

Please introduce yourself and tell us about your career.

My name is Patrick Ellis. I started working in the fire industry approximately 5 years ago in the prison service, where I managed the country's biggest prison for fire compliance matters. I then moved on to work on a varied portfolio in the public sector for a mixture of houses of multiple occupancy and commercial buildings.

Please describe your role within your workplace.

It is my responsibility to manage one of our largest clients in the housing industry and ensure that we provide the best possible fire safety advice.

Can you describe a typical working day?

I usually start my day by checking emails and completing any outstanding quotes, before having an open forum with the other managers in the office. The rest of my day then consists of multiple client meetings, site visits and dealing with jobs that are running that day.

I ensure that there is a constant turnover of work for the staff that work within my department and that they are happy with the current workload. Teamwork is a massive factor within my department.

What inspired you to work in fire engineering?

My time in the prison service opened my eyes to how people's lives can be affected by fire. I wanted to be able to keep people safe in the sector that I am passionate about and provide the best possible advice on best practice.



What contributed to your decision to become an IFE member?

In our sector it is important to be able to evidence competence. What better way to do that than by having the IFE, one of the oldest and most renowned fire safety institutions, recognising your level of expertise and experience?

How have you benefitted from being an IFE Technician member?

Thanks to my IFE membership, I have been able to win projects at work and provide my clients with the confidence that I have been accredited by the leading professional body for the fire sector.

Would you recommend joining the IFE?

Yes, so much so that I have made it mandatory in our business that all fire risk assessors have to either have or be working towards IFE membership.

What is your favourite thing about your IFE membership?

Being able to demonstrate my competence and stay up to date on the new changes with the legalities of fire safety.