



ACCENT HOUSING - FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT



Region :	North West
Scheme Name :	35 Cowhill Lane
Scheme Address :	Cowhill Lane Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 6HJ
Date of Assessment:	30/07/2026
Date of Next Assessment:	30/07/2028
FRA Frequency:	2 Year Re-Assessment under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
Fire & Safety Assessor	Ian Potter FIFireE DipFD

This Fire Risk Assessment has been conducted upon the instruction of Accent Housing.

Scheme Details		35 Cowhill Lane
Region:		North West
Scheme Name:		35 Cowhill Lane
Site Address:	Street:	Cowhill Lane
	Town:	Ashton-Under-Lyne
	Post Code:	OL6 6HJ
Block & Asset No.		1-4, 35 Cowhill Lane, Asset 9419
Date of this Assessment		30/07/2026
Date of Next Review		30/07/2028
Fire Risk Assessment Frequency		2 Years
Purpose of Fire Risk Assessment		2 Year Re-Assessment under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
Fire & Safety Assessor		Ian Potter FIFireE DipFD
Director of Customer Experience		John Place
Housing Partner Manager		Jamie Trotter
Contract Manager		Karen Anthony
Scheme Manager/Customer Partner		Janine O'Connor
Other staff in attendance		None
Use of Building		General Needs living Sleeping accommodation
Approximate Number of occupants		8
Occupancy Profile		Mixed
Familiarity of the occupants		Fully Familiar
Likely state of the Occupants		Sleeping Familiar
PEEPs in place where necessary		N/A
Number of on-site Accent staff		None
Number of other (non-Accent) staff		Contract cleaners in common areas
Support Agency (Supported Housing)		N/A
Current Evacuation Strategy.		Full (Simultaneous) Evacuation
Evidence that residents have been notified of the evacuation procedure		Fire Evacuation notices displayed in common areas and in place
History of fires in the building		None
Scope of Assessment		Type 1 (Common Parts Only - Non Destructive)
Applicable Fire Safety Guidance		LACORS Guide

Building Details	35 Cowhill Lane
Construction Date	1915
Construction Type	Joisted or Load Bearing Masonry (Traditional)
Roof Finish	Pitched-Slate Tile
External Wall Finish	Cement Render
	Brick
Are there any areas of external wall cladding	No
Are there any balconies	No
Conversion or purpose-built	Conversion
Number of flats (self-contained)/rooms (HMOS, shared houses)	4 Flats
Number of storeys above ground Not including Basements	Two
Number of storeys below ground	One
Is there a habitable basement?	No
Number of internal Staircases per Block (protected or unprotected?)	One-Protected
Number of External Staircases per Block	None
External Balcony part of escape route?	No
Unusual features	None
Building complexity	Simple
Building Access Conditions for Fire Brigade	Vehicular Access to one or more elevations
Surroundings: Residential/Commercial	Residential
Fire Provision Currently in Place	
Fire Detection and Warning System	Flats and common areas linked
Grade of fire alarm (Flats)	Grade A
Category of fire alarm (Flats)	LD2 Additional Protection
Grade of fire alarm (Communal)	Grade A
Category of fire alarm (Communal)	LD2 Additional Protection
Additional Comments:	
Evacuation Alert System (EAS)	Not Fitted
Additional Comments:	
Emergency Lighting Provision	Non Maintained System -
Additional Comments:	
Portable Fire Extinguishers	None fitted
Fixed Fire Fighting Installations	None fitted
Additional Comments:	

