

## Latest updates for residents at 243 Ealing Road

**December 2023**



### Contact centre opening hours and service over the festive period

As always, we aim to provide you with a good service at all times including over the festive period.

Date	Office opening hours*	Contact centre opening hours
Friday 22 December	9am to 1pm*	8am to 1pm
Monday 25 December	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 26 December	Closed	Closed
Wednesday 27 December	9am to 5pm*	8am to 6pm
Thursday 28 December	9am to 5pm*	8am to 6pm
Friday 29 December	9am to 5pm*	8am to 6pm
Monday 1 January	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 2 January	9am to 5pm	8am to 6pm

Our offices and contact centre will be open as usual from Tuesday 2 January 2022. Usual office opening hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and our contact centre hours are 8am to 6pm. If you have an emergency repair while we are closed, please contact us on **0300 373 3000** and you'll be directed to our out of hours repairs service.

\*Please note, our Hertford office will close at 12pm on 22 December and only our Wembley office will be open from 27 to 29 December.

### Try out our new digital assistant for customers

We've launched our digital assistant for customers which gives you another convenient way to raise or get an update on repairs, check your account balance, or make a payment. The digital assistant comes in the form of a chatbot which you can find on our website and your My Network Homes online account.

The digital assistant is available at any time of the day, seven days a week. It will help you with your enquiry by giving you options to select so it can support you as quickly as it can. During set times, currently Monday to Friday, 10am to 3pm, if it's unable to answer your query or help you to complete your service request, it will give you the option to chat online to one of our customer service advisors.

You can try out the digital assistant the next time you want to raise a repair, check your account balance or make a payment. Simply open the chatbot feature by clicking on the purple 'Chat with us' bubble on our website at [www.networkhomes.org.uk](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk).

## Renewal of Parking Permits

It is the responsibility of customers who are eligible to park and have a permit to note when their permits are due to expire. CPM manage the car park at your estate and send out permit renewal reminders 4 weeks prior to permits expiring, however, these letters can get delayed or lost.

Places you should not park:

- In a car park area if you are not permitted to do so
- On double yellow lines – this can obstruct emergency vehicles and bin trucks
- In a parking bay not allocated to you
- Double parked in a single bay property
- In front of access points e.g. bin rooms and hatched areas
- On the grass verge by play areas.

Parking is monitored daily and at weekends by our staff and CPM. CPM will issue a penalty charge notice to any vehicle that's causing an obstruction or parked in a bay that it's not permitted to use, whether a permit is displayed or not. All car park areas are clearly marked by CPM on the terms & conditions signage displayed.

All parking enquiries and appeals are managed by CPM, not SNG. You can contact CPM at [networkhomes@uk-cpm.com](mailto:networkhomes@uk-cpm.com) or by telephone on 0845 463 5050.

## Condensation, damp and mould

Too much moisture in your home can lead to damp and mould. Excess moisture can enter your home in several ways and the most common causes are from condensation and penetrative or rising damp. If too much moisture builds up and is left untreated, mould may start to grow.

There are a few things you can do to help reduce excess moisture in your home. Here are some tips to try out:

- Close the kitchen and bathroom doors when they are in use. This helps prevent moisture reaching other rooms, especially bedrooms, which are often colder and more likely to get condensation.
- Avoid drying washing on your radiators, or if you do, then dry it in the bathroom with the door closed and window open.
- Use saucepan lids when cooking.
- Put a small amount of cold water in the bath before you turn on the hot tap.
- Place furniture slightly away from the wall. Where possible, position wardrobes and furniture against internal walls.
- Wipe down condensation or water (including on window ledges and sills) with a cloth every morning, and ensure it is wrung out and dried properly between use.

To find out more ways to reduce excess moisture in your home, information on the causes of damp, mould or condensation, how to tackle it and how we manage these issues, visit the condensation, damp and mould page on our website at [www.networkhomes.org.uk/condensation](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk/condensation).

## Pigeons on your estate and around your home

There's a high cost each year to local authorities and housing associations to clean, repair buildings, and provide pest control proofing. If you feed pigeons around your home, you are encouraging them to roost and perch nearby. Pigeon droppings are acidic and can erode stonework, resulting in long term costly damage. The feeding of pigeons also attracts rats and mice, which take any uneaten food and can also cause a health risk to you and your family. Please do not feed pigeons anywhere on your estate.

Certain scents repel pigeons, such as cinnamon, peppermint, essential oils, vinegar, perfume, onions, garlic, cumin, cologne, ghost peppers and even jalapenos. Pigeons have a strange relationship with cinnamon. Because of its pungent scent, it becomes a good deterrent, and its natural medical properties help to cure various pigeons' diseases.

Prevention is better than cure. You can purchase netting cheaply online or at most DIY stores to prevent pigeons from perching.



