



COVID-19 Strategic Intentions

March 2021

Introduction

The UK Government's overriding goal is to protect the lives and livelihoods of citizens across Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England. For the benefit of the whole UK, the Government has secured access to more than 400 million vaccine doses, established the largest testing infrastructure in Europe, and provided an unprecedented level of financial support for businesses and individuals.

This COVID-19 Response sets out how the Government will continue to protect and support citizens across the UK and provides a roadmap out of the current lockdown in England. The Devolved Administrations are setting out how lockdown will be eased in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The English roadmap <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021> is a step-by-step plan to ease restrictions in England cautiously, starting with schools and colleges.

The Devolved Administrations are setting out separate plans for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. <https://www.gov.scot/news/route-map-for-moving-out-of-lockdown/> <https://gov.wales/leading-wales-out-coronavirus-pandemic> <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/execoffice/executives-pathway-out-of-restrictions.pdf>

Recognising the importance of clarity for those who live and work in different parts of the UK, particularly in cross-border communities, the Government will continue to work closely with the Devolved Administrations.

National Fire Chiefs Council Strategic Intent

To support the gradual recovery and transition to a new normality set out in the Government road map, enabling a prioritised and safe resumption of activities disrupted by the pandemic, whilst maintaining the ability to respond to further peaks, either locally, regionally or nationally.

Strategic Intentions

- To proactively protect our communities and limit the spread of COVID-19 by following extant government guidance.
- To ensure the safety and wellbeing of our staff through the maintenance of measures aligned to the COVID-19 Secure premises, until such time as government guidance changes.
- To ensure that the return to a new normality acknowledges and mitigates any identified risks to staff well-being.
- To maintain an effective Emergency Response – we will continue to respond to all incidents.

- To maintain Preparedness activity – we will continue prepare, train and exercise against foreseeable risk and seek the safe and prioritised resumption of Preparedness activities disrupted by COVID-19.
- To Protect our communities from fire – we will continue a risk-based approach to Protection activities, balancing the need to regulate the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and protect staff and the public from COVID-19.
- To Prevent the impact of fire and other emergencies on our communities – we will continue a risk-based approach to community facing activities, balancing the need to protect staff against the objective of preventing fires and other emergencies from occurring in the community.
- To continue to support the national COVID-19 vaccine and testing programmes in agreement with local partners.
- To ensure the sector’s response, recovery and transition to a new normality is coordinated and integrated with other agencies, promote shared situational awareness and a joint understanding of risk.
- To ensure effective business continuity, procurement and recovery arrangements are established and maintained throughout the sector.
- To ensure lessons to be learnt from the COVID-19 response phase continue to be gathered, shared and acted upon, where appropriate, across the sector.
- To support the transition to a new normality.

NFCC Guidance

For further information and updates, please refer to www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/COVID-19

Reporting

- Home Office - Weekly
- PPE - Monthly
- Workforce Data – No change

NFCC COVID 19 advice and support

Should you have specific issues related to any of the areas identified please raise them by e mailing covid19.enquiries@nationalfirechiefs.org.uk

NFCC Governance

NFCC COVID-19 Committee Membership

- Phil Garrigan: Chair
- Andy Bell: Vice Chair
- Sarah Gawley: Home Office
- Stuart Errington: Local Resilience Forum Lead

- Ian Hayton: Emergency Services Liaison
- Peter Heath: NFCC Operations Committee
- Rick Hylton: NFCC Prevention Committee
- Ian Leigh: NFCC Protection Committee
- Ann Millington: NFCC Workforce Committee
- TBC: NFCC Finance Committee
- Chris Colgan: NFCC Sector Resourcing
- Susan Ellison-Bunce: NFCC Central Programme Office
- Chris Colgan: Chair of PPE Committee
- Russ Paramore: NFCC Business Continuity Group
- Neil Griffiths: NFCC Data Hub
- Steven Adams: NFCC Strategic Support
- Ged Sheridan: Executive Support
- Sandra Wainwright: Executive Support

NFCC Leadership: Mark Hardingham, Phil Garrigan, Justin Johnston

All enquiries should be directed to covid19.enquiries@nationalfirechiefs.org.uk