



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Control measure

**Give authority to operate or alter  
fixed installations**



**NFCC**  
Fire Central  
Programme Office

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### Control measure knowledge

When buildings are under construction or demolition there may be temporary fixed installations. Some fixed installations may not be fully operational and therefore not automatically operated in a fire.

These installations could possibly be triggered manually. Temporary sprinkler systems may be installed in some high-risk construction sites such as timber structures close to adjacent buildings.

Refer to the control measure of '[Operate or alter fixed installations](#)' in National Operational Guidance: [Fires in buildings](#) for strategic actions and tactical actions.

### Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Develop tactical guidance and support arrangements for the associated hazards and actions to take, enabling Incident Commanders to give authority to operate or alter fixed installations within buildings

### Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Consider requesting specialist advice before attempting to alter or disable any fixed installation
- Appoint appropriate personnel to manage the controls for the fixed installation (e.g. valves and switches)
- Controls for fixed installations should not be altered unless the fire is under control, and only on the direct instruction of the incident commander
- Consider isolating the sprinkler alarm to improve fire ground communications
- Consider the impact of large volumes of water (e.g. damage and/or the environmental effects of water run off)



- Ensure all operational activities and personnel are considered before changing the operation of any fixed installation