

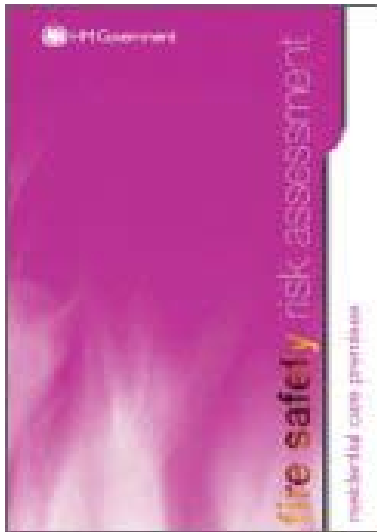
Fireco



Seeing the Future First

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The guide does not set prescriptive standards, but provides recommendations and guidance for use when assessing the adequacy of fire precautions in premises providing residential care.

Your existing fire safety arrangements may not be the same as the recommendations used in this guide but, as long as you can demonstrate that they meet an equivalent standard of fire safety, they are likely to be acceptable.



If you decide that your existing arrangements are not satisfactory there may be other ways to comply with fire safety law. This means there is no obligation to adopt any particular solution in this guide if you prefer to meet the relevant requirement in some other way.

In 2006 there were 33,200 cases of fire in non-domestic buildings in the UK, that is 91 fires every day!

The average cost of a fire in a commercial building is estimated at £43,800; a figure that is often not covered completely by insurance.

A Fire Risk Assessment is an organised and methodical look at your premises, the activities carried on there and the likelihood that a fire could start and cause harm to those in and around the premises.

The aims of the fire risk Assessment

- To identify the fire hazards.
- To reduce the risk of those hazards causing harm to as low as reasonably practicable.
- To decide what physical fire precautions and management arrangements are necessary to ensure the safety of people in your building if a fire does start.

The risk assessment will help you ensure that your fire safety procedures, fire prevention measures, and fire precautions (plans, systems and equipment) are all in place and working properly.

The risk assessment should identify any issues that need attention.

- Identify Sources of Ignition
- Identify Sources of Fuel
- Identify Sources of Oxygen
- Identify Persons at Risk
- Evaluate and Record
- **REDUCE REMOVE RESOLVE**



Emergency plan?

Action plan?

Building make-up?

Fire Precautions?

Recovery plan?

Maintenance?

Vulnerable people?

Staff training?

People at Risk?

**Fire Risk
Assessment**

Arson prevention?

Fire Hazards?

Dangerous acts?

Fire evacuation?

Dangerous substances?

Review?

Nominated people?

Security?

Means of escape?

Terminology

- **Suitable and Sufficient**
- **As far as Reasonably Practicable**
- **Reasonable in the Circumstances of the Case**

Good management of fire safety is essential to ensure that fires are unlikely to occur; that if they do occur they are likely to be controlled or contained effectively.

If a fire does occur and grow, your staff should be able to ensure that everyone in your premises is able to escape to safety easily and quickly, or remain in safety.

You therefore need to have robust and well kept procedures to avoid fires occurring.

- Maintain the fire safety systems installed in your premises**
- Keep escape routes usable.**
- Keep your staff up to date and well trained.**
- Have emergency plans in place so everyone knows how to respond to a fire**

Case Study

- Care Home in London prosecuted for endangering residents
- Serious fire, 9 people rescued
- 13 summonses for contraventions of Fire Regulations
- No 1 contravention– the **risk assessment was not suitable or sufficient**
- **Fined £200,000**



Up to 80% of businesses that experience a serious fire close down within 3 years