



National
Operational
Guidance

Section

Intraoperability and interoperability



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

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When reference is made to working with other agencies, refer to the [JESIP Joint Doctrine](#) for further information.

To make an effective response, each fire and rescue service needs a consistent approach that forms the basis for common operational practices and supports intraoperability with other fire and rescue services, and interoperability with other emergency responders, infrastructure managers and users.

Fire and rescue service boundaries may result in more than one service attending an incident; a joint approach is therefore essential. Understanding the typical hazards faced by incident commanders in these environments and adhering to the relevant control measures will ultimately lead to improved public and firefighter safety.

At an incident, the highest priority for fire and rescue services will always be the safety of the public and emergency responders. Effective and informed action can reduce hazards and help ensure the safety of the public and responders.

During an incident at a fully functioning structure, such as a road or rail tunnel, fire and rescue services may have the additional pressure of maintaining business continuity, especially where the incident has a significant impact and wide disruption is likely. Business continuity should be considered and discussed with other emergency responders, taking in to account the impact the incident has on the local community and economy.

At any time during or after an operational incident there may be a need to carry out some form of investigation. Other organisations may have to carry out their own investigations. For further information refer to Operations: [Compromised investigations: Poor scene preservation](#).