

# Strategy Guidance for Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs)

**Fire Safety Guidance**

**Housing & Property**

## Strategy Guidance for Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs)

**This strategy guidance document provides housing associations with best practices for developing, implementing, and maintaining Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) for residents.**

PEEP development is essential in ensuring the safety of residents with specific needs in emergency situations, such as fire.

At CS.UK's Fire Safety Team, we offer expertise to support housing associations in creating and managing effective PEEPs, ensuring compliance with safety regulations and enhancing overall resident safety.

### Objectives of the PEEP Strategy

- **Identify residents requiring PEEPs:** Housing associations should proactively identify individuals needing assistance during an evacuation due to mobility impairments, sensory impairments, cognitive conditions, or other factors.
- **Create tailored evacuation plans:** Each PEEP should be customised to the individual's needs, identifying suitable routes, assistance requirements, and necessary equipment.
- **Ensure staff and resident awareness:** Clear communication and awareness are crucial. Staff and residents should be familiar with evacuation procedures and the role they may play in assisting others.
- **Provide ongoing training and review:** PEEPs should be reviewed and updated regularly, especially when residents' needs change or new safety procedures are implemented.

### New Fire Safety Regulations: Mandatory Evacuation Plans for Disabled Residents in All UK Buildings

The UK government's recent decision to require Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) for disabled residents in all residential buildings marks a significant milestone for fire safety and inclusivity.

This policy shift responds to longstanding concerns raised by residents, housing associations, and fire safety experts alike.

For CS.UK, this development aligns closely with our mission, as we have been advocating for these critical safety measures for years.

Working alongside housing associations, our team has been at the forefront of inclusive fire safety, helping clients achieve award-winning safety programs that set new standards in the industry.

## How We Can Help

Our award winning, housing fire safety services offer comprehensive support at every stage of the PEEP development and implementation process. Here's how we can help:



### Assessment and Identification of Residents Needing PEEPs

#### Resident Assessment Workshops

We conduct workshops and assessments to identify residents who may require a PEEP, working closely with housing association staff to ensure thorough and sensitive identification processes.

#### Individual Needs Analysis

Our team assesses each identified resident's specific needs to determine the type of assistance required during evacuation, including any physical support, sensory guidance, or special equipment.



### PEEP Development and Documentation

#### Customised PEEP Templates

We provide tailored templates that align with current fire safety regulations and best practices, ensuring each PEEP is comprehensive and easy to understand.

#### Personalised Evacuation Planning

Our consultants work with residents and housing staff to map out appropriate evacuation routes, identify assembly points, and determine necessary assistance roles.

#### Equipment Recommendations:

Based on individual needs, we offer guidance on evacuation aids, such as evacuation chairs, visual or vibrating alarms, and other relevant tools, ensuring compliance with safety regulations and accessibility requirements.



### Training and Support for Staff and Residents

#### Evacuation Training for Staff

Our training programs equip housing association staff with the skills and knowledge needed to assist residents during emergencies. This includes hands-on training for the use of evacuation equipment, guiding residents with sensory impairments, and managing stress during emergencies.

#### Resident Awareness Sessions

We organise awareness sessions to help residents understand general evacuation procedures and the importance of PEEPs. This is particularly valuable for neighbours or individuals who may act as informal support during an emergency.

#### Annual Drills and Scenario-Based Training

To ensure readiness, we conduct evacuation drills tailored to include residents with PEEPs, allowing staff and residents to practice procedures and address any areas for improvement.



## Ongoing Review and Compliance Support

### Regular PEEP Reviews and Updates:

We recommend and facilitate regular reviews of PEEPs to ensure they reflect any changes in residents' needs, building layouts, or fire safety regulations.

### Audit and Compliance Checks:

Our experts perform audits of PEEPs to ensure that documentation, processes, and equipment meet the latest regulatory standards.

### 24/7 Advisory Service:

Our team provides round-the-clock support for housing associations, offering advice and solutions for any PEEP-related questions or concerns that may arise.



## Compliance with Regulations and Best Practices

### Guidance on Regulatory Requirements:

CS.UK Fire Safety Consultants keeps your housing association informed of changes in fire safety legislation and advises on how these changes may impact PEEP requirements.

### Accessibility Standards Adherence:

We ensure that all PEEP strategies comply with accessibility standards, making evacuation procedures inclusive for residents with disabilities, in alignment with the Equality Act and other relevant legislation.

### Fire Risk Assessments:

In addition to PEEPs, our team offers comprehensive fire risk assessments for your facilities, identifying and mitigating any hazards that may hinder safe evacuation.

## Benefits of Implementing a Comprehensive PEEP Strategy

### Enhanced Resident Safety:

PEEPs provide peace of mind to residents and their families, knowing that tailored plans are in place to ensure a safe evacuation.

### Regulatory Compliance

A well-managed PEEP strategy supports housing associations in meeting fire safety legislation and accessibility standards.

### Improved Staff Preparedness

Through structured training and regular drills, staff gain confidence and proficiency in handling evacuations, reducing risks during actual emergencies.

### Inclusive Community Support

PEEPs enhance a culture of inclusivity, where all residents are considered, valued, and supported in the event of an emergency.



## Implementation Steps for Housing Associations

### 1. Initial Assessment and Planning

Identify residents who may need a PEEP and arrange a consultation with CS.UK Fire Safety Consultants to initiate the assessment process.

### 2. PEEP Development and Documentation

Work closely with CS.UK Fire Safety Consultants to create tailored PEEPs for identified residents, ensuring each plan includes clear evacuation routes, support needs, and equipment requirements.

### 3. Training and Awareness

Arrange for CS.UK Fire Safety Consultants to deliver evacuation training sessions for staff and residents, focusing on skills needed to effectively implement PEEPs.

### 4. Drills and Review

Schedule regular evacuation drills that incorporate PEEPs and set intervals for reviewing each plan to ensure continued effectiveness and compliance.

### 5. Ongoing Support and Compliance

Utilise CS.UK Fire Safety Consultants' advisory and audit services to maintain up-to-date PEEPs and align with evolving fire safety standards.

## The Importance of a Proactive Approach to Fire Safety

As fire safety regulations evolve, the need for proactive, inclusive measures has never been clearer.

For housing providers, the implementation of PEEPs goes beyond meeting legal requirements—it's about ensuring that every resident feels safe and respected in their living environment.

The government's latest decision reinforces the call for universal safety measures, and as housing providers adapt to these changes, CS.UK is ready to help make this transition seamless and impactful.

## Award-Winning Fire Safety Programs with Proven Results

CS.UK's commitment to fire safety excellence has consistently delivered outstanding results for our clients, and our housing association partners have received awards for their dedication to inclusive safety.

By collaborating with CS.UK, housing providers can leverage our expertise to build robust, compliant, and forward-thinking fire safety programs that protect all residents.

Our success is rooted in our comprehensive, hands-on approach, working closely with clients to ensure the safety of their communities.

## FIRE SAFETY PLANNING

Most successful businesses will tell you they could not have accomplished their goals without help. Our core principles and strong mission shape our efforts. So find out what make our proven approach to your business management successful.

Our vision at CSUK is to be the leading provider of professional services in the industry. We aim to achieve this by continuously improving our services, investing in our people, and leveraging technology to deliver innovative solutions to our clients.

### How to get in touch

We love our customers, so feel free to contact us to arrange a face to face meeting or a call, or better yet call us on the number below

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