

# Mobility Scooter Safety

## Fire Advice

Mobility scooter safety is usually mentioned when discussing road use or riding on pavements around pedestrians BUT there is an equal and potentially more dangerous risk associated with scooter safety and the risk of fires.

The main risk occurs around the storing and charging of mobility scooters.

Here is some advice on what can be done to increase mobility scooter safety and to reduce the risk of fire for people living in their own home

- If you can, look at storing and charging your mobility scooter outside the house.
- If you do store your scooter in your house, don't store it on your escape route.
- Don't leave your scooter battery on charge overnight.
- When charging don't block your escape route and ensure the area is properly ventilated.
- Make sure you have a smoke alarm fitted and check the batteries and test the alarm regularly.
- Ensure that you have your mobility scooter properly serviced regularly which should include portable appliance testing to ensure electrical safety.
- Make sure that your scooter it is maintained in accordance with the manufacturers guidelines.
- If you think that something is not operating correctly on your scooter then have it checked by a qualified engineer.

## Sheltered Accommodation

Mobility Scooters are popular in communal blocks such as sheltered accommodation. The Fire Service feels that storing a mobility scooter in these areas may cause an unacceptable risk to all residents in what is usually a main escape route.

This equally applies to storing your mobility scooter in a hallway that could block your escape route when living in your own home. Because of this Tamworth Borough Council does not allow mobility scooters to be stored in any communal escape route which includes communal corridors and staircases.

To help assist tenants the Council has a limited number of dedicated shared scooter rooms at some of our sheltered accommodation schemes. No overnight charging is permitted in these areas.

So before you consider purchasing a mobility scooter, we always advise that you check with your scheme manager first about available and/or suitable safe storage in your own home.



**Tamworth**  
Borough Council