



# While we're closed over Christmas...

Our offices will close  
for Christmas from  
**5:30pm on Wednesday  
23 December 2020** until  
**9.30am on Monday  
4 January 2021.**

If your home needs  
an **emergency repair**  
while our office is closed  
please look for advice  
on our website at  
**[www.barnsbury.org](http://www.barnsbury.org)**  
or call our out-of-hours  
emergency service, run  
by Islington & Shoreditch  
Housing Association, on  
**☎ 0300 131 7300.**

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ALL OF US  
AT BARNSBURY HOUSING ASSOCIATION**



## HOME NEEDS

### **GAS: SUSPECT A LEAK?**

Turn off the supply at the meter and open the doors and windows.

**Do not smoke! Don't use any naked flames. Don't turn electric switches on or off.**

Call the gas emergency service as quickly as you can on the free call number ☎ **0800 111 999**.

### **ELECTRICITY: TOTAL POWER LOSS**

If you lose all power **in your home only**, check that the main switch on your circuitboard hasn't turned off. It may do this if a faulty appliance or faulty lights have been switched on.

If that does not solve the problem, call us on ☎ **0300 131 7300**.

If the power has gone off **across your neighbourhood**, call the UK Power Network on the freephone number: ☎ **0800 31 63 105** or 📠 **105**.

### **RUBBISH COLLECTIONS**

If the council normally collects your rubbish and/or recycling on a Friday, then on **Christmas Day** and **New Year's Day** it will be picked up the day after.

All other rubbish and recycling collections will go ahead as normal.

Please do not put out rubbish any earlier than the evening before it is due to be collected and do not overfill shared bins.

### **BURST OR FROZEN PIPES**

If you have a **burst** pipe:

- \* turn off the water supply at the stopcock
- \* switch off the electricity supply at the mains (on your circuitboard)
- \* switch off your hot water and your central heating systems.

If you have a **frozen** pipe:

- \* turn off the water supply at the stopcock
- \* turn on the taps to all your sinks and the bath and leave them turned on
- \* fill the bath with all the water you can get from any taps still running to use to flush the toilet and wash hands.

If the pipe is **burst or frozen** call us quickly on ☎ **0300 131 7300**.



## CANDLE SAFETY

If you use candles please read this important information from the UK Fire Service. It could be a life-saver.

- \* **Only put candles on surfaces that can take a fierce heat.** Take extra care with night lights and tea lights. Both get hot enough to melt plastic. The top of your TV is not safe.
- \* Put candles in a proper, stable holder. The candle and holder need to be firmly upright.
- \* **Keep candles well away from curtains and any other fabrics, including clothes.** Keep them out of draughts.
- \* **Don't put candles under a shelf or anything else unless there is *at least one metre (three feet)* between the flame and the surface above.**
- \* **Never put candles on a Christmas tree - real or fake.** Both can easily catch fire, as can decorations like tinsel.
- \* Never put a candle in a spot you (or anyone else) might lean over, forgetting it's there. Clothes and hair can both catch fire.
- \* **Keep candles well out of the way of children and pets so there is no risk of their being touched or knocked over.**
- \* Don't group candles together. Leave at least 10cm (four inches) between any two burning candles.
- \* Put votive or scented candles in a glass or metal holder because to send out a scent they first have to turn to liquid.
- \* **Don't move a burning candle.** Extinguish it first. And don't let anything, including matchsticks, fall into the hot wax.
- \* **Don't leave candles burning when you leave a room.** Never go to sleep with a candle still burning. **And never leave a burning candle or oil burner in a child's bedroom.**
- \* Use a snuffer or a spoon to put the flame out. It's safer than blowing on it, which can send sparks or hot wax flying.
- \* **Double check that all your candles are completely out before you leave the room or go to bed.** You may think you've put the flame out only for the flame to carry on smouldering then restart after you've left the room.

\* **For more on services over Christmas/New Year visit [www.islington.gov.uk](http://www.islington.gov.uk) or <https://issuu.com/islingtonlifemag>**



# STAYING SAFE

## COVID SAFETY

### Christmas bubble \*

From **23 to 27 December** only, three households can form a 'bubble' and stay overnight in a private home. Travel limits are lifted.

### General rules

**face:** wear a mask where needed

**distance:** stay 2m apart and no more than six to a group outside

**wash hands:** for at least 20 secs

### ISOLATED OR GRIEVING?

**We Are Islington** run by the council and local charities can help or refer you to someone who can.  
☎ 020 7527 8222

If it all gets too much for you call **Samaritans**, 24 hours a day, free from any phone ☎ 116 123.

## ABUSE AT HOME

If you need help call Solace Women's Aid in Islington for free confidential support on ☎ 020 3795 5070 or ✉ advocacy@solacewomensaid.org

If you are in danger now, call the police on ☎ 999.

## ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Report it on ☎ 020 7527 7272

**Sun to Thurs: 5pm - midnight**

**Fridays, Saturdays: 5pm - 2am**

Islington Council's ASB reporting line will be open as usual with the following changes:

**24 December: 12 noon - 8pm**

**Christmas Day: closed**

**31 December: 12 noon - 8pm.**



# XMAS TREE RECYCLING

Please don't dump your tree in or by communal bins or on a street corner. Real trees can be recycled by the council.

If you live in a street property, leave your tree outside at the edge of your property with your green waste on the usual collection day.

In the New Year, there will also be temporary drop-off spots around Islington for real Christmas trees:

- \* **Barnard Park, N1** – entrance near Charlotte Terrace
- \* **Paradise Park, N7** – entrance at Lough / MacKenzie Road
- \* **Highbury Crescent, N5** – near the playground entrance.

\* **These rules may change. Please check the latest government guidelines.**