



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Control measure

**Personal protective equipment (PPE):  
Fires and firefighting**



**NFCC**  
Fire Central  
Programme Office

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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### Control measure knowledge

Personal protective equipment (PPE) for firefighting purposes is a key requirement for fire and rescue services. Services should provide PPE for firefighting that conforms to BS EN 469:2005 Protective clothing for firefighters — Performance requirements for protective clothing for firefighting.

Fire service personnel should be aware that in the event of flashover, structural firefighting PPE on its own is unlikely to provide adequate protection to the wearer.

### Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Ensure that the types of personal protective equipment (PPE) used comply with relevant standards and meet the requirements of their risk assessment for fires and firefighting

### Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Ensure that Firefighting PPE is worn in accordance with service risk assessment, procedures and training
- Consider the need for additional PPE where compatible with firefighting PPE (e.g. high visibility, eye protection)