [watch here](#).

We also have a range of information and advice available for landlords and tenants in Newham:

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/council/cost-living-response>

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/housing-homes-homelessness/maintaining-good-standards-rented-property-landlords/1> - Landlord advice

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/housing-homes-homelessness/help-problems-renting-privately/1> - Tenant advice