Significant Findings - Fire						
35 Cowhill Lane				30/07/2026		
Action Ref:	Potential Area of Fire Risk	Yes-No-N/A	Observation/Comments/ Actions Required	Risk Rating	Target Completion Date	Referred To:
Fire Hazards						
1	Electrical Sources of Ignition:					
1.1	Electrical Installation within common areas (Fixed Wiring, sockets, switches, light fittings) in good condition and no obvious damage	Yes	All common area sockets and fittings in a satisfactory condition at the time of inspection	.		
1.2	Valid Electrical Installation Condition Reports held on file.(Common Areas)	Yes	Valid communal area EIC Reports uploaded to property file all In date at time of inspection Last Inspection Date 28th June 22 Satisfactory	.		
1.3	Valid Electrical Installation Condition Reports held on file. (General Needs Flats)	Yes	Valid General Needs flats EIC Reports uploaded to M-Files and ActiveH. All checked and in date Satisfactory	.		
1.4	Electrical App/PA Testing - all portable appliances tested within past 12 months	N/A	There are no portable appliances within the communal area.	.		
1.5	Absence of trailing leads and adapters	No	A coil of cable was found outside the flat front door of Flat 3. This would constitute a trip hazard and could cause entanglement. HP to arrange removal	Med	31/8/26	Housing Partner
1.6	Mobility Scooters - Stored/charged in common areas, purpose built store/resident flat	N/A	No evidence or reports that any of the residents own a mobility scooter	.		
2	Smoking:					
2.1	Are there any risks associated with smoking in the building?	No	Smoking is not allowed within the communal areas. Smoking is only permitted within flats. There are smoking signs present within the communal areas.	.		

3	Arson:					
3.1	Adequate security against arson?	No	Front door secure at time of inspection. Rear door with access to street is insecure and is open to access Work order 1397309	Low	12/9/26	Building Safety Project manager
3.2	Is there an absence of unnecessary fire load in close proximity to building?	Yes	None seen at time of inspection	.		
4	Heating Installations (Portable/fixed) Gas Installations - Common Areas & General Needs Residential flats.					
4.1	If portable heaters are used, are there suitable controls?	N/A	There are no portable heaters within the communal area.	.		
4.2	Are fixed heating installations subject to regular maintenance?	Yes	Individual boilers in each flat, no communal gas supply.	.		
4.3	Valid LGSC held on file for each residential flat that contains gas appliances.	Yes	There is a gas supply to individual flats. All checked and in date.	.		
5	Cooking:					
5.1	Are reasonable measures taken to prevent fires as a result of cooking?	N/A	Cooking only permitted within flats	.		
5.2	Where there is extraction ventilation in communal kitchens are filters changed/ cleaned and ductwork cleaned regularly?	N/A	No communal kitchen	.		
6	Lightning Protection System:					
6.1	Does the building have a lightning protection system, If so, is it adequately maintained?	N/A	No lightning conductor system fitted	.		
7	Housekeeping:					

7.1	Is the standard of housekeeping adequate?	No	Rubbish bags were located within the rear exit foyer. Rubbish was stored within the communal corridor outside flat 3. Flyers and other mail located in communal hallway nr front door. HP to arrange removal and inform residents to dispose of them. Unable to access the basement. HP to check that it is clear of flammable items.	Low	12/9/26	Housing Partner
7.2	Are all electrical/intake/service cupboards secure and free from general waste, contractors waste and residents personal items.	No	The electrical cupboard doors were found open and not secure. They were secured at the time of inspection. A carrier bag full of old flyers was found inside the electrical meter cupboard. HP to arrange removal and inform residents to dispose of them.	Low	12/9/26	Housing Partner
7.3	Are combustible materials separated from ignition sources and stored appropriately?	No	See above	.		
7.4	Are unnecessary accumulations of combustible materials or waste avoided?	No	See above	.		
7.5	Are hazardous materials stored appropriately (i.e. oxygen cylinders, flammable materials, explosive products, oxidising products, aerosols)	N/A	No evidence of hazardous materials stored on site	.		
8	Furniture/furnishings on escape routes and other communal areas:					
8.1	Furniture/furnishings in good condition, fire retardant and complies with 1988 Regulations.	N/A	Furniture not permitted in communal areas at general needs schemes	.		
9	Other Significant Fire Hazards:					
9.1	Are there other significant fire hazards that are inadequately controlled?	No	None seen at time of inspection	.		
Fire Protection Measures						
10	Means of Escape from Fire:					

