



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Control measure

**Cordon controls: Unstable or  
collapsed structures**



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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## Control measure - Cordon controls: Unstable or collapsed structures

### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding

##### Control measure element

##### Learning outcome

Cordon controls: Unstable or collapsed structure

Understand:

- The factors that will influence cordon distance for unstable structures, including:
  - Construction materials
  - The height and type of structure
  - Weather conditions – current and predicted
  - The potential damage to surrounding structures and infrastructure
    - Scaffolding and tower cranes
    - Glass, particularly in windy conditions
- The behaviour of portal or rigid frame structures when they collapse
- Who can provide specialist advice and assistance when establishing cordons at incidents involving unstable structures

#### Practical application



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**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Evaluate and monitor the potential footprint of collapse and debris

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather information to support the evaluation and monitoring of the potential footprint of collapse and debris
- Identify the appropriate cordon distance for unstable or collapsed structures
- Establish cordons, considering potential collapse of structures or equipment

Consider seeking specialist advice when defining the hazard area for an unstable or collapsed structure

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Seek specialist advice when defining the hazard area for an unstable or collapsed structure
- Consider the specialist advice when establishing cordons for unstable structures

Consider the impact of current or predicted weather conditions on the unstable or collapsed structure when establishing cordons

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Obtain predicted weather information
- Consider the impact of weather on the unstable or collapsed structure and be prepared to revise cordons during the incident