

Handy Fire Training Guide



What does the legislation say?

Under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Article 15 – Procedures for serious and imminent danger and for danger areas

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Procedures for serious and imminent danger and for danger areas

15. —(1) The responsible person must—

(a) establish and, where necessary, give effect to appropriate procedures, including safety drills, to be followed in the event of serious and imminent danger to relevant persons; (b) nominate a sufficient number of competent persons to implement those procedures in so far as they relate to the evacuation of relevant persons from the premises



Article 21 – Training

Article 18 – Safety assistance

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Safety assistance

18. —(1) The responsible person must, subject to paragraphs (6) and (7), appoint one or more competent persons to assist him in undertaking the preventive and protective measures.

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Training

21. —(1) The responsible person must ensure that his employees are provided with adequate safety training—
(a) at the time when they are first employed and then periodically.

The training referred to in paragraph (1) must—

- (a) include suitable and sufficient instruction and training on the appropriate precautions and actions to be taken by the employee in order to safeguard himself and other relevant persons on the premises; (b) be repeated periodically where appropriate; (c) be adapted to take account of any new or changed risks to the safety of the employees concerned; (d) be provided in a manner appropriate to the risk identified by the risk assessment; and (e) take place during working hours.

Basic Fire Safety Training

Basic Fire Safety Training should include information about all fire safety devices onsite i.e. extinguishers, call points, escape routes and assembly points and their respective locations.

Basic training should also include company specific information i.e. details of hazardous materials or dangerous work activities and any issues outlined in the Fire Risk Assessment.

Crucial to the training of course will be what action needs to be taken in the case of a fire.

Fire Warden / Fire Marshall Training

It is still the view of some companies that no action to fight a fire on site should be ever taken by staff, however, since the RRO came in to force, evacuating your business premises in the event of a fire without taking safe, appropriate measures to tackle the fire is **illegal** and contravenes the RRO; businesses can be and have been prosecuted for this contravention and have found their insurance invalidated at point of claim.

Why is Fire Safety training SO important for our staff?

All businesses are required to have extinguishers fitted in order to protect both lives and property; it makes sense therefore that businesses are also expected to train staff in the correct use of equipment provided.

Most of us have set off a smoke detector at home from time to time; perhaps with burnt toast or something similar. Although the alarm is sounding, the burnt toast is not, at this point, a fire; detectors pick up the earliest signs of a fire, this is usually at a stage before a full fire has developed. Most fires do not, thankfully, erupt into huge fire balls immediately; instead they start small and take time to develop.

In 9 out of 10 cases, in studies conducted by the Fire Service, it was found that trained staff would easily and safely put out a fire before it ever required Fire Service involvement.

It is a requirement of the legislation to protect property and reduce the impacts of fire on the environment and neighbouring properties as well as to protect lives.

Since 2005, the role of the Fire Service has changed in relation to commercial premises; it is now the responsibility of the 'Responsible Person' to evacuate all staff, customers and visitors from a building; the Fire Service attends site only to fight a fire.

Only a third of small to medium business will still be in existence after a serious fire.

Most company owners will invest time, money, resources and emotion into building a business; a fire can destroy this.

Production or provision of services to customers will likely stop, and yet staff will still need to be paid during the lengthily claims process, potentially devastating cash flow.

Company records, history and other valuable information are often permanently lost in the fire making day to day processes impossible.

The thing that most often sounds the death knell of a fire stricken company however is quite simply the loss of its customers who often fail to return from their interim suppliers.

Fire Warden training in premises should be seen as a tool to assist the 'Responsible Persons' in their incredibly important role. Trained staff should be the eyes and ears on site, daily helping them to protect the business from the risk of fire.

Articles 12 and 15

Articles 12 and 15 details what is required of the Responsible Person; they must establish and, where necessary, give effect to appropriate procedures to be followed in the event of serious and imminent danger to relevant persons, these procedures will include safety drills. They must nominate a sufficient number of competent persons to implement these procedures in so far as they relate to the evacuation of relevant persons from the premises.

This training must be suitable and sufficient and must be to a level which allows the employee to safeguard himself and other relevant persons on the premises.

The responsible person has to establish procedures that will keep people safe from a fire on the premises. In every case, the responsible person has to bring these procedures to bear if it becomes necessary at any time i.e. if the premises experiences a fire the procedures must be implemented. Therefore the procedures must be practical and specific to the circumstances of each case and as such are likely to vary from premises to premises and with the number of trained staff members present, the level of training they have been given and the nature of the building's occupancy.

The Responsible Person must take measures for fire-fighting in the premises, adapted to the nature of the activities carried out there and nominate competent persons to implement those measures and ensure that the number of such persons, their training and the equipment available to them is adequate, taking into account the size of, and the specific hazards involved in, the premises concerned

This training must be suitable and sufficient and must be to a level which allows the employee to safeguard himself and other relevant persons on the premises

An employee's competence will decline if skills are not used regularly (e.g. in emergency procedures, operating a particular item of equipment or carrying out a task). Training therefore needs to be refreshed periodically to ensure continued competence

In simple Terms

The training of staff in basic fire safety and the roles of Fire Warden/Marshall is deemed absolutely essential for every business sites in England and at FireCare & Security we can assist you with this training.

Why Choose FireCare & Security Ltd:

- Over 99% of customers rate us 5* or more on our feedback.
- We attend site on the correct month, year in year out, we contact you to arrange a suitable time.
- We contact you when your services are due an appointment, you don't need to think about it.
- We offer a 'one stop shop' for all your services, one contact, one telephone number, one business and excellent service and standards
- We offer competitive pricing to reduce your overall expenditure whilst you still receive excellent customer service.
- We offer transparent pricing no hidden costs.

Please call us now on 02380 269833 or email us at info@firecareandsecurity.co.uk