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**Overview**

This standard is recommended for firefighters.

This standard is about your ability to search for, rescue and support life which is danger.

When **searching for life** you must be able to conduct the search safely using the range of personal protective and rescue equipment available to you. Searches could be within an open space, or in confined spaces such as inside a structure, transport vehicle or compartments.

When **rescuing life involved in incidents**, human or animal, you must be able to do this safely. Incidents where rescue of life may be required can include fire, collapsed or dangerous structures, or situations caused by adverse weather conditions. Other incidents where you provide rescue services might involve people trapped in wreckage, animal rescues, or hazardous substances,

This standard also covers your ability to **treat casualties** within your agreed level of authority, responsibility and expertise. Casualties you treat will be from the incident scene and after they have been removed from an incident. You might also be approached by a casualty at an incident for treatment and support.

Throughout this standard you will be expected to **provide support to others** directly and indirectly involved in an operational incident. Operational or physical support will include your ability to liaise with other agencies or maintain security at the scene of an incident. Emotional support you provide to others might require you to reassure and comfort people whilst protecting their privacy and dignity.

**Performance  
criteria**
**Conduct a search for life**

- You must be able to:**
- P1 confirm with others your tasks and duties at an incident in line with your job role and responsibilities
  - P2 select equipment which can be safely used to search for life and operate it in line with its safety and operating instructions
  - P3 conduct the search within your designated area in line with your organisation's risk control measures
  - P4 search in ways that take account of all factors that influence the end results in line with your organisation's procedures
  - P5 identify positive life signs and take immediate action in line with your organisation's procedures and policies for preserving life
  - P6 maintain communications with others during your search in line with your organisation's procedures
  - P7 report to relevant others when casualties are located in line with communication procedures
  - P8 work with others to protect casualties from further harm in line with your organisation's procedures

**Rescue life involved in incidents**

- You must be able to:**
- P9 select equipment which can be safely used to rescue life and operate it in line with its safety and operating instructions
  - P10 rescue life within your designated area in line with your organisation's risk control measures
  - P11 help to take casualties to a place of safety in line with incident control procedures

**Provide treatment to casualties**

- You must be able to:**
- P12 prioritise casualties according to their signs and symptoms in line with your organisation's procedures
  - P13 select equipment which can be effectively used to provide treatment and

operate it in line with its limitations, safety and operating instructions

- P14 administer aid to minimise further injury and suffering in line with your agreed limits of authority, responsibility and expertise
- P15 give treatment to support the stabilisation of casualties' condition in line with your role, responsibilities and level of expertise
- P16 provide support to casualties in a way which promotes calm and reassurance
- P17 monitor casualties' condition until appropriate agencies take over
- P18 give information to relevant others about the treatment casualties have received in line with communication procedures

### **Support people involved in an operational incident**

- You must be able to:**
- P19 provide support to others at the incident in ways which promote calm, compassion and consideration for others
  - P20 restrict the view of the incident to avoid additional suffering in line with your organisation's procedures

### **For the whole standard**

- You must be able to:**
- P21 operate safely within your agreed level of authority and responsibility
  - P22 identify risks affecting your tasks and duties in line with your organisation's risk assessment procedures
  - P23 inform relevant others about potential risk to the safety of yourself and others in line with your organisation's communication procedures
  - P24 decide on appropriate control measures to mitigate risks affecting yourself and others in line with your organisation's procedures
  - P25 work with others in ways that
    - P25.1 encourage cooperation,
    - P25.2 supports common understanding
    - P25.3 promotes a positive image of your organisation
  - P26 keep accurate records and provide these to others in line with your organisation's requirements

## Knowledge and understanding

### You need to know and understand:

#### Health and safety

- K1 hazards and risks of the workplace affecting people and the environment in relation to search, rescue and casualty care operations
- K2 how to make and apply decisions based on the assessment of risk in the case of search, rescue and casualty care operations
- K3 how to apply practices that maximise the health, safety and welfare of yourself and others during search, rescue and casualty operations

#### Organisational

### You need to know and understand:

- K4 fire service legislation and other legislation relevant to carrying out search, rescue and casualty care
- K5 record systems specific to your role and their use
- K6 sources and availability of information

#### Personal and Interpersonal

### You need to know and understand:

- K7 how to communicate with the range of people involved in search, rescue and casualty care
- K8 how to treat colleagues and members of the public with respect and consideration, taking account of and accepting diversity
- K9 how to recognise and support distressed people
- K10 lines and methods of communication and reporting during search, rescue and casualty care
- K11 roles, responsibilities and limits of authority of yourself, others and other agencies during the course of search, rescue and casualty care operations

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#### Technical

### You need to know and understand:

- K12 capabilities and limitations of personal protective and operational equipment used during search, rescue and casualty care
- K13 how to select and use appropriate personal protective and operational

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- equipment during search, rescue and casualty care
  - K14 roles and responsibilities within the incident command system
  - K15 types of evidence and its importance
  - K16 how to identify and preserve evidence including deceased and fatalities
  - K17 relevant search and rescue procedures
  - K18 how to prioritise casualties
  - K19 how and when to provide immediate medical care
  - K20 appropriate casualty handling techniques
  - K21 protocols to determine the status and removal of the deceased

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