

Title of Standard	Service Delivery – Fire Protection		
Business Area (ref Activity Framework)	Service Delivery		
Sponsoring NFCC Committee	NFCC Protection and Business Safety Committee		
Date of approval	[for office use]	Date of Issue	[for office use]
Reference Number	[for office use]	Review Date	[for office use]
Desired Outcome			
<p>A fire and rescue service that has a clear understanding of how its protection activities and statutory responsibilities will contribute to and inform its strategy and capacity to protect people and property from fires and other emergencies in the community it serves.</p> <p>One that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has a sustainable workforce who have the requisite skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours to support and deliver efficient and effective fire protection activities, targeting resources in line with its community risk management plan; • proactively plans, responds and adapts to the changing needs of its community by utilising and sharing data and business intelligence (from both internal and external sources); and • works collaboratively with other regulators, partners and other stakeholders to fulfil its functions, be innovative, maximise resources and encourage organisational learning to continuously develop and improve local community outcomes. 			
To achieve this Fire Standard			
<p>To achieve this Fire Standard, a fire and rescue service must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the Competency Framework (the framework) for Fire Safety Regulators in full by <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Embedding it into local policies, procedures, tailored guidance, and training, thus ensuring that Fire Protection staff have the appropriate skills, knowledge, experience and behaviours to be competent in their role. b. Having procedures in place to record and monitor levels of competence and provide continual professional development, including training related to specialist premises (as defined in the framework) in order to meet the requirements of the framework. c. Ensuring all protection officers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Meet the competence requirements outlined in the framework including undertaking recognised prior learning, where required; ii. who are working on higher-risk premises, have the requisite competence and accreditation as defined in the framework; iii. have access to a competent fire safety engineer for the purpose of assessing and regulating premises involving fire engineered solutions; 			

- iv. maintain competence through completion of continuous professional development in line with the framework; and
 - v. Are assigned to fire safety competent managers, or a nominated competent person who are responsible for the development of their competency and quality assurance of all fire safety work.
2. maintain an ability to deliver necessary fire protection activities at all times;
 3. understand the risk profile related to the built environment in the area of its authority, and have appropriate plans in place that explain the actions they will take to mitigate the impact of identified risks on the community it serves and its staff;
 4. develop and maintain capacity of competent staff to support and deliver fire protection activities through ongoing succession planning;
 5. Undertake regulatory activities in line with relevant legislation and guidance on risk-based inspection programmes, to support and assist those responsible to achieve and maintain satisfactory standards of fire safety;
 6. collaborate with fire and rescue services and other partners to conduct inspection and enforcement regulatory functions in the most efficient and effective way possible;
 7. engage with the business community in a constructive and helpful way on all matters relating to fire safety where relevant legislation applies, and uphold its responsibilities in regard to Primary Authority partnership schemes (where appropriate);
 8. conduct statutory and non-statutory consultations relating to proposed and actual building construction work;
 9. demonstrate fire protection planning, activities and enforcement of regulations are inclusive, support equality and are non-discriminatory;
 10. investigate the cause of fires, and work with other relevant partners when appropriate and where Fire Investigation is managed within the Fire Protection function;
 11. demonstrate how outcomes are measured and reported to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of fire protection activities;
 12. be able to explain how fire protection activities will be used to prevent fires and other incidents to mitigate the impact of identified risks on its community;
 13. gather and store evidence and information in a manner that is compliant with legislation and be able to extract, use and share that information to serve its fire protection functions, where it is appropriate;
 14. have processes and systems in place to identify, capture, evaluate, share and act upon learning arising from both internal and external incidents and events to inform continuous improvement and enhance future performance; and
 15. support the development of operational staff in their understanding of, and their work within, the built environment;

To support this Fire Standard, a fire and rescue service should:

16. Contribute to the continual improvement of fire protection activities coordinated through the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) network by enabling both managers who are responsible for, and those carrying out fire protection activities to communicate and share learning and experiences through:
 - a. active engagement with the national networks and communication channels provided through the NFCC including supporting and attending regional meetings and collaborative groups.
 - b. accessing and contributing to national discussions using the relevant NFCC online forums.
 - c. attendance at relevant national events and conferences.

