# Walthamstow flat’s dangerous loft bedroom sparks safety concerns in high-rent market



A flat in Walthamstow, east London, renting for £2,650 per month, has sparked alarm and controversy after potential tenants discovered a bedroom setup described by many as a "death trap." The property was initially advertised as a "delightful three-bedroom" home, boasting a pristine dining room, spacious living area, and a neat garden fitted with grey slabs and warm lighting. The bright kitchen and bathroom, featuring a chequered shower surround and built-in mirror lighting, reinforced the impression of a well-organised and inviting living space. However, as prospective renters explored the loft, they encountered a startling feature: a bed precariously suspended above a hole in the floor accessed only by climbing through a kitchen ceiling hatch.

This unconventional loft bedroom is characterised by low ceilings and extremely limited space, intensifying feelings of claustrophobia. The bed literally hangs over the hatch, with no proper door or staircase access, forcing tenants to ascend a ladder through the kitchen ceiling. Social media users who viewed images and videos of the space expressed profound disbelief and concern. One TikTok poster described the scenario: "When you get to the top of the ladder, this is what you're greeted with. You can actually see the hatch at the bottom of the bed. Imagine falling through there? Or imagine bringing a girl back after a night out." Comments online pointed to the potential safety hazards, with users questioning how anyone could change the bed linen in such cramped conditions and branding the arrangement "diabolical" and a "death trap." Another user questioned the justification for the steep rent, suggesting the property was a joke at that price.

In response to queries, the landlord acknowledged an "error in the ad" and claimed that a correction had been made by adding an image of a third bedroom containing a single bed. Nonetheless, the contentious loft bed image remains in the listing, hinting that this might actually be a fourth bedroom intended for the maximum occupancy of six tenants in the house.

Comparing this controversial arrangement with other loft-style flats offers stark contrasts. Many London properties advertised as loft conversions, from trendy areas such as Lambeth, Camden, and Notting Hill, emphasise bright, spacious layouts with features catering to comfort and modern living. For example, a Victorian terrace in Lambeth boasts an open kitchen and dining area with multiple skylights and even a Cabrio balcony offering city views, enhanced by modern furnishings and superior cleaning protocols. Similarly, a luxury loft apartment in Camden features three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and an en-suite, alongside picturesque views of Hampstead Heath and easy access to central London. Other loft penthouses around East and West London promote ample natural light, roof terraces, and essential safety equipment like fire extinguishers and first aid kits, underscoring attention to tenant safety and well-being.

While many loft apartments prioritise a balance of style, space, and safety, the Walthamstow flat's unusual bedroom arrangement raises questions about minimum safety standards and ethical rental practices in London's competitive housing market. Industry regulations typically require safe access points to any living quarters and restrict perilous layouts. The stark difference in quality and safety standards reflects the broader challenges renters face in securing suitable and safe accommodation in the city.

This Walthamstow case has highlighted growing concerns among prospective tenants who, despite high rents, may end up in dwellings lacking basic safety considerations. It serves as a reminder for regulatory bodies to scrutinise listings more rigorously and for tenants to remain vigilant when assessing property adverts that promise comfort and space but may conceal serious flaws.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.peerspace.com/pages/listings/62d148d82499a10273b8fc6b), [[5]](https://www.vrbo.com/404931ha), [[7]](https://www.vrbo.com/en-gb/p246294vb)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://www.vrbo.com/10950846ha), [[6]](https://www.vrbo.com/11144173ha)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/property/article-15069935/London-flat-2650-month-flaw-death-trap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.peerspace.com/pages/listings/62d148d82499a10273b8fc6b> - This Victorian terrace flat in Lambeth, Greater London, features a tri-level layout with a loft conversion that includes an open kitchen and dining area. The loft boasts a unique Cabrio balcony and multiple skylights, offering great London views. The property is well-lit and furnished with modern pieces, providing a bright and airy ambiance. Parking options include paid onsite parking and visitor permit street parking. The host has indicated enhanced cleaning measures and protective gear for guests, ensuring a safe and comfortable stay.
3. <https://www.nyhabitat.com/london-apartment/vacation/247> - This two-bedroom loft apartment is located on York Way in Islington, London. The area is close to a picturesque canal, the London Canal Museum, and within walking distance to Camden Market, Regents Park, and London Zoo. The apartment is equipped with amenities such as cable TV, internet, and a washer and dryer. The nearest transportation hub is King's Cross St. Pancras Station, providing access to multiple Underground lines and national train services, facilitating easy travel around London and beyond.
4. <https://www.vrbo.com/10950846ha> - This East London loft penthouse offers a spacious living area with a roof terrace and is located near Old Street Station. The property is within walking distance to landmarks such as St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. The area is known for its vibrant nightlife, with numerous bars and restaurants nearby. The penthouse includes amenities like a washer, dryer, and free WiFi. The host has indicated the presence of safety features such as a fire extinguisher and first aid kit, ensuring guest safety.
5. <https://www.vrbo.com/404931ha> - This luxury loft apartment in Camden, London, offers stunning views over Highgate, Hampstead Heath, and Holloway. The spacious living area is furnished with a comfortable sofa and a large oak dining table, ideal for entertaining. The apartment includes three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and an en-suite to one of the bedrooms. The location is central, with Hampstead Heath just five minutes away and easy access to the Eurostar Terminal at St Pancras (Kings Cross). The area boasts great pubs, parks, shopping, and a mix of London's charisma and charm.
6. <https://www.vrbo.com/11144173ha> - This stylish, top-floor, loft-style flat in West London offers a clean and fully appointed space. The location is in a quiet neighborhood with easy access to transportation, making it convenient for exploring London. The flat is well-equipped with amenities and has received positive reviews for its cleanliness and communication with the host. The area is known for its proximity to various attractions and offers a comfortable stay for visitors.
7. <https://www.vrbo.com/en-gb/p246294vb> - This Notting Hill loft home offers triple aspect privacy and a chef's kitchen. The bedrooms are located upstairs with angled, low ceilings, which may be uncomfortable for some guests. The location is about a 15-minute walk from the nearest tube station, which is not on a major line, making transportation access less convenient for those looking to explore other areas during the day. The host is described as very helpful, and the home is noted for being spotless and well-maintained.