Fire Safety and Risk Assessment

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Document History

Date	Author	Reason
12 Sept 2023	Nigel Gomm	First Draft

Rentman terminology:

- Property. A property is a dwelling place. The unit that is advertised and rented.
- Building. A portfolio of properties owned by the same landlord and used for management.
 The original notion was of a Victorian house converted into flats. The flats are rented out individually, but the building is managed as a collection (even if there's only one property in the building). The term "building" is being deprecated in favour of "management portfolio" so as not to be confused with "Fire Safety Block".
- Fire Safety Block. A building containing multiple residences (including a house converted into several "properties"). A fire safety block may have many properties owned by different landlords so exists in parallel to the management portfolio (aka "building").

Introduction

New legislation comes into effect 1st October 2023 that enacts recent changes regarding fire safety.

Properties that share access and/or exist within the same structure (in effect everything except detached, semi-detached and terraced houses) require Fire Safety information be provided to tenants and that a Fire Risk Assessment be done annually.

In Rentman this means that we must create a new record for each structure that properties are a part of. This new record is known as a "Fire Safety Block". Every rental property in your inventory MUST be attached to a Fire Safety Block if it belongs to one of these categories:

- Low Risk. Two or more residences and fewer that 4 storeys.
- Medium Risk. Over 11 meters high (ground floor to floor of uppermost storey) with 4, 5, 6 or 7 storeys.
- High Risk. 8 or more storeys or taller than 18 metres (ground floor to floor of uppermost storey).

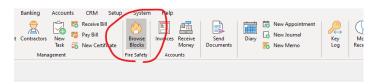
Many properties (possibly belonging to different landlords) may belong to the same Fire Safety Block. We add Fire Safety Documents and contact information to the Fire Safety Block which is then shared amongst all properties attached to the block.

There's a new list in the main desktop treeview under properties that shows every property that has not been attached to a Fire Safety Block and given an "Accountable Person" or not been set as not requiring one.

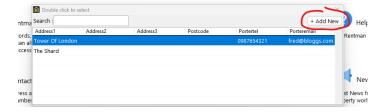
Properties Available Soon Properties that require an Accountable Person (8) Right-Click on grid for option Properties Available Soon
Properties For Sale
Sales Properties Under Offer
Lettings Properties Under Offer
Properties Sold
My Properties
Vacant Properties
Vacant Properties
Properties with insufficient EPC rati
Properties with current tenants
Vacant Reporties ProprefManaged Property Available rtytrejlyt vzh, Valuation
mrueyhtgr ytgrf, Valuation
8c Somewhere, Over The Rainbow OZ
Unavailable
1234 Broadway, Paris
Unavailable
12 Lymington Rd, West Hampstea NW6 ABC
4 Stoneyroad Ave, Egham
TW20 XYZ
Unavailable
1 Example St, London
Unavailable
14 Hampstead Gardens, Hampstei NW3 ZYX
Unavailable / / 20/01/2023 Elain 28/03/2023 30/08/2023 Trace Andr Nige Trace Andr 08/01/2024 Properties with current tenants
Managed Properties
In Fire Safaby
Properties that require an Accountable
Properties where We are the Accountable
Other Predefined Searches
Property Diary
Boards Installed
Boards Allowed
Applicants 22/03/2024 01/05/2025

Fire Safety Block

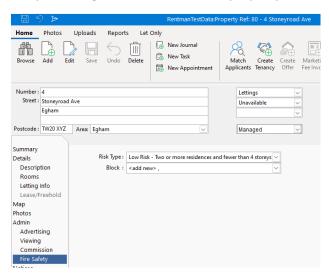
Add a fire safety block from the main toolbar



ome to Rentman



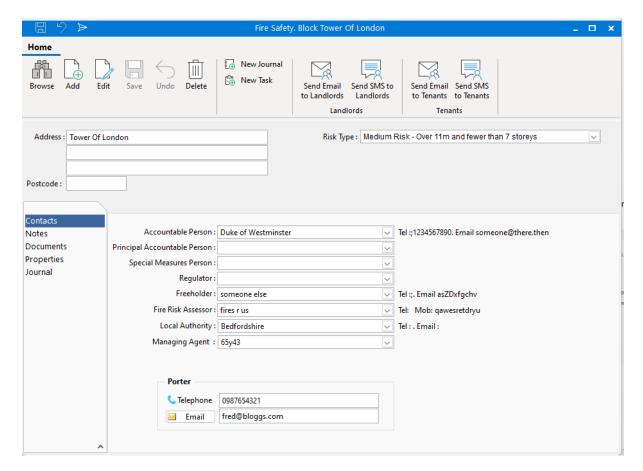
or by choosing <Add New> from the property screen's fire safety tab.



On the contacts tab of this screen we get to enter legally required information such as the "accountable person".

The names entered here, apart from the local authority and fire risk assessor, are entered into Rentman as Contacts (of type "Fire Safety Officer"). Alternatively, Accountable Person and Principal Accountable Person can be set to be the Landlord (if all properties in a FireSafety Block are owned by the same landlord) or to your company name.

