Hampshire & Isle of Wight FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

Protection

Policy number (AP003)

Next Review Due 31/03/2029

1. Purpose

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority (HIWFRA) is committed to ensuring that Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have an efficient and effective fire and rescue service which makes life safer for everyone.

All Policies within the Authority's Policy Framework are to be considered as a collective and not read in isolation.

Should it be needed, the fire and rescue service will provide a highly skilled operational response, but wherever possible, we will look to reduce the risk of fire in the first instance, supporting the vulnerable and ensuring our built environment complies with fire safety regulations.

This policy sets HIWFRA's commitment to meet its statutory responsibilities to provide information and advice for the purposes of promoting fire safety; and educating and regulating those responsible for keeping buildings safe.

2. Principles

2.1 We will provide information and advice promoting fire safety in accordance with legislation and HIWFRA's Position Statement for Fire Safety Advice.

2.2 We will work collaboratively with partners and others, and where possible share information to identify those vulnerable and support risk reduction services.

2.3 We will carry out our regulatory activities as the Enforcing Authority with transparency, sharing information and expectations for legislative compliance.

2.4 We will adopt a risk-based inspection programme for an evidenced based, informed, and targeted approach for inspection and regulation of non-domestic premises.

2.5 We will use enforcement where regulation has been fair, consistent, and proportionate but improvement in fire safety has not been achieved by the Responsible Person.

2.6 We will decide to prosecute following the Code for Crown Prosecutors, evidential and public interest tests, and whenever appropriate publicise cases for the benefit of public confidence and learning in the business community.

2.7 We will take proactive positions on new matters relating to fire safety.

2.8 We will lobby and consult at national and local levels, on issues felt most important, have the maximum influence and impact, reducing risks and incidents in the built environment and promoting fire safety.

2.9 We will provide quality and consistent investigations into the origin and cause of fire or explosion and adopt multi-agency arrangements where appropriate.

3. Compliance

Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and the Building Safety Act 2022.

All other relevant legislation, regulations, and approved guidance, including the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England, the Regulators' Code and the Code for Crown Prosecutors.

Professional guidance, including the National Operational Guidance, Fire Standards and National Fire Chief's Council's (NFCC) Guidance for protection activities, including NFCC's Competency Framework for Fire Safety Regulators.

4. Core Code of Ethics

HIWFRA is committed to meeting the principles within the Core Code of Ethics and will ensure that the principles in the Protection Policy reflect the requirements of the Code.

5. Governance

HIWFRA has responsibility for the functions of the fire and rescue service as specified in legislation.

HIWFRA delegates the operation of the principles contained within the Protection Policy to HIWFRS Chief Fire Officer, in accordance with its Constitution and the Safety Plan.

6. Appendix

HIWFRA's Position Statement for Sprinklers

HIWFRA's Position Statement for Fire Safety Advice

HIWFRA's Position Statement for Building Regulations, Planning and Legislation

HIWFRA's Position Statement for Battery Energy Storage Systems