

<b>Title of Paper</b>	<b>Fire Standards Progress Report</b>
<b>Decision or Information</b>	For information
<b>Title and Date of Meeting</b>	Fire Services Management Committee – 9 December 2022
<b>Attachments</b>	None

## Summary

This paper provides members of the Fire Services Management Committee with a summary of the progress on the Fire Standards. The Fire Standards Board last met formally on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

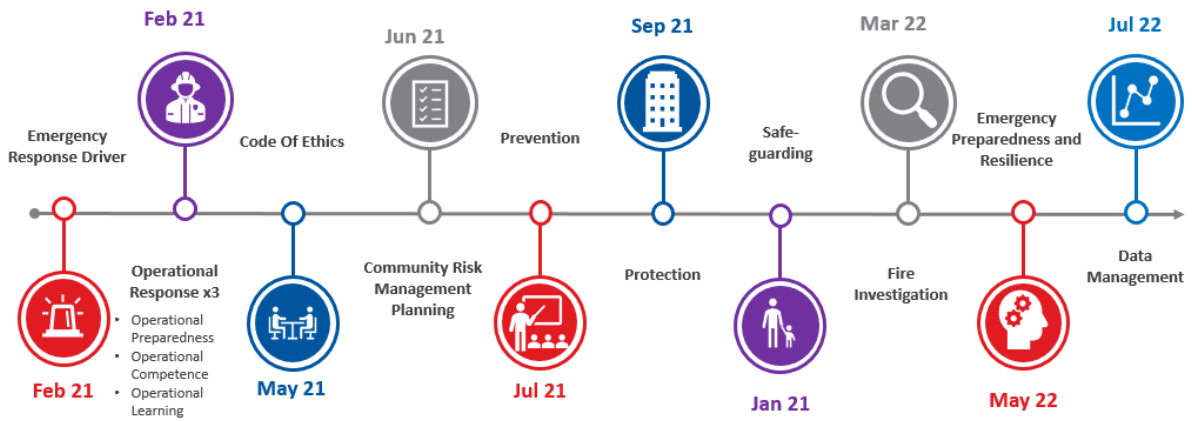
## Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- note the contents of this report for information;
- provide ongoing support to officers in enabling and empowering them to engage in the development and implementation of the Fire Standards both in production and when published; and
- encourage the monitoring of the benefits of the Fire Standards in their services.

# Current Status

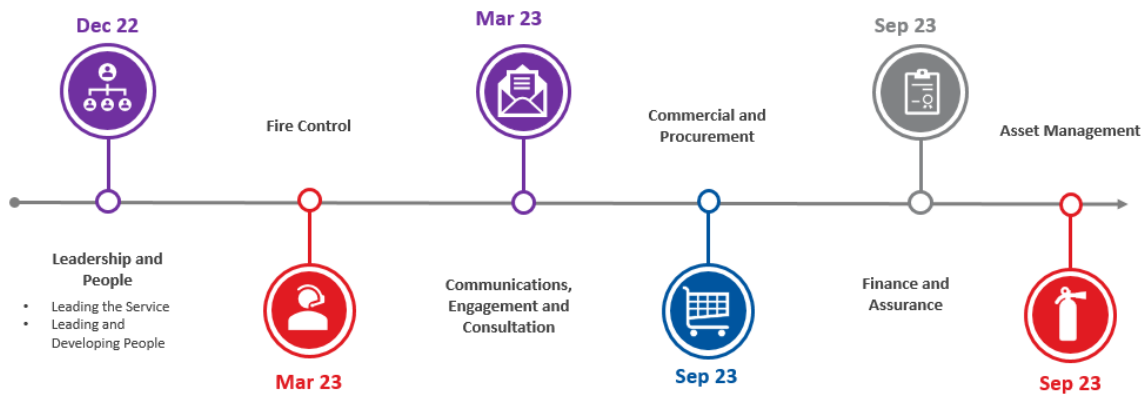
## Published Fire Standards



There are now twelve approved and published Fire Standards which are available on the [Fire Standards Board](#) (FSB) website and shown in the timeline figure below.

