



National  
Operational  
Guidance

# Control measure

## Evacuation and shelter



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding

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##### Control measure element

##### Learning outcome

Evacuation of people

Understand:

- The definition of evacuation
- Why the evacuation or shelter of people may be required
- The planning that is required for evacuation or shelter of people, and who is responsible for this
- The need to develop a joint understanding of risk for operational and fire control personnel for evacuation, shelter or 'stay put'
- The roles and responsibilities of the:
  - Police
  - Local authority
  - Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG)
- The hazards and risks associated with emergency evacuation
- The behaviour of people in emergency situations
- The factors that influence evacuation plans
- The considerations for incorporating evacuation procedures into incident plans
- The wider impact of dealing with significant numbers of evacuated people
- How to access information on evacuation plans

Fires in buildings

Understand:

- Evacuation plans for buildings
- Evacuation strategies for buildings
- Categories of evacuation procedure



Control measure element	Learning outcome
Total evacuation	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is simultaneous evacuation</li> <li>• What is phased evacuation</li> </ul>
Progressive evacuation	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is progressive horizontal evacuation</li> <li>• What is zoned evacuation</li> </ul>
Evacuation or escape strategies	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The types of evacuation or escape strategies</li> <li>• The purpose of 'stay put' or 'defend in place'</li> <li>• The factors that should be considered when determining the evacuation strategy</li> </ul>
Evacuation of medical facilities	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The types of evacuation used in medical facilities</li> <li>• The role of the fire and rescue service when assisting with evacuation at medical facilities</li> </ul>
Hazardous materials	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for an evacuation or shelter plan</li> <li>• The role of a hazardous materials adviser when determining the appropriate course of action to protect the public</li> </ul>

**Practical application**

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Determine whether people should be advised to evacuate, shelter in place or 'stay put'	Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine whether evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' is appropriate:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Record rationale for decision</li> <li>- Ensure the fire control room understands the decision</li> <li>- Inform the people affected</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Establish communication arrangements to allow information to be gathered from and passed to fire control rooms

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate and resilient communication arrangements between the incident ground and the fire control room

Identify the most appropriate evacuation plan and record rationale for decision

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Develop an evacuation strategy using available information

Establish the availability of pre-arranged evacuation strategies and policies

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and access available pre-arranged evacuation strategies and policies
- Liaise with the responsible person to obtain advice relating to evacuation arrangements

When evacuation is necessary, identify the number of people affected and develop a plan

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify the number of people that require to be evacuated and develop a plan

Consider people who need assistance to evacuate, for example, disabilities or medical needs

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Gather information to identify any people who need assistance to evacuate, or may be unaware of the need to evacuate

Establish a safe evacuation point and consider safe egress routes and refuge points or areas

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify and establish safe evacuation points, safe egress routes and refuge points
- Be prepared to revise locations of evacuation points and refuge points
- Be prepared to revise safe egress routes at any time

Assess the suitability of the location for people to shelter in place

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Determine a suitable location for people to shelter in place
- Be prepared to revise the location for people to shelter in place



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**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Review the use and effectiveness of evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans throughout the incident, to ensure they remain valid

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Review the use and effectiveness of evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans throughout the incident
- Be prepared to revise the evacuation, shelter in place or 'stay put' plans at any time

Consider the impact of the incident on the local community and consider a shelter in place strategy

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Take into account the impact of the incident on the surrounding area
- Consider the need to develop a shelter in place strategy for the local community

Assess the likely impact of people on emergency responders

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify where the behaviour of people may affect an evacuation
- Assess the impact of people, including those evacuating, on emergency responders

Make contact with the relevant authorities for advice on evacuation arrangements and progress

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Recognise where the involvement of other agencies is required to assist with evacuation
- Work with multi-agency partners to conduct an effective evacuation