

**Tyne and Wear Fire  
and Rescue Service**



**Fire Safety Information for  
hospitality businesses**

# Introduction to TWFRS and Fire Safety Context

## Role of TWFRS

TWFRS safeguards communities through fire prevention, protection, and emergency response duties.

## Fire Safety Enforcement

TWFRS enforces the Fire Safety Order by advising, inspecting, and ensuring premises meet safety standards.

## Challenges in Licensed Premises

Rapid fire spread in licensed venues caused by combustible décor highlights the need for proactive fire safety.

## Supporting Hospitality Businesses

TWFRS provides guidance to hospitality venues to mitigate fire risks and ensure compliance with regulations.

# Responsibilities of Employers and Managers

## Employer Fire Safety Duty

Employers hold primary responsibility for fire safety under the Fire Safety Order, ensuring a safe environment.

## Shared Responsibilities

Managers and employees share fire safety duties through clear role communication and embedded job tasks.

## Competence and Training

Competence in fire safety requires adequate training, experience, and knowledge for effective duty performance.

## Documentation and Compliance

Maintaining records of training, audits, and procedures helps ensure compliance and reinforces safety culture.



# Legal Duties and Risk Assessment

# Understanding Duties under the Fire Safety Order

## Core Fire Safety Objectives

The Fire Safety Order aims to reduce fire risks and ensure safe evacuation in case of fire emergencies.

## Compliance and Guidance

Businesses must follow government guidance, conduct hazard assessments, and implement control measures to comply.

## Consequences of Non-compliance

Failure to comply can lead to penalties, enforcement actions, or prosecution affecting business continuity.

## Benefits of Fire Safety Integration

Integrating fire safety into daily management protects lives, properties, and enhances business reputation.

# Conducting and Reviewing Fire Risk Assessments

## Purpose of Fire Risk Assessments

Fire risk assessments identify potential fire hazards, evaluate risks, and establish safety measures to protect people and property.

## Key Elements to Assess

Assess fire alarms, firefighting equipment, emergency lighting, evacuation procedures, maintenance, and staff training regularly.

## Importance of Regular Reviews

Regular reviews ensure updated safety measures, especially after changes in building, décor, or operation, maintaining compliance.

## Professional Fire Risk Assessors

Engaging qualified assessors with licensed premises experience ensures thorough evaluations and adherence to safety guidelines.



# Managing Fire Hazards and Emergency Preparedness

# Controlling Ignition Sources in Hospitality Settings

## Fire Risks from Decorative Ignition

Decorative ignition sources increase fire risks, especially when combined with alcohol and crowded environments.

## Safe Storage of Explosives

Ice fountains and similar items contain explosives and require secure storage and licensing if above legal limits.

## Ignition and Consumption Precautions

Ignition should occur at the table, not in transit; drinks must not be consumed while flames are active.

## Staff Training and Risk Assessment

Staff must be trained for safe handling of ignition sources and risk assessments should address dangerous substances.

# Reducing Fire Spread through Safe Decorations

## Impact of Interior Decorations

Decorative materials can accelerate fire spread, increasing risks and property damage in hospitality settings.

## Fire Resistance Certification

Always consult manufacturers and request fire resistance certification before installing decorative elements.

## Proactive Safety Measures

Select flame-retardant materials and minimise combustible décor in high-risk areas to reduce fire hazards.

## Regular Inspections and Updates

Conduct regular inspections and update fire risk assessments after any decorative changes to maintain safety.

# Fire Doors and Emergency Procedures

## Role of Fire Doors

Fire doors prevent the spread of fire and smoke, preserving safe escape routes during emergencies.

## Inspection and Maintenance

Regular inspections and maintenance ensure fire doors function effectively and comply with safety standards.

## Emergency Procedures

Comprehensive emergency plans include evacuation protocols, assembly points, and designated trained personnel roles.

## Preparedness and Training

Regular drills and trained staff competence are essential for effective emergency response and occupant safety.



# Resources and Further Guidance



# Accessing Support and Information

## Direct Fire Safety Support

TWFRS provides direct email support offering advice on compliance and fire risk management for hospitality businesses.

## Government Guidance Resources

Comprehensive government documents provide legal duties, risk assessment templates, and best practices for fire safety.

## Qualified Fire Risk Assessors

NFCC recommends engaging qualified assessors with experience in licensed premises to ensure effective fire risk evaluation.

## Staying Informed and Prepared

Subscribing to updates from regulatory bodies helps businesses stay informed about legislation changes and emerging risks.



# Feedback

[Internal Foliage/Lining Fire Risk Webinar –  
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