10.1	Is it considered that the building is provided with reasonable means of escape in case of fire?	Yes	Single protected staircase leading to hallway with 2 ways out.	.		
10.2	Escape routes unobstructed and safe to use?	Yes	There were no obstructions on the means of escape at the time of inspection.	.		
10.3	Exits easily and immediately openable where necessary, without a key?	Yes	Push pad (broken see 3.1) on rear door, front door has thumbturn fitted and electronic release with emergency facility.	.		
10.4	Reasonable distances of travel where there is a single/alternative direction of travel?	Yes	All within reasonable limits	.		
10.5	Escape routes lead to final exits and open in direction of escape where necessary?	Yes	Doors open inwards and are acceptable for this type of property.	.		
10.6	Do failsafe's on locked exit doors function correctly?	Yes	Checked	.		
10.7	Is it considered that the building is provided with reasonable arrangements for means of escape for disabled people?	No	People with mobility issues would have difficulty escaping from upper floor.	.		
11	Measures to Limit Fire Spread and Development:					
11.1	Is it considered that the compartmentation is of a reasonable standard?	No	From what could be observed at the time of inspection. Unable to access the basement however the basements of nearby properties are not adequately fire stopped between the basement and the ground floor. Survey to be carried out to identify requirements for providing 30 min fire separation. Work order 1400873	Med	30/9/26	Building Safety Project manager
11.2	Is there reasonable limitation of surface finishes that might promote fire spread (walls, floors, ceilings)?	Yes	Reasonable limitation in place.	.		
11.3	Are fire dampers/shutters provided in ducts/refuse chutes to protect means of escape against fire, smoke and combustion products?	N/A	None fitted within this scheme	.		
11.4	Compartmentation within roof spaces of a satisfactory standard?	Other	Unable to access roof space from Common Area due to height.	.		

11.5	Loft hatches fire resisting?	Yes	From what could be observed from below.	.		
11.6	Fire stopping above cross-corridor fire doors within suspended ceiling void of a satisfactory standard	N/A	No Cross Corridor Doors at this scheme	.		
11.7	Smoke Control Systems (AOV's) Are records of annual testing available?	N/A	No Automatic vents fitted at this scheme	.		
11.8	Roller shutter doors (fire resisting)	N/A	Not fitted at this scheme.	.		
11.9	Do the external walls, windows, balconies etc pose a risk of significant fire spread?	No	Standard construction.	.		
12	Communal Area Fire Doors (Inspection to include - construction, hinges, closure devices, intumescent/smoke seal condition, glazing systems and maximum gaps between door and frame.					
12.1	Communal fire doors to FD30s standard and in a serviceable condition,	No	The door leading into the rear exit foyer has had a lock removed and a hole has been left in the door. Work order 1397309	.		
12.2	"Fire door keep shut/locked" signage displayed on both sides of all applicable doors.	Yes	Checked	.		
12.3	Hold open devices operate at the sounding of the alarm and are in a serviceable condition	N/A	No Hold open devices at this scheme	.		
13	Flat entrance doors (Internal Common Areas)					
13.1	Do flat entrance doors open onto internal escape routes?	Yes	All appear to be in good condition	.		
14	Flats with a single direction of escape to a single escape stairway. (External Balcony)					
14.1	Do the flat entrance doors that open onto an external balcony have to be passed during an escape?	N/A	None at this block	.		
14.2	Are the separating walls between the flats and the balcony floor that have to be passed during an escape, fire-resisting up to a height of 1.1m?	N/A	None at this block	.		
15	Emergency Escape Lighting:					

