# Review fire safety matters relating to existing or proposed construction



#### **Overview**

This standard is about commenting on the suitability of materials and the fire risks associated with the design, construction, alteration and use of premises. Individuals will work within their personal level of responsibility and authority for providing advice and information and dealing with compliance issues.

#### There are three elements

- 1 Evaluate plans to determine fire risks associated with construction design
- 2 Evaluate planned use of materials and their effectiveness
- 3 Report on risks with recommendations to support appropriate risk reduction measures, fire precautions and maintenance routines

#### **Target Group**

The standard is recommended for Practitioners, i.e. anyone who is employed or contracted to work with others in an organisation - staff, owners and/or occupiers - to ensure that, within the scope of their responsibility, suitable and sufficient fire safety arrangements are made and maintained.

It is also appropriate for Regulators, i.e. anyone who has the responsibility for ensuring the requirements of Fire Safety and associated regulation are being met through cooperation or enforcement.

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## Performance criteria

## Evaluate plans to determine fire risks associated with construction design

#### You must be able to:

- P1 obtain sufficient information from all available sources to enable an evaluation of proposals
- P2 identify the range of national and international standards and guidance relevant to the type and nature of submission
- P3 confirm the type, range and level of risks associated with the proposal
- P4 assess the proposal against the appropriate national and international design standards or guidance
- P5 determine the validity of the fire strategy associated with the submission and identify risks which are not adequately controlled
- P6 establish that the proposed control measures are suitable and sufficient to manage risks effectively
- P7 where further information becomes available, continually assess the adequacy of fire safety measures
- P8 where appropriate, obtain specialist advice to support the assessment, where factors influencing risk are outside of your own personal level of expertise
- P9 evaluate the impact of the proposed plans on existing fire safety arrangements when altering or adapting premises

#### Evaluate planned use of materials and their effectiveness

#### You must be able to:

- P10 where appropriate, determine the classifications and specifications of the proposed materials
- P11 establish relevant international and national standards or guidance relating to premises type and use
- P12 evaluate the risks, advantages and disadvantages of material type, method of use and intended location

## Report on risks with recommendations to support appropriate risk reduction measures, fire precautions and maintenance routines

#### You must be able to:

- P13 report at a sufficient level of detail and clarity to ensure understanding by all recipients
- P14 report accurately, in agreed format and within the agreed timescale
- P15 specify the results of your assessment including any recommendations for further action
- P16 indicate whether plans comply with current legislation, relevant standards and company policy
- P17 advise on action required to meet legal and statutory requirements and the implications of non-compliance
- P18 specify any changes required to achieve compliance

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P19 ensure receipt of report within agreed timescale

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## Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the range of regulations, codes of practice and guidance associated with building construction or alteration, including national and international standards
- K2 the factors influencing the selection of regulations, codes of practice and guidance associated with specific design, construction or alteration plans
- K3 the relevant legislative framework and the mechanisms of enforcement in new, altered and existing buildings
- K4 the steps you would take to work with the appropriate person and where relevant other partners in order to achieve a satisfactory level of fire safety
- K5 own personal level of competence, expertise, authority and limitations
- K6 how to access sources of specialist support, advice and information
- K7 the methodologies, tools, techniques for risk assessment and their correct application
- K8 the factors influencing the impact of proposed construction or alteration during and after implementation, on the existing fire safety systems
- K9 the range and type of building materials, their classifications, specifications and limitations
- K10 the interaction between different building materials under varying circumstances
- K11 the compatibility of different types of building materials under varying circumstances
- K12 the methods of testing materials and the limitations of each
- K13 the likely and possible consequences of inappropriate selection, or incorrect use, location, orientation or interaction of materials
- K14 how workmanship can affect the fire performance of a building

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