
Overview

This standard is about the practitioner, either on their own or in co-operation with others, ensuring that, as far as is reasonably practical, everyone on the premises can escape safely in the event of a fire. This will also include making certain that the risk reduction, fire precautions and maintenance routines are sustainable. Individuals will be working within their personal level of responsibility for advice, information and enforcement issues.

The responsibility for the assessment does lie with the person(s) described within the relevant home nation's legislation.

There are two elements

- 1 Evaluate fire hazards and risks in premises
- 2 Determine solutions to minimise risks from fire

Target Group

The standard is recommended for Practitioners, i.e. anyone who is employed or contracted to work with others in an organisation - manager, 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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Assess risks associated with fire

Performance criteria

Evaluate fire hazards and risks in premises

- You must be able to:*
- P1 identify legal, regulatory or statutory requirements and implications associated with the premises
 - P2 identify actual and potential hazards within the scope of the evaluation
 - P3 evaluate the type and level of risk associated with identified hazards
 - P4 include all physical areas within the scope of the evaluation
 - P5 identify relevant people who may be at risk
 - P6 determine the significance of identified risks and their potential for harm to people, property and the environment
 - P7 assess the effectiveness of current control measures
 - P8 determine the need for existing or new control measures
 - P9 obtain specialist advice where issues are outside of your own area of expertise or control
 - P10 support the needs of the your organisation and be consistent with broader risk assessment processes

Determine solutions to minimise risks from fire

- You must be able to:*
- P11 report on the identification and prioritisation of a range of suitable options to eliminate, reduce or control risks
 - P12 agree:
 - P12.1 changes to eliminate identified hazards
 - P12.2 changes to reduce risks that cannot be eliminated to as low as reasonably practicable
 - P12.3 controls which are appropriate to the range and type of residual risks
 - P13 seek advice and support to remove or control risks that are outside of your level of responsibility or expertise
 - P14 report on reviews and monitoring activities to specified personnel as required
 - P15 contribute to continuous risk assessment and management processes
 - P16 address issues associated with assisting the fire and rescue service to protect people, property and the environment in the event of an incident
 - P17 explain the rationale for prioritisation against critical factors to support risk management decisions
 - P18 include specialist advice where issues are outside of your own area of expertise or control
 - P19 make available records and supporting evidence to authorised users
 - P20 seek agreement and approval from those with the authority to take forward what has been determined
 - P21 advise on action to meet legal and statutory requirements and explain the implications of non-compliance

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the principles and methodologies for risk assessment and its validity
- K2 the relevant national legislative framework and the mechanisms of enforcement in new, altered and existing buildings
- K3 the principles and methods of fire safety in premises including structure, materials and access issues affecting fire safety
- K4 organisational policy and working practices in relation to risk assessment
- K5 the methods and techniques for identifying, assessing and interpreting relevant data and associated information
- K6 the consultation procedures relating to fire safety
- K7 the roles, responsibilities, level of authority and requirements of yourself and others within the context of formal proceedings
- K8 the guidance and codes of practice that address safety of life from fire and compliance with legislation for complex fire safety measures
- K9 the limitations of codes of practice and the use of fire risk assessment to justify departures from such codes
- K10 the principles of fire safety and an appreciation of their development as they affect people, property and the environment
- K11 the principles and role of the management system(s), the passive and active fire protection system(s) as control measures in mitigating risk
- K12 the common causes of fire and the significance of the common causes in a range of occupancies
- K13 how to assess the potential for fire incidents that will affect organisational functions and processes for occupants
- K14 the impact of the diversity of occupants in relation to safety responses
- K15 the components associated with fire prevention and defence against fire in premises and their integration with likely human behaviour
- K16 own personal level of competence, expertise, authority and limitations
- K17 how to access sources of specialist advice and support
- K18 the factors affecting the formulation of risk-appropriate
- K19 the role and interests of stakeholders in the protection of life, property and the environment from fire

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