15.1	Is the emergency lighting correctly specified and installed as per BS 5266-1:2016	Yes		.		
15.2	Are all emergency lighting units in good condition and securely fixed to walls/ceilings	No	No indicator lights on EL luminaires. Recent test report by Tunstall shows that multiple luminaires have failed. Tunstall to provide a quote for repair	Med	31/8/26	Building Safety Project manager
15.9	Are records of monthly testing available?	Yes	Monthly test certs uploaded to M-Files and ActiveH In date at time of inspection. Last test date : - 31st July 26	.		
15.10	Are records of annual testing available?	Yes	Annual test certs uploaded to M-Files and ActiveH In date at time of inspection. Last test date : - 5th August 26	.		
16	Fire Safety Signs and Notices:					
16.1	Are the correct Fire Action/Advice notices displayed in prominent locations within the common areas?	Yes	The correct Notices are displayed throughout the scheme.	.		
16.3	Directional fire escape signage in place and adequate?	Yes	Checked	.		
16.4	Is there a suitable LIFT sign i.e. do not use in case of fire.	N/A	No lift present at this scheme.	.		
17	Means of giving Warning in case of Fire:					
17.1	Is the fire detection and warning system appropriate for the occupancy and fire risk?	Yes	In accordance with LACORS guidance.	.		
17.2	Is the fire detection and warning system correctly specified and installed as per BS 5839-1:2017	Yes		.		
17.3	Is the fire detection and warning system maintained/tested and all certificates saved on file. (BS 5839-1:2017)	Yes	Last tested by Tunstall on 7th August 26	.		
17.4	Are there heat detectors located in the Kitchen, Boiler, Plant Room and Laundry?	N/A	None at scheme	.		

17.5	Is the fire alarm panel remotely monitored, and if so are there records of regular testing?	No	Fire alarm is not remotely monitored	.		
17.6	Are smoke/heat detectors within General Needs flats subject to an annual inspection and the results recorded on an in date Landlord Gas Safety Record (LGSR)	Yes	All checked and in date.	.		
18	Fire Extinguishing Equipment:					
18.1	Portable fire extinguishers - appropriate type/number/position?	N/A	None at scheme	.		
18.2	Correct signage displayed by each fire extinguisher?	N/A	None at scheme	.		
18.3	Fire blanket in communal kitchen, secured to the wall, complete with signage?	N/A	None at scheme	.		
18.4	Hose Reels - fitted, maintained?	N/A	None at scheme	.		
18.5	Dry/wet risers - Full access to all inlet/outlet boxes. All inlet/outlets secured and/or securing straps fitted to outlet valves?	N/A	None at scheme	.		
18.6	Records available of fire fighting equipment servicing within past 12 months	N/A	None at scheme	.		
19	Management of Fire Safety					
19.1	Are there suitable arrangements for summoning the fire service?	Yes	Residents responsible for calling fire service	.		
19.2	Do relevant staff carry out regular fire safety checks	Yes	Housing Partners do scheme inspections.	.		
19.3	Sheltered Schemes & Regional Offices - Are there sufficient number of qualified Fire wardens.	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		
19.4	Offices - Are there suitable arrangements for ensuring the premises are evacuated?	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		

19.5	Offices - Are there suitable arrangements for evacuating disabled people?	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		
19.6	Offices - Are there suitable arrangements for meeting the fire service on arrival and providing relevant information?	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		
19.7	Offices/IL Schemes - Is there a suitable assembly point?	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		
19.8	Offices - Are fire drills carried out at appropriate intervals?	N/A	General Needs Scheme	.		
20	Evacuation Policy					
20.1	Taking the findings of the FRA into account, is the evacuation policy appropriate for the scheme?	Yes	The evacuation policy is correct for this type of building.	.		

Photographs - Fire

30/07/2026

35 Cowhill Lane



Photo No. 1

Rubbish bag with flyers in meter cupboard



Photo No. 2

Flyers behind front door

Photographs - Fire

30/07/2026

35 Cowhill Lane



Photo No. 3

Push pad broken on rear exit door



Photo No. 4

Push pad broken on rear exit door.

