



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

Prevent firespread



NFCC
Fire Central
Programme Office

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Control measure knowledge

The unpredictable energy produced by a fireball or vapour cloud explosion can cause fire to spread rapidly to adjacent areas and develop into a large incident. Early recognition of such possible consequences will enable incident commanders to develop resources to counteract this risk of fire spread. Typically, this will involve cooling adjacent structures and/or containers.

Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Provide procedures and support arrangements regarding the hazards that may be encountered and actions to take when protecting surrounding structures from the effects of ignited flammable vapours

Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Conduct a scene survey of the surrounding area and gather relevant information to ascertain prioritised structures, areas and hazards that need protecting from the effects of ignited flammable vapours
- Cool surrounding structures, areas and hazards to minimise the effects of ignited flammable vapours
- Isolate any further fuel source, where safe to do so
- Cool surrounding structures, areas and hazards to mitigate the risk of fire spread