## Upcoming resident meetings for 2023

The next resident meeting will take place on:

Date	Time	Virtual or in person	Location or meeting link details
12 December 2023	6pm	Virtual	<a href="http://www.networkhomes.org.uk/ealingroadmeeting">www.networkhomes.org.uk/ealingroadmeeting</a>

We will publish the resident meeting dates on our website and send you a text message closer to the time to remind you.

You can find details of upcoming or previous meetings on our website here:

[www.networkhomes.org.uk/ealingroadmeeting](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk/ealingroadmeeting)

## Upcoming estate inspections

The next estate inspections will take place on:

Day	Date	Time	Meeting point
Thursday	22 February 2024	1pm	Lobby area of Venice House

If you would like to join Thomas Furnell, your neighbourhood officer, during the estate inspection or discuss a specific issue, you can arrange to meet him on the dates above by contacting him on **0300 373 3000** or email [customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk](mailto:customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk)

## Estate inspection findings

Your neighbourhood officer, Thomas Furnell, has identified these or were raised during customer meetings, which he has flagged with our repairs team to action.

Issue identified	Location	Action taken	Any other notes
Lights out in several Blocks	In several blocks	Repair raised	Raised repair request for blown lights to be replaced
New Unauthorised parking	Underground Carpark	Issued 28 day TORT notices to all new cars	Once TORT has expired, if cars remain they will be removed and disposed of.
Previous unauthorised parking	Underground carpark	Requested removal	Only one of the previous cars that were issued a TORT notice remains and removals have been arranged.

## Window cleaning

The window cleaning programme for 2023 is scheduled for December.

## Bin stores

Please ensure that you are placing all rubbish, recycling and food waste in the appropriate bins provided. It is important that each refuse type is placed in the appropriate bin and no cross contamination occurs. We have identified a number of bins in each bin store that have faulty or broken wheels and are arranging replacements with the council.

Please also ensure that you are not disposing of large bulky items in the bin rooms. This is NOT permitted. Customers must arrange collections or disposals of their bulky items themselves by visiting the Brent Council Bulky Item website here: [Bulky waste collection | Brent Council](#)

## Anti-Social behaviour (ASB)

If you think you're experiencing ASB, please check out our ASB toolkit to help you identify ASB and understand the steps you need to take if you're experiencing it. You can find the toolkit on our website at [www.networkhomes.org.uk/asbtoolkit](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk/asbtoolkit)

You may report ASB to us between 9am to 5pm from Monday to Friday. If it's out of office hours, please contact the Police or your Local Authority Environmental Health team.

## Fire Risk Assessments (FRA) – no items in communal areas

We have a zero-tolerance policy on items left in communal areas. Our FRA action plan also applies to car park areas and will be enforced without exception. Our policy means that we have removed and will continue to remove items found in communal areas without notice. We will dispose of any items we remove as we do not store/keep items.

Shared communal areas include stairways, lifts, landings, hallways, and car parks. Please ensure you do not leave any items in these areas including shoes, shoe racks, prams, pushchairs, bicycles, children's toys, plant stands etc. Items stored in shared areas are a hazard as they can prevent people from leaving the building safely in a fire.

## Stay put fire safety strategy for your building

**The fire strategy for your building is a stay put policy.** This means unless you're directly affected by a fire, told by the emergency services or an SNG staff member to evacuate, you should stay in your home. Remember if you do need to evacuate because of a fire, do not use the lifts. Close the door behind you and safely make your way out of the building before calling the emergency services on 999. If you are unable to self-evacuate or evacuate using the stairs, please contact our Fire Safety Team on **0300 373 3000** so we can visit you and discuss a personal evacuation plan.

## New customers' information

If you are a new customer, then welcome to your new home at 243 Ealing Road. Please check out our website for information about our services and important information you would need to know as a customer. You can also find previous updates about your scheme.

Visit our website at [www.networkhomes.org.uk](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk).

Read previous updates about your scheme on our website at <https://bit.ly/3acBBAV>

Read the latest issue of Network Life, newsletter for customers, on our website at [www.networkhomes.org.uk/networklife](http://www.networkhomes.org.uk/networklife).

## Important contacts

If you have any **issues with communal cleaning or grounds maintenance service**, call Pinnacle on 0330 332 0845 or email [networkhomes@pinnaclepsg.co.uk](mailto:networkhomes@pinnaclepsg.co.uk).

Thomas Furnell is your neighbourhood officer who manages your estate. You can contact Thomas by phone on 0300 373 3000 or by email at [customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk](mailto:customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk).

If you need to report a repair, check on the progress of an existing repair or need any other information get in touch by:

- Your My Network Homes account – [www.mynetworkhomes.org.uk](http://www.mynetworkhomes.org.uk)
- Phone – **0300 373 3000**
- Email – [customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk](mailto:customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk)

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[Click here to complete the feedback survey](#)

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[OperationsandHousingContracts@networkhomes.org.uk](mailto:OperationsandHousingContracts@networkhomes.org.uk)