

Circular to Wentworth & Selborne Chambers: Emergency alarm & PA system

Members and Clerks may be aware that CCL's Fire Services Engineers have been auditing the buildings fire services this year. The purpose of the audit is to ensure that all of the existing fire service measures in the building are performing in accordance with requirements.

One of the improvements required by the Engineers is to ensure that the audible volume of the alarm and PA system remains at a suitable volume within Chambers at all times when occupied. Members will note that the speakers for the alarms and PA system are located in the corridors and reception areas on all Floors, and not in Chambers.

In order to satisfy the Engineers requirements, two requirements have been prescribed that Members must observe when in Chambers.

1. When at least one of the Floor's two Fire Wardens are present during normal business hours, the doors to Chambers must remain unlocked when occupied. This will enable the Fire Warden to open doors to Chambers quickly and easily upon alarm activation, so that the required audible volume can be achieved within Chambers.
2. When Chambers are occupied outside of business hours, or when the Floor's two Fire Wardens are not present on the Floor during business hours, the door to each Chamber that is occupied cannot be completely closed, it is necessary for the door to be partly ajar - not closed. In the event of an alarm or emergency, this will enable the tones, alerts and instructions to be clearly heard over the alarm and PA system.

If you are not able to comply with these requirements, it will be possible to have a dedicated speaker installed in your Chambers, however this will be at your cost.

A reminder circular regarding the above will be sent to Members every year, and CCL encourages Members to take part in emergency response training throughout the year.

Kind regards,
Debbie George
CEO

DX 973 Sydney

P: +61 2 9231 3644

E: dgeorge@ccl.com.au

W: www.ccl.com.au

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