



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

**FIRE & RESCUE
SERVICES
National Employers**

Risk assessments

1. Paragraph 9(b) of the renewal agreement contained in Tripartite Statement 9 states:

'There has been some variation in the format, content and findings of the risk assessments. The hazards do not vary across Fire and Rescue areas.

Therefore, for existing Covid-19 activities¹ or when a new Covid-19 activity is introduced, use of the Tripartite developed national risk assessments provided for each activity are best practice and any necessary local variations will be agreed through the local health and safety structures.'

2. You will be aware from Tripartite Statement 11 that work has been taking place to develop the necessary risk assessments in order to conclude this complex work and to ensure they are issued by 28th July.
3. You already have the risk assessments for the activities relating to the delivery of training to care home staff (Tripartite Statement 10):
 - Delivery of pre-designed training packages on Infection Prevention and Control, including hand, hygiene, PPE 'donning' & 'doffing' guidance and procedures; and supporting the care home staff testing i.e. to train care home staff to train others according to the principle of 'train the trainers.'
 - Delivery of pre-designed training packages on Infection Prevention and Control, including hand, hygiene, PPE 'donning' & 'doffing' guidance and procedures; and supporting the care home staff testing i.e. direct to care home staff.
4. Attached to this Statement are risk assessments in respect of the following activities during the period of Covid-19:
 - Driving Instruction by FRS driver trainers to deliver training for non-Service personnel to drive ambulances (not on blue-lights)
 - Delivery of PPE and other medical supplies to NHS and care facilities
 - COVID-19 - Mass Casualty (Movement of bodies)
 - Vulnerable persons - delivery of essential items
 - Driving ambulance transport not on blue-lights (excluding known COVID-19 patients) to outpatient appointments or to receive urgent care
 - Face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients

¹ Currently agreed activities are contained in paragraph 3 of circular TRI/7/20

- Ambulance Driving and Patient/Ambulance personnel support (Not additional FRS First or Co-responding)
- Known or suspected COVID-19 Patients: transfer to and from Nightingale hospitals under emergency response (blue light) or through non-emergency patient transfer (not on blue lights)
- Non-COVID-19 Patients: Transfer to and from Nightingale hospitals under emergency response (blue light) or through non-emergency patient transfer (not on blue lights) – this includes recovering and recuperating patients no longer infected with COVID 19

Risk statements

5. In respect of three activities the Tripartite Group has reached the view that the production and circulation of a national Tripartite risk assessment is not necessary. A risk assessment by individual services is of course still a requirement under health and safety regulations.
6. However, the Tripartite Group considered that it may be of assistance to bring attention to some matters which fire and rescue services would need to take into account when undertaking a local risk assessment and the subsequent consultation with representative bodies through the local joint health and safety committee.
7. Therefore, also attached are risk statements in respect of the following activities during the period of Covid-19:
 - Packing/Re-packing food supplies for vulnerable people
 - Assisting in taking sample for Covid-19 testing (taking swab samples)
 - assembly of single use face-shields for the NHS and care work frontline staff

Local reviews and continued duration of the Tripartite Agreement

8. In line with the renewal agreement the attached risk assessments should now be reviewed at local level and any necessary local variations agreed through the local health and safety structures by 30 September 2020.
9. The Tripartite Group has agreed to further extend the Tripartite Agreement to 30 September 2020 during which time the reviews indicated in paragraph 8 above will need to take place.
10. The Agreement may be further renewed at that time.