The Fire Risk Assessor is entered into Rentman as a contractor and tasks can be assigned to them in the usual way. They can also use rentman.online to view and edit tasks assigned to them.



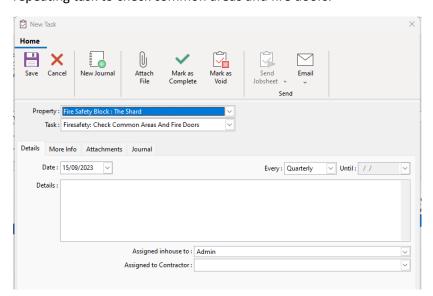
You can right click on those telephone numbers and emails to send or dial.

The notes tab has space for you to enter useful information.

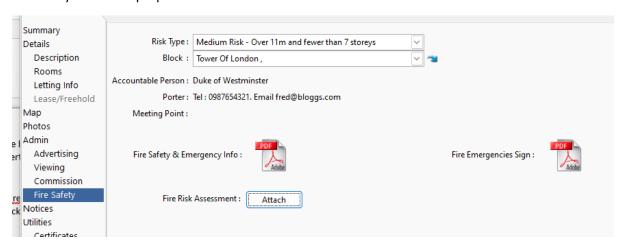


As well as documents added to the block the Documents tab will show any Fire Equipment and Smoke Alarm certificates for properties attached to this block. There is also a new "Emergency Lighting" certificate that may be required.

If you select your own company as the accountable person (it's an option in the combobox dropdown) and the block is 4 or more storeys Rentman will automatically create a quarterly repeating task to check common areas and fire doors.



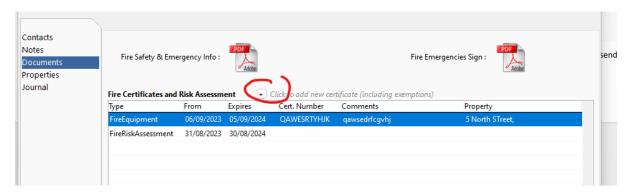
For convenience some of the information on this FireSafety Block screen will also be displayed on the FireSafety tab of the properties attached to the block.



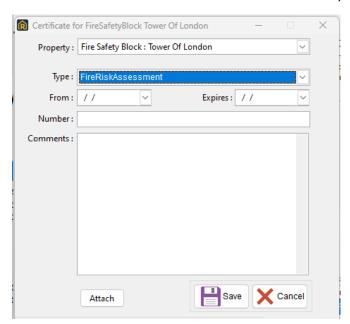
RightClick on the accountable person or porter's info here to send emails, texts or to dial out. Documents added here will be added to the Fire Safety Block.

Fire Risk Assessments

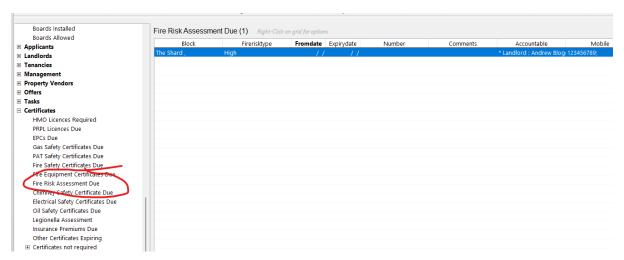
Fire Risk assessments are entered into Rentman as certificates. On the documents tab click the + button.



As with other certificates there's a from date and an expiry date



And a list on the main desktop to remind you that a risk assessment is due.



Fire Safety Information

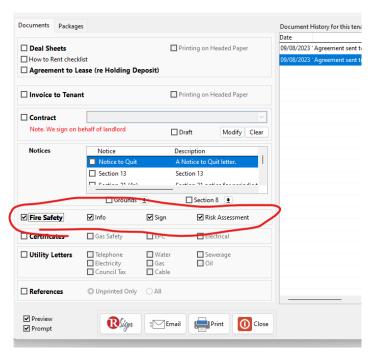
As well as the "Fire Risk Assessment" you are required to give tenants a Fire Safety document with information regarding what to do in an emergency. This document will be block specific and we don't have a template. It is likely that a 3rd party Fire Safety Officer (perhaps the "Accountable Person") will provide this document. Attach it to the Fire Safety Block on the documents tab.



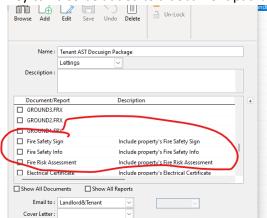
Section 49

Section 49 requires that this fire safety information is provided with each new tenancy....

This document, together with the Fire Risk Assessment and a Fire Safety sign can be sent to new tenants alongside the tenancy agreement.



They can also be added to a document package in the usual way.



Section 47a

Section 47a requires that fire safety information be attached to every rent demand.

Sending an email from Rentman's rent overdue list will automatically attach the block's fire safety info, sign and risk assessment.