Expected benefits of achieving the Fire Standard

1. Improved safety, health and wellbeing of communities – this includes
 - a. safer built environment and improved compliance by businesses with fire safety legislation
 - b. reduction in injuries, serious injuries or fatalities
 - c. reduction in economic loss to business owners
 - d. reduction in psychological impacts to business owners
 - e. reduction in preventable response undertaken by firefighters
2. A reduction in the false activation of fire alarm systems which will result in better utilisation of service resources
3. Fire safety technical guidance and legislation is applied consistently
4. Improved professionalism, competence and safety in the Fire Protection and Operational Response workforce
5. National consistency in the planning, collaboration, development, and deployment of fire protection
6. Improvement in the quality of Fire Investigation, where this function is managed within Fire Protection
7. Improved positive outcomes following formal fire protection activity, including prosecutions
8. A more flexible workforce where fire protection is embedded in other areas, such as Operational Response
9. Standardised and nationally approved approach to fire protection activities will increase efficiency of cross border, collaborative and national working opportunities.
10. Continuously improves the quality of service provided to the public
11. Public reassurance and continued trust in and reputation of the service through the maintenance of positive relationships with stakeholders, including residents.
12. Public reassurance that high-level enforcement activities, including prosecution is proportionate, non-discriminatory and in the public interest; and
13. Improved standardisation in the use of data and business intelligence will aid information sharing, evaluation of activities and sharing of good practice;

Legal Requirements or mandatory duties

1. [Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#)
2. [Environment and Safety Information Act 1988](#)
3. [The Petroleum \(Consolidation\) Regulations 2014](#)
4. [The Explosives Regulations 2014](#)
5. [Fire and Rescue National Framework for England](#)
6. [Building Safety Bill](#)
7. [Fire Safety Bill](#)
8. [Construction \(Design and Management\) Regulations 2015](#)
9. [Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987](#)
10. [Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984](#)
11. [Regulators Code](#)
12. [Fire Precautions \(Sub-surface Railway Stations\) \(England\) Regulations 2009](#)
13. [Criminal Procedures and Investigations Act \(CPIA\)](#)

Linked qualifications, accreditations, or Fire Standards

- a) Code of Ethics Fire Standard
- b) Community Risk Management Planning Fire Standard
- c) Apprenticeships:
 - i. [Fire Safety Advisor](#)
 - ii. [Fire Safety Inspector](#)
 - iii. Fire Safety Engineer (Available from March 2021)
- d) Fire Investigation Fire Standard (development to commence in 2021)

For all buildings regulated under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005:

- e) Fire Safety Advisor – Level 3 Certificate in Fire Safety
- f) Fire Safety Inspector – Level 4 Diploma in Fire Safety
- g) Fire Engineering Design Technician – Level 5 Diploma in Fire Engineering Design
- h) Fire Safety Engineer – Level 6 Degree in Fire Safety Engineering and/or MSc in fire engineering
- i) Senior Fire Safety Engineer – Level 7 MSc in Fire Engineering

For Higher Risk Buildings:

- j) Fire Safety Inspector – Level 4 Diploma in Fire Safety and relevant registration with a professional body
- k) Fire Engineering Design Technician – Level 5 Diploma in Fire Engineering Design and registration as an Engineering Technician with the Engineering Council.
- l) Fire Safety Engineer - Level 6 Degree in Fire Engineering and/or MSc in Fire Engineering and working towards interim (or full) registration for Chartered Engineer with the Engineering Council.

Guidance and supporting information

- a) Competency Framework for Fire Safety Regulators
- b) Work Related Death Protocol (WRDP)
- c) Fire and Rescue National Framework for England
- d) Code of Practice (Fire Investigation)

Note: Please contact the Fire Standards team within the NFCC CPO for any queries or support with regards to the use or completion of this template contact@firestandards.org.uk