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Heaters

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Background

In Hertfordshire over the last 5 years there was a total of 83 electrical fires, 22% of these were caused by faulty heaters, with 6% resulting in a fatality. Electrical heaters are a great way to keep warm, but often they are used incorrectly or not maintained properly resulting in fire.

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Key Information

Make sure an electrical appliance has a British or European safety mark when purchasing a heater. If a heater is being used in one place for a long period of time ensure it is secure by attaching to a wall so they do not get knocked over. Never leave it unattended with young children or animals.

Keep portable heaters clear from curtains and furniture and never use them for drying clothes. When going to bed turn heaters off and put up fireguards in front of open fires.

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Local & National Statistics

- In 2018-2019 the causes of fire in the home due to heaters across England;
 - 2,351 Due to faulty fuel supplies
 - 3,961 Due to faulty appliances and leads
 - 9,025 Misuse of equipment or appliances
 - 3,410 Placing articles too close to heat

Home Office Incident recording system – Fire Statistics table 0601: Primary fires in dwellings, by cause of fire, England.

Follow this link for full statistics: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fire-statistics>

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- In Hertfordshire over the last 5 years there have been a total of 15 dwelling fires caused by heaters. This resulted in 17 casualties and 1 fatality.

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Extra Resources

- <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/portable-heaters-gas-fires-and-open-fires>
- https://www.nfpa.org/-/media/Files/Public-Education/Resources/Community-tool-kits/heating-kit/quarter_pg_space_heater_rules.ashx
- <https://www.thefpa.co.uk>

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