

Title of Paper	Fire Standards Progress Report
Decision or Information	For information
Title and Date of Meeting	LGA Fire Services Management Committee 5 March 2021
Attachments	None

Summary

This paper provides members of the Fire Services Management Committee with a summary of the progress on Fire Standards since the last report in December 2020.

The first four Fire Standards have now been published, they are available on the [Fire Standards Board website](#).

Work is progressing with the remaining Fire Standards that formed part of the Phase One Delivery Plan and a second phase of Fire Standards is being considered by the Fire Standards Board. The table below shows the publication dates for the first phase of Fire Standards.

Fire Standard	NFCC Lead	Due to be published
Emergency Response Driving (the pilot Fire Standard)	ACO Paul Stewart (NFCC Operations Committee)	Published
Operational Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Preparedness Operational Competence Operational Learning 	CFO Chris Lowther (NFCC Operations Committee)	Published
Community Risk Management Planning	CFO Phil Loach (NFCC Community Risk Programme)	March 2021
Code of Ethics	CFO Becci Bryant (NFCC People Programme – Leadership Project)	Likely April 2021 subject to finalising the underpinning Core Code of Ethics
Fire Protection	CFO Gavin Tomlinson (NFCC Protection and Business Safety Committee)	May 2021
Prevention	CFO Neil Odin (NFCC Prevention Committee)	May 2021
Leadership #1 – (well-led and managed service)	Coordinated through the NFCC CPO	Sep 2021
Data requirements and management (subject to agreement on scope)	CFO Lee Howells NFCC Digital and Data Programme	Now deferred to Phase Two

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the contents of this report for information.

Background Information

The Fire Standards Board continues to meet regularly to review the progress made on Fire Standards. Membership of the Board includes the NFCC, employers (both the LGA and the APCC) and the Home Office. The LGA representative on the Board is Cllr Nick Chard.

Following the publication of the first four Fire Standards, the Fire Standards Board would welcome and appreciate the support of fire authority chairs and members as Chief Officers and their teams work to implement and achieve the Fire Standards.

The Fire Standards Board also encourage fire authorities to ensure their organisations engage as new Fire Standards are developed through the network of the National Fire Chiefs Council, and more formally once Fire Standards reach consultation.

All details about the approved Fire Standards, along with current consultations, can be found on the [Fire Standards Board website](#).

Progress to Date

Four Fire Standards (as listed below) have now been approved and are published:

- [Emergency Response Driving](#)
- **Operational Response**
 - [Operational Competence](#)
 - [Operational Preparedness](#)
 - [Operational Learning](#)

Progress on the remaining Fire Standards in this delivery phase is summarised below:

Code of Ethics

- This Fire Standards and the underpinning Core Code are designed to support building more positive working cultures within fire and rescue services. This is in response to the findings of the HMICFRS State of Fire 2020 Report.
- The consultation on the Code of Ethics Fire Standard and the underpinning Core Code of Ethics closed in November 2020.
- Feedback from the consultation on the Core Code concluded changes to the Core Code were required, the Fire Minister held a meeting with key stakeholders to discuss and agree a way forward.
- Final changes to the Core Code have been proposed and are awaiting final agreement by all parties before this Fire Standard can progress.
- It is anticipated this work will be concluded in March and the Fire Standard progress to approval at this stage.

Community Risk Management Planning Fire Standard

- The consultation on this Fire Standard closed 7 December 2020 and analysis of the findings during January led to some minor changes being made.
- The post-consultation draft of the Fire Standard was reviewed by the Fire Standards Board in February 2021 and it was signed off for quality assurance.
- The Quality Assurance exercise will be completed during March and subject to the results of this, it is anticipated this Fire Standard will be finally approved and published by the end of March 2021.

Fire Protection Fire Standard

- Scoping and planning work was completed in November followed by a period of peer review starting December 2020.
- Consultation is about to be launched alongside the Prevention Fire Standard and will be open until Friday 9 April 2021.
- It is anticipated that this Fire Standard will be ready for publication by May 2021.

Prevention Fire Standard

- Scoping and planning work was completed in November followed by a period of peer review starting December 2020.
- Consultation is about to be launched alongside the Fire Protection Fire Standard and will be open until Friday 9 April 2021.
- It is anticipated that this Fire Standard will be ready for publication by May 2021.

Data Requirements and Management

- Initial scoping work took place in January 2020 which concluded that work to define and underpin the Fire Standards was dependant on the progression of the NFCC Digital and Data Programme.
- This programme has been subject to a requirement for funding which could not be confirmed by the NFCC until its funding for 2021/22 is confirmed which is anticipated imminently.
- A further update will be provided in the next report.

Leadership

- The requirements of the Leadership Fire Standards have been re-defined resulting in two overarching Fire Standards which will now be developed.
- These Fire Standards are:
 1. **Well-Led Organisation** – to encapsulate what leadership of a well-led and managed fire and rescue service looks like
 2. **Developing and promoting good leadership** – to encapsulate what is required to develop and promote good leadership at all levels within the fire and rescue service
- Both Fire Standards will reference the core responsibilities and required behaviours of leaders linking to the NFCC Leadership Framework already in place.
- The timeline for the NO 2 – Developing Leaders Fire Standard is being re-considered now the scope and requirements of the Board have been considered. This work will be coordinated through the NFCC People Programme.

- Development work on the No 1 - the Well-Led Organisation Fire Standard has commenced, initially engaging leaders from services across the country to inform the draft Fire Standard.
- Given the importance and nature of the Well-Led Organisation Fire Standard and with wider interest shown by many stakeholders, a revised timeline has been proposed and approved by the Fire Standards Board to allow sufficient time for wide engagement, peer review and then full consultation.
- It is envisaged that this Fire Standard will be ready for consultation in the summer and, subject to that consultation, be ready for approval and be published in the late summer 2021.
- The NFCC CPO will be coordinating this work.

An update regarding the second phase of Fire Standards will be provided to the FSMC at their next meeting.

Any queries about Fire Standards can be directed to the Fire Standards team via contact@firestandards.org