



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Hazard

**Inaccurate situational awareness –  
Fires in buildings**



**NFCC**  
Fire Central  
Programme Office

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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## Hazard - Inaccurate situational awareness – Fires in buildings

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### Knowledge and understanding

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Hazard	Learning outcome
Inaccurate situational awareness – Fires in buildings	Understand all associate hazard knowledge



## Control measure - Situational awareness – Fires in buildings

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### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding



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**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Situational awareness – Fires in buildings

Understand:

- How fires in buildings are affected by:
  - Their design
  - The construction materials used
  - Their use
  - Occupancy types
  - Building systems
  - Engineered solutions
- The effects of fire and firefighting on a building
- Potential sources of information for fires in buildings including:
  - SSRI
  - Emergency response plans
  - Building plans
  - Premises information boxes and plates
  - Building systems
  - Signage
  - External surveys
  - Observations from thermal imaging
  - Fire control rooms
  - Responsible person
  - Occupants
  - External safety officers
  - Personnel operating inside the building
  - Other agencies

**Practical application**



**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Situational awareness – Fires in buildings

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Access information to inform situational awareness, including
    - Evacuation strategy
    - Fire safety plan
  - Document information received appropriately
  - Use sources of information, such as building plans, to support decision making
  - Consider the design, construction and occupancy type when developing a tactical plan
  - Check accuracy of information with responsible person
  - Access building systems such as:
    - Fire alarms
    - Security systems
    - Closed circuit television



## Control measure - Scene survey: Fires in buildings

### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding

**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Scene survey: Fires in buildings

- Understand:
- How to perform a comprehensive scene survey
  - The information that should be gathered at a fire in a building
  - Signs of occupancy



## Practical application

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### Control measure element

### Learning outcome

Scene survey: Fires in buildings

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Carry out a comprehensive scene survey at the earliest opportunity and regularly based on a risk assessment of the incident
- Identify appropriate information during a scene survey including:
  - Occupancy,
  - Use and contents of the building
  - Construction type
  - Size, age and condition of the building
  - Adjacent buildings that may be affected
  - Signs of unauthorised habitation
  - The presence of fixed installations
  - Any fire engineered solutions and their current effectiveness
- Identify and communicate changes in the building fire environment, which may affect tactical decisions