



**East Sussex**  
Fire & Rescue Service

## **EACIE systems (Evacuation Alert Control and Indicating Equipment).**

After the Grenfell Tower fire, the official inquiry recommended that all high-rise residential buildings should have a way for the Fire Service to send clear evacuation signals to residents in an emergency.

In the past, if a full evacuation was needed, firefighters often had to knock on doors, use intercoms, or loudhailers to get people out. This could take valuable time.

Now, new high-rise buildings (over 18 metres tall, or with 7 or more floors) must be fitted with **Evacuation Alert Systems**. These are control panels that allow the Fire Service to send an evacuation signal to residents, floor by floor.

This means:

- Firefighters can evacuate a building in a safe and controlled way.
- People at greatest risk (such as those closest to the fire) can be evacuated first.
- Staircases don't become overcrowded, keeping them clear for both residents and firefighters.

Brighton & Hove Council has committed to installing these systems in all its high-rise residential buildings this year. You may see firefighters visiting your building as part of training and familiarisation.

### **What this means for residents**

- If you live in a high-rise with one of these systems, you may hear an evacuation signal during a real emergency.
- The Fire Service will use the system to guide residents safely out of the building, usually in stages.
- If you hear the alarm, follow instructions from firefighters and leave the building calmly.

These systems are an important step in improving safety in high-rise buildings, ensuring evacuations are quicker, clearer, and safer for everyone.

See the photos below for familiarisation.



EACIE panel box and lobby phone to refuse points

EACIE panel



Refuse call point

