



HOARDING POLICY

Hoarding and over-cluttering provides a fire hazard in an almshouse therefore creating a fire risk.

Residents are asked not to hoard personal effects in the almshouses or maintain unnecessary clutter.

If a resident has a tendency to hoard, the trustees will request that they receive a Home Fire Safety Check by the local fire services or other suitable authority.

It is the responsibility of each resident to ensure that they can evacuate their almshouse independently and swiftly, not relying on neighbours or staff.

If Trustees suspect that a resident is unable to evacuate swiftly, they will be asked to make better arrangements for their mobility.

1. All new residents to Ottery Feoffee Charity Almshouses to sign that they have read and understood the terms in the Resident's Handbook.
2. It is necessary that in the Annual Residents Inspection, Trustees make an assessment of a resident's temptation to hoard. If, during the inspection, trustees suspect a resident of hoarding, it is the policy that the Fire Services, or another suitable authority, should be invited to make a Home Safe Inspection.

Hoarding is now recognised as a mental illness known as Hoarding Disorder. It is a complex interplay between social, psychological and environmental factors. In light of this, further support could be offered from specialist services.