
Overview

This standard is recommended for fire and rescue personnel who are required to drive Fire Service vehicles and have undergone appropriate driver training and testing.

This standard is about your ability to drive a fire and rescue vehicle safely for non-emergencies, and to an incident under emergency response conditions. You will need to prepare the vehicle to drive as well as be able to site the vehicle safely and securely at incidents.

This standard is not intended to reflect the requirements for statutory driver testing.

**Performance
criteria**
Prepare to drive fire and rescue service vehicles

- You must be able to:**
- P1 check vehicles to make sure they are fit for purpose and ready to drive on public highways in line with your organisation's requirements
 - P2 familiarise yourself with vehicle controls before driving in line with your organisation's requirements
 - P3 plan your route, taking account of the purpose of the journey and local conditions, in the shortest time and with minimum risk
 - P4 make sure vehicles are ready for the next operation on completion of incident duties in line with your organisation's requirements
 - P5 report any damage, defects and deficiencies affecting vehicles in line with your organisation's procedures

Drive fire and rescue service vehicles for non-emergency purposes

- You must be able to:**
- P6 drive vehicles safely
 - P7 drive, manoeuvre and site vehicles in line with relevant legislation and your organisation's requirements

Drive fire and rescue service vehicles for emergency responses

- You must be able to:**
- P8 make journeys in the shortest time when responding to emergencies in line with planned routes
 - P9 minimise risks to life, property and the environment when driving in line with relevant guidance
 - P10 drive vehicles in line with all relevant legislation and organisational requirements
 - P11 drive vehicles safely for emergency response within its capabilities and in line with your own abilities
 - P12 use warning devices as appropriate to the situation in line with relevant guidance
 - P13 ensure that emergency responses are justifiable and assess whether it is appropriate to maintain responses in line with relevant guidance

- P14 continuously assess driving conditions and modify your driving to minimise risk to yourself and others in line with relevant procedures
- P15 manoeuvre and site vehicles for maximum effect and to avoid undue risk to vehicles, yourself and others in line with relevant guidance
- P16 obtain assistance from colleagues to guide difficult and risky manoeuvres in line with your organisation's procedures
- P17 site and position vehicles in ways which takes account of necessary access and supports operational responses in line with operational requirements

For the whole standard

- You must be able to:
- P18 work with others in ways that;
 - P18.1 encourages cooperation
 - P18.2 supports common understanding
 - P18.3 promotes a positive image of your organisation
 - P19 keep accurate records and provide these to others in line with your organisation's requirements

Knowledge and understanding

Legislative and organisational requirements

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your role and responsibilities in relation to health and safety in the workplace
- K2 legislation and organisational policy relevant to driving and emergency response
- K3 how and when to apply exemptions from the road traffic act
- K4 purpose and implications of recording and reporting systems
- K5 your organisation's policies, operating procedures and guidelines including risk assessment and control measures relevant to driving vehicles

Personal and Interpersonal

You need to know and understand:

- K6 methods and techniques for communicating with others
- K7 the importance of treating others with respect and consideration, taking account of, and accepting, diversity
- K8 lines and methods of communication and reporting in the workplace
- K9 roles, responsibilities and limits of authority of self, others and other agencies in the workplace
- effects of physical and physiological factors related to driving

Technical

You need to know and understand:

- K10 technical specifications for fire and rescue vehicles within own level of authority to drive
- K11 how and when to use vehicle warning devices and systems
- K12 organisational requirements for availability and operational readiness of vehicles
- K13 how to apply defensive driving techniques when driving to incidents
- K14 factors to take into account when siting vehicles
- K15 techniques for difficult, risky or different driving conditions

Additional information

Scope/range

1 Regulations and guidelines

- 1.1 Road Traffic Law
- 1.2 Civil Law (Duty of Care)
- 1.3 Health and Safety Law
- 1.4 Highway Code
- 1.5 legal exemptions
- 1.6 'Roadcraft'
- 1.7 organisational policies, procedures and guidelines
- 1.8 legislation relating to high speed or emergency response driver training

2 Driving conditions

- 2.1 speed
- 2.2 type of road
- 2.3 traffic volume
- 2.4 road surfaces conditions
- 2.5 visibility
- 2.6 weather conditions
- 2.7 skid avoidance

3 Incidents

- 3.1 any requiring emergency response
- 3.2 any requiring non emergency response
- 3.3 any requiring the relocation of resources

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