

# Fire Risk from Chargers

## What Happened?

Earlier this month both the Dublin Fire Brigade and the NSAI issued warnings about the use of phone chargers and the potential fire risk they pose if not used appropriately. This was in response to a fire in an apartment where a phone charger that was in use was left on a bed and set the bed alight causing extensive damage to the property.

In ESB Networks, most staff use phone chargers or other similar devices on a daily basis both at home and in work. Work locations include, offices, buildings, site canteens and vehicles. Recently overheating incidents involving a 12v torch being charged in a van and another involving an iPhone 6 charger were logged in SHIELD.



## What Should I Do?

In order to minimize the risk of fire from a charger, consider the following actions:

1. Don't ever charge an appliance on a combustible surface or flammable material. .
2. Don't leave electrical items to charge overnight or beyond the recommended charging time as stipulated in the instructions.
3. Don't overload sockets.
4. Smoke alarms: make sure you have at least one on every floor.
5. Test your smoke alarms weekly or ask someone to check it for you.
6. Ensure electrical appliances display the CE Mark, which signifies products have been assessed to meet high health and safety requirements, and also to ensure devices are being used safely.
7. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions in relation to the device.
8. Report all work related Incidents to your supervisor/manager or Safety Rep/Champion so they can be logged in SHIELD.