

Woman evacuated from flat fire



A 38-year-old woman needed to be given oxygen for smoke inhalation after a serious fire in the bedroom of her flat in Livingston, West Lothian earlier today.

The woman had been in her bed sleeping when she became aware that the room was on fire. Fortunately, she was able to get out of the property which had become filled with thick smoke.

Two appliances from Livingston responded to the call reporting a flat alight in Forth Drive at 12.30am.

Four firefighters in breathing apparatus tackled the fire in the second floor property of the three-storey block.

The bedroom was completely destroyed by fire and smoke and alternative accommodation had to be found for the female occupant and others in the building affected by the smoke.

A spokeswoman for Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service said:

“We are investigating the cause of the fire although we understand from the occupier that she had been using candles in her room and that is one avenue we are investigating.

“It is vital that you make sure, especially before going to bed, that all fire risks are considered. Put candles and cigarettes out with care.

“Also make sure you have a working smoke alarm in your home to raise the alarm promptly if the worst happens and fire does break out.

“A fire and thick smoke can be very disorientating, especially at night, so make sure you have an escape plan, know how to get out and call us out immediately on 999.

“If you live in our area you can call 0800 169 0320 for a free home safety visit and the fitting of free smoke detectors as required.”