



# ELECTRIC SAFETY

## IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES ⚡

Higher rates of fires/injuries among minorities due to language barriers

**2X**  
HIGHER RISK

Linguistic minorities face over 2 times higher risk of electric fires and accidents compared to native English speakers due to lack of accessible safety materials.



A 2022 ELECTRICAL SAFETY

SURVEY OF ROCHDALE FOUND



35%

35% of immigrant households used power strips dangerously overloaded.

45%

45% were unaware of basic electric hazard prevention.



IN OLDHAM LAST YEAR



**5** ELECTRIC FIRE

occurred due to outdated/ unsafe wiring.



**18** INDIVIDUALS SUFFERED ELECTRIC SHOCKS

that required hospitalization, the majority being non-native English speakers over the age of 60.



**A FIRE BROKE OUT IN A 3-GENERATION IMMIGRANT HOME**

In June 2022, a fire broke out in a 3-generation immigrant home in Rochdale after an overloaded power strip caught fire during peak electricity use hours.



**ELECTRIC SHOCK DUE TO EXPOSED WIRING**

In August 2022, a 74-year old Arab woman in Oldham received significant burns from an electric shock due to exposed wiring near her kitchen sink.

## CAUSES OF ELECTRIC ACCIDENTS



Overloaded sockets/power strips



Fraying wires and hazards



Lack of Protective devices (Fuses, RCDs)



Unsafe/outdated wiring

## SIGNS OF ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS



Frequent tripped breakers



Unusually high electric bills



Warm outlets/switches



Burning smell from appliances



Flickering lights



Odd noises from outlets

## IF AN ACCIDENT OCCURS



How to provide first aid for shock/burns



How to safely turn power off



When to go to hospital



Who to call to report emergency

## PREVENTION TIPS



Use surge protectors, avoid overloads



Keep electrical appliances away from water



Install safety devices like smoke alarms



Keep cords neatly managed

## SAFETY RESOURCES



Numbers for local electricians, fire dept



Support services if injured

### ROCHDALE RESOURCES:

- Rochdale Borough Council Environmental Health Services - provide electrical safety guidance and inspections, phone number: 0300 303 8804
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Rochdale Station - for emergency electrical fire response, phone number: 0800 555 815
- Rochdale Infirmary - for treatment of electrical injuries/burns, phone number: 01706 901000

### OLDHAM RESOURCES:

- Oldham Council Environmental Health - provide electrical safety information, phone number: 0161 770 2244
- Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Oldham Fire Station - emergency electrical fire response, phone number: 0800 555 815
- The Royal Oldham Hospital - treat electrical shock/burn victims, A&E phone: 0161 627 8933
- Electrical Safety First - helpline for guidance, phone: 020 3163 5100
- National Grid emergency electrical hazard hotline, phone: 0800 111 999



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