

# OPERATIONAL

## GUIDANCE



Mortuary Body Handling

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 e5-v5

## Mortuary Body Handling

This guidance is designed to inform LFB personnel who have volunteered to undertake a Mortuary Body Handling role to support our partners across London. We have outlined below a number of the differences in working routines that may be encountered and information that will be useful before and during the detachment .

London Fire Brigade personnel should familiarise themselves with Firefighter decontamination, Mass Decontamination and Manual Handling guidance in order to be prepared for this role .

- PN 584 – Firefighter Decontamination
- Manual Handling Guidance -[http://hotwire-live/Operations/Health\\_and\\_safety/Pages/Manual-Handling.aspx](http://hotwire-live/Operations/Health_and_safety/Pages/Manual-Handling.aspx)

Training prior to deployment will be facilitated at headquarters and by our partners on site. This will involve a training session at Union Street and training and site familiarisation at your appointed location prior to your first shift. This will involve manual handling, use of on site equipment and decontamination procedure. A practical demonstration of mortality management at HUBs will also be given.

### PPE

Firefighters will be in normal workwear and the following PPE will be provided:

- Face masks meeting the standards outlined in Public Health England guidance. (please note : P3 is only be required during Aerosol generating procedures which will not happen in this role).
- Apron,
- Nitrile gloves,
- Disposable eye protection.

**Note: Some of this work will be undertaken in refrigerated areas where additional layers may be required.**

### Before your shift

Please make sure you have all of your personal gear as stated below. It is good practice to prepare two separate bags for your shift.

The first bag, which should contain everything you will need for the shift including :

- Full change of uniform.
- Workwear jacket.

The second bag for your hygiene should contain but not be limited to:

- Spare clothes to travel home in.
- Wash kit.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Travel Mug.</li><li>• Food and snacks.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plastic bag in case your workwear becomes contaminated.</li></ul>
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## During your shift

Under guidance you will:

- Move the deceased from transportation to the temporary mortuary.
- Assist with the processing of the deceased.
- Manage the decontamination of personnel if necessary.

## After your shift

Please carry out the following tasks.

- Clean and prepare the processing areas for the next shift.
- Complete personal hygiene, bag up your uniform, travel home in clean clothes.

Further guidance:

- Wash your uniform on a hot wash at 60 °.
- Full Tyvek suits are not necessary for this role as the deceased will be in a sterile bag prior to arrival at the mortuary. Should the body bag's integrity become compromised, and any fluids or substance come into contact with a body handling operative, the necessary decontamination process should be followed.
- Operation Braidwood welfare officers can be informed/mobilised by OOD.
- Be sure to properly rehydrate as it is easy to dehydrate when busy.

## Emergency Contacts

All requests for advice will be managed by the BCC via LFB control. A list of SMEs and welfare contacts will be agreed (IEC, FBU, C&T services, Hazmat/Decon)

**OOD – (paged by control) – 02085551200 #88599**