



National Operational Guidance

Section Introduction



NFCC
Fire Central
Programme Office

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Introduction

This guidance deals with fires in buildings under construction or demolition, including those undergoing building work. Depending on the nature and scale of the operational incident, a variety of significant hazards may be encountered. Where appropriate, refer to other sections of National Operational Guidance.

This guidance is directly supported by National Operational Guidance: [Fires in the built environment](#), which focuses on how the design and construction materials of buildings, along with their facilities and systems, can have an impact on, or assist with, fire and rescue service operations.

It is also underpinned by comprehensive information from the Building Research Establishment (BRE), making it easier for the user to find their way through this guidance without an overload of technical information. The [BRE knowledge sheets](#), originally developed to support the National Operational Guidance: [Fires in buildings](#), have been enhanced to include additional information on:

- Construction and demolition sites
- Scaffolding
- Incomplete buildings and structures
- Temporary accommodation units
- Legislation relevant to construction, demolition or building work

The [BRE knowledge sheets](#) are supplemented with fire and rescue service considerations. This guidance provides references to the technical information contained in them.



Legislation

A legislative framework addressing fire safety in buildings can be found in the [BRE knowledge sheets](#).



Risk management plan

Each fire and rescue authority must develop their strategic direction through their risk management plan. To determine the extent of their firefighting capability, strategic managers will consider their statutory duties and the foreseeable risk within their area.

Work to identify risk and prepare operational plans should consider all stakeholders, including local emergency planning groups and the fire and rescue service risk management plan.



Responsibility of fire and rescue services

Fire and rescue services are responsible, under legislation and regulations, for developing policies and procedures and to provide information, instruction, training and supervision to their personnel about foreseeable hazards and the control measures used to reduce the risks arising from those hazards.

This guidance sets out to provide fire and rescue services with sufficient knowledge about the potential hazards their personnel could encounter when attending incidents. Fire and rescue services should ensure their policies, procedures and training cover all of the hazards and control measures contained within this guidance.