

**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

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