The second phase of Fire Standards development is progressing with the remaining standards underway shown on the timeline diagram below, with a summary of the current status by standard:

## Fire Standards in development - Proposed Publication Dates



## Development Update

### Data Requirements and Management

- Consultation on this standard completed in May 2022.
- Analysis of the consultation responses took place during May to agree any revisions.
- The post-consultation standard was approved by the FSB for quality assurance in June 2022.
- Published July 2022.

### Leadership and People Fire Standards

- The two Leadership and People Fire Standards; **Leading the Service** and **Leading and Developing People** opened for consultation in June 2022 and closed in September 2022.
- Revisions to the two Fire Standards took place throughout October 2022
- The Fire Standards Board approved the commencement of quality assurance on the two standards which due to complete in early December.
- The **Leading the Service** and **Leading and Developing People** Fire Standards are expected to be formally approved and published at the end of December at the next Board meeting.

### Phase Three Fire Standards

A third phase of development work was approved by the FSB at the Board meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The Board agreed to the following standards for production as part of phase three:

No.	Activity / Potential Fire Standard	Activity Framework Category
1	Fire Control	Service Delivery
2	Communication, engagement, consultation	Cultural and Enabling
3	Commercial and Procurement (Resources)	Enabling
4	Finance and Assurance (Resources)	Enabling
5	Asset Management (Resources)	Enabling

### Fire Control Fire Standard

- Development on this standard commenced in September 2022, with Ben Norman, NFCC Lead for Fire Control supporting this work.
- Peer review on the Fire Control Fire Standard took place in October 2022 and subsequent revisions were made to the standard.
- The standard is expected to be shared with the Fire Standards Board in early December to request approval to commence consultation.
- Consultation is expected to complete by early February 2023
- Subject to consultation feedback, the Fire Control Fire Standard is expected to be published in March 2023.

## **Communications, Engagement and Consultation Fire Standard**

- Development on this standard commenced in September 2022, with Neil Odin, NFCC Lead for Prevention supporting this work.
- Peer review on the Communications, Engagement and Consultation Fire Standard took place in October 2022 and subsequent revisions were made to the standard.
- The standard is expected to be shared with the Fire Standards Board in early December to request approval to commence consultation.
- Consultation is expected to complete by early February 2023
- Subject to consultation feedback, the Communications, Engagement and Consultation Fire Standard is expected to be published in March 2023.

## **Resources Fire Standards: Commercial and Procurement, Finance and Assurance, Asset Management**

- Work on these three standards is expected to commence in January 2023
- Further updates on this will be provided in the next report.

## **Implementation support**

The FSB, through the NFCC Fire Standards and Implementation Teams, will be continuing to support services as they work to achieve the Fire Standards. Implementation tools are provided with all published Fire Standards.

## **Impact and Benefits Realisation**

The FSB are keen to understand the impact of the Fire Standards now that the first standards have been published. As part of both the development process and the consultation on each Fire Standard we ask services about potential impacts.

The FSB has undertaken engagement activity with services between September and December 2022 to help better understand impacts and review progress to date. The Fire Standards Team are currently collating the findings of these engagement sessions, of which will be shared with the Fire Standards Board at the Board meeting due to be held in late December 2022.

## **Background notes for information**

The Fire Standards Board (FSB) is responsible for the identification, organisation, development and maintenance of professional standards for fire and rescue services in England. Led by an independent Chair and Vice Chair, 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.

The FSB continues to meet regularly to review the progress made on Fire Standards development. Its next meeting is scheduled for 21 December 2022.

Given the various stages of development required and the time needed for engagement with services in the early stages, as well as through formal consultation, development work and publications are staggered. This is primarily done to align capacity and resources in a considered way, but also to pace the rate at which standards are released to services.

Once approved, Fire Standards are shared on the [Fire Standards Board website](#).

Services should now be aware of the requirements being placed upon them through these Fire Standards. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) will be referencing the standards in their inspection arrangements and therefore services should be prepared to evidence their progress towards achieving them.

The Fire Standards Board would welcome and appreciate the support of fire authority chairs and members in:

1. Ensuring their services are enabled to engage in Fire Standards by releasing their subject matter experts to support development work and peer review through the NFCC where appropriate and feasible.
2. Responding to the Fire Standards consultations as they are published; and,
3. Supporting activities to achieve those Fire Standards through implementation once approved and published.