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The Clerks to the Joint Fire and Rescue Boards
The Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council
The Chief Executive, Fife Council
The Chief Officer

19 November 2008

Dear Sir/Madam

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CIRCULAR 18/2008
GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT 3.2 – HIGH RISE FIREFIGHTING – VERSION 2

Summary

This circular provides information to Fire and Rescue Services (FRSs) on the recently published revised General Risk Assessment (GRA) on high rise firefighting. The guidance is for use by FRSs for relevant aspects of integrated risk management planning. This version supersedes GRA 3.2 version 1 found in the suite of Generic Risk Assessments which is withdrawn through the issue of this circular.

Background

1. As indicated in FRS circular 43/2008, the suite of generic risk assessments (GRA) found in 'A Guide to Operational Risk Assessment: fire service guide volume 3' is currently under review. As part of this overall process and with reference to findings identified from recent investigations following the fire at Harrow Court, other high rise incidents and the BDAG research, the GRA for high rise firefighting (GRA 3.2 Version 1) has been updated and published as GRA 3.2 High Rise Firefighting version 2.
2. The GRA supersedes the interim guidance on fighting fire in high rise buildings provided in FRS circular 32/2006 which is hereby withdrawn. FRS circular 71/2006 is also replaced with the exception of the advice on the selection and use of proposed firefighting equipment and its compatibility with the fixed installations provided.

The Generic Risk Assessment (GRA)

3. This assessment considers the hazards, risk and control measures for operational incidents involving fires in high rise buildings. This GRA does not cover all aspects of firefighting in buildings, however, the principles espoused within this document could still be applicable, subject to information and dynamic risk assessment.
4. As with all GRAs this assessment provides a starting point for the FRS to conduct their own assessments within the context of local conditions and existing organisational arrangements.
5. This GRA supersedes previous versions which should be removed and destroyed.
6. Copies of the GRA can be obtained from TSO, further details are listed below:

TSO

PO Box 29, Norwich, NR3 1GN

Telephone orders/General enquiries: 0870 600 5522

Fax orders: 0870 600 5533

E-mail: customer.services@tso.co.uk

Website: <http://www.tsoshop.co.uk>

Yours faithfully



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