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Lifts for the use by the Fire & Rescue Service

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Overview

The aim of this session is to provide a brief overview of:

- Lifts for the use by the Fire & Rescue Service (FRS):
 - Raise the issues faced by the FRS in tall buildings.
 - The role and importance of FRS lifts.
 - What may go into a lift being used by the FRS.
 - The issues FRS face when using lifts.
 - Identifying lifts.
 - Next steps.



Key Protection Policy and Reform Unit Activities

Centre of Protection Leadership

First port of call for National Issues
Individual Support and Regional Dialogue
Technical expertise

Building Safety Regulator

MHCLG and the Shadow Regulator (HSE)
Joint Regulators Group
Policy Design Trials
Competency Frameworks

Remediation & Compliance

Peer Reviews and Support for FRSs
Expert Panel
Joint Inspections
Enforcement guidance and complex cases

Protection Policy and Reform Unit

Service Improvement

HMICFRS and GTI recommendations
Competency and capabilities
Regional collaboration

High-Rise BRR

Data and analysis
Co-ordination and guidance 11,300 HRRBs
Assurance and preparing for the BSR

Policy

Informing Government Policy
HO and MHCLG legislative development
FRS Impacts and CSR support



Fighting fires in tall buildings

Apologies for stating the obvious, but:

- It takes time to get to work on the 8th, 12th, 14thfloor.
- Equipment!
- Safe systems of work.
- Physiological effect on FF.
- Pre-planning is key.
- Collation and processing of information.
- There are many, many more.....



The importance of FRS lifts

- Ultimately, we get where need to be quicker!
- FFs are in a better condition, physically and mentally.
- We can transfer FFs.
- We can transfer equipment.
- We can transfer others.
- We might be able to evacuate those in real need.



Image courtesy of <https://www.tower-lifts.co.uk/firefighter-lift-company/>



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What might go in a lift.....

Again, its obvious, but:

- Equipment (not exhaustive):
 - Hose and branches.
 - Hand tools.
 - Entry Control.
 - Comms.
 - First Aid.
 - Smoke control.
 - Etc., etc.....
- Firefighters (not exhaustive):
 - PPE.
 - Breathing apparatus.
- Incidents are dynamic, procedures evolve.



Issues FRS face when using lifts

- What type of lift is it?
 - Firemen's lift?
 - Firefighting lift?
 - Firefighters lift?
 - Something else?
- Which raises:
 - How safe is it to use?
 - Can I rely on it?
 - What am I happy to put in it?
 - How best can I use it?



Image courtesy of <https://www.stannahlifts.co.uk/products/passenger-lifts/fire-fighting-evacuation>



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Identifying existing lifts

- What type of lift is it?
- How do you tell?



Images courtesy of <https://discoverbundoran.com/person-thinking-with-question-mark-bigstock-question-mark-and-target-47926703/> and <https://www.stannahlifts.co.uk/products/passenger-lifts/fire-fighting-evacuation>



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The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022

- The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by article 24(1) of the FSO.
- To implement some of the GTI P1 recommendations the Responsible Person (RP) must:
 - Maintain a secure information box.
 - Maintain a record of the design of the EWS, including the level of risk.
 - Prepare floor plans, which identify any lifts and key FF equipment.
 - **Routinely check FF lifts, evacuation lifts and essential FF equipment.**
 - Provide clear wayfinding signage.
 - Prepare an evacuation plan.
 - Provide information to residents.
 - Provide information and checks on fire doors.



What are NFCC doing and what do we need to do next?

- NOG/NOL & NPG/NPL on lifts
- Training packages to make staff aware i.e., e-learn
- Working with Gov on new regime e.g., Safety Cases
- Practical Guide to Identifying Lifts for FRS use
- Revision of BS EN 81-72