Photographs - Fire

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35 Cowhill Lane



Photo No. 5

Rubbish bags stored in rear exit foyer



Photo No. 6

Lock removed and hole in door to rear exit foyer

Photographs - Fire

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Photo No. 7

EL Lumiaires - no indication light



Photo No. 8

Personal items outside Flat 3

Photographs - Fire

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35 Cowhill Lane



Photo No. 9

Coil of cable outside Flat 3



Photo No. 10

Personal items and cable coil outside Flat 3

6. Risk Calculator - Fire

The following risk estimator is based on the general health and safety risk level estimator contained within BS 8800: 1996. Guide to occupational health and safety management systems.

1. Taking into account the fire prevention measures observed at the time of this risk assessment, it is considered that the hazard from the fire (the probability of ignition) at this building is:

(please insert x below)

LOW ☒ MEDIUM ☐ HIGH ☐

2. Taking into account the nature of the building, the occupants, the fire protection afforded and any procedural arrangements observed at the time of the assessment, it is considered that the consequences for life safety in the event of a fire would be:

(please insert x below)

MINOR ☐ MAJOR ☒ CRITICAL ☐

The definition of the above terms is as follows:

FRA Review Frequency

MINOR	Outbreak of fire is unlikely to result in serious injury or death of any occupant (other than the occupant sleeping in a bedroom in which a fire occurs).
MAJOR	An outbreak of fire could result in injury of one or more occupants, but is unlikely to lead to fatalities.
CRITICAL	There is significant potential for serious injury or death of one or more occupants.

3. The above estimates are then read into the following matrix table to give the overall risk level for the site:

Fire Hazard	Minor	Major	Critical
Low	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
Medium	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
High	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable

When the level of risk is established, the action level can be read from the table below:

Risk Level	Guide to actions and appropriate timescales
Trivial	No action is required
Moderate	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk level and this should be carried out within the specified time periods.
Substantial	Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk level. It may be necessary to limit the occupation of some parts until urgent remedial action is
Intolerable	The building (or the relevant area) should not be occupied until the risk is reduced.

Action Plan - Fire					
35 Cowhill Lane			30/07/2026		
Tolerable					
Potential area of fire risk	Observation/Comments / Actions Required	Risk Rating	Completion Date	Referred To:	Task ID No.
Fire Hazards					
Electrical Sources of Ignition:					
Absence of trailing leads and adapters	A coil of cable was found outside the flat front door of Flat 3. This would constitute a trip hazard and could cause entanglement. HP to arrange removal	Med	31/08/26	Housing Partner	2169485
Arson:					
Adequate security against arson?	Front door secure at time of inspection. Rear door with access to street is insecure and is open to access Work order 1397309	Low	12/09/26	Building Safety Project manager	
Housekeeping:					
Is the standard of housekeeping adequate?	Rubbish bags were located within the rear exit foyer. Rubbish was stored within the communal corridor outside flat 3. Flyers and other mail located in communal hallway nr front door. HP to arrange removal and inform residents to dispose of them. Unable to access the basement. HP to check that it is clear of flammable items.	Low	12/09/26	Housing Partner	2169485
Are all electrical/intake/service cupboards secure and free from general waste, contractors waste and residents personal items.	The electrical cupboard doors were found open and not secure. They were secured at the time of inspection. A carrier bag full of old flyers was found inside the electrical meter cupboard. HP to arrange removal amd inform residents to dispose of them.	Low	12/09/26	Housing Partner	2169485
Measures to Limit Fire Spread and Development:					

Is it considered that the compartmentation is of a reasonable standard?	From what could be observed at the time of inspection. Unable to access the basement however the basements of nearby properties are not adequately fire stopped between the basement and the ground floor. Survey to be carried out to identify requirements for providing 30 min fire separation. Work order 1400873	Med	30/09/26	Building Safety Project manager	2174316
Emergency Escape Lighting:					
Are all emergency lighting units in good condition and securely fixed to walls/ceilings	No indicator lights on EL luminaires. Recent test report by Tunstall shows that multiple luminaires have failed. Tunstall to provide a quote for repair	Med	31/08/26	Building Safety Project manager	