

Model Risk Assessment				Ref no.	COVID-19
Activity	Face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients			Status	
Location				Initial assess.	
Section				Reviewed	
Assessed by		Specific		Next review	Monthly or following changes, including to relevant guidance, which may alter residual risk rating.
Role /No/Dept.		Generic	X	Version no.	1.5

This is an NFCC generic national risk assessment provided in respect of Face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients activity and any necessary local variations will be agreed through the local health and safety structures.

Severity		Likelihood					Risk Rating	
		1. Very Unlikely	2. Unlikely	3. Possible	4. Likely	5. Almost Certain		
1	No Injury	1	2	3	4	5	Low Risk 1-5	Proceed
2	First Aid	2	4	6	8	10	Medium Risk 6-12	Review control measures - proceed
3	7 Day Injury	3	6	9	12	15	High risk 15-25	Do Not Proceed
4	Major Injury	4	8	12	16	20		
5	Fatality	5	10	15	20	25		

MEASURES OF LIKELIHOOD (PROBABILITY)			
LEVEL	DESCRIPTOR	CHANCE	DESCRIPTION
1	Very unlikely	0 to 4%	The injury/event may occur only in exceptional circumstances.
2	Unlikely	5 to 24%	The injury/event could occur at some time.
3	Possible	25 to 64%	The injury/event should occur at some time.
4	Likely	65 to 94%	The injury/event is expected to occur in most circumstances.
5	Almost Certain	95 to 100%	The injury/event will occur in most circumstances.

MEASURES OF SEVERITY (CONSEQUENCE)		
LEVEL	DESCRIPTOR	DESCRIPTION
1	Negligible	Minor local first aid treatment (e.g. minor cuts/abrasions) causing minimal work interruption
2	Slight	Injury requiring formal first aider treatment causing interruption of work for 7 days or less. Moderate financial loss
3	Moderate	RIDDOR lost-time injuries. Medical treatment required. Moderate environmental implications. High financial loss. Moderate loss of reputation. Moderate business interruption.
4	Major	Major disabling injuries. High environmental implications. Major financial loss. Major loss of reputation. Major business interruption.
5	Catastrophic	Single or multiple deaths involving any persons.

Activity	Hazard	Potential consequences	Person at Risk	Agreed Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating			Additional Control Measures	New Risk Rating		
			1-FRS 2-Public 3-Other blue light 4-Other e.g. specialist		L X S = RR				L X S = RR		
Selection of correct staff	Inappropriate selection of staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major injury Physiological stress Psychological stress Inappropriate planning leading to inappropriate actions being taken Incorrect instruction/advice being given Reputational damage to the Service Transition of COVID 19 between workplaces by volunteers 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early engagement of safety representatives via joint H&S committee meetings to assist in highlighting selection in correct staff Personnel to be fit and able to undertake face mask fitting activity e.g. not from an identified vulnerable group All FRS volunteers must be afforded the same health surveillance (testing) arrangements as the partner agency employees/volunteers they are working with in respect of the activity undertaken. If not provided, then activity should not be undertaken. See Appendix B for the current health surveillance arrangements specific to the activity. The availability of the health surveillance arrangements (testing) detailed in Appendix B should be secured prior to the commencement of the activity. The health surveillance arrangements for the activity is to continue for a period of 10 days on return to the FRS workplace. Volunteers to be instructed that those who during this activity have had close contact (as defined in official guidance) with a confirmed COVID-19 patient should inform their appropriate manager Volunteers with relevant skills and experience to be prioritised Fire cover should not be reduced or crewing levels altered to undertake the activity 	1	4	4	I			

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to be suitably trained and qualified to conduct identified work for the agreed activity. • Activity to be monitored and reviewed by enabling FRS • Ideally teams will consist of two staff identified to deliver the testing one of which will be a manager of suitable seniority, if available, on scene at external venues to deal with any events or difficulties that may arise. 						
Preparation for activity prior to attending the venue	Inadequate/inappropriate preparation which may impact on performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate preparation leading to inappropriate actions being taken • Major injury • Physiological stress • Psychological stress • Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient rest before attending work to undertake activity. • Early engagement of safety representatives via joint H&S committee meetings to assist in highlighting safe systems of work • Staff to be aware of the need to be sufficiently nourished and hydrated prior to attendance at workplace • Adhere to working time directive to ensure excessive hours are not worked. • Ensure staff have support available for advice with regards to occupational health needs. • Venue to be inspected for suitability by FRS manager prior to activity taking place • Activity to be monitored and reviewed by enabling FRS 	1	2	2			
Preparing for face mask fitting activity by individuals	Individual being unprepared or uninformed of responsibilities which may impact on performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate preparation leading to inappropriate actions being taken • Minor injury • Reputational damage to the Service. 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to be aware of the need to be sufficiently nourished and hydrated prior to attendance at workplace • Sufficient rest before activity • Health and safety briefing/inductions when attending workplace prior to conducting activity, this to cover all SSOW and RA control measures • Ensure staff have on-site support available for advice 	1	3	3			
Preparing to drive to activity for face fitting of masks.	Inappropriate and/or unqualified driver leading to unsafe acts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor injury • Major injury • Loss of life • Musculoskeletal injury • Adverse effect on FRS personnel mental health and well being • Unfamiliar vehicle for conducting activity 	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver qualified and validated to drive vehicle. • Driver licence checks • Full vehicle induction including information and familiarisation driving session. • Driver adheres to Service Management of Road Risk Policy. 	1	4	4			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to complete task Reputational damage to the Service 									
Vehicle checks prior to driving the vehicle for face fitting of masks.	Non-roadworthy/non familiar vehicle being utilised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle Collison Minor Injury Major injury Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Driver adheres to Service Management of Road Risk Policy. Maintenance schedule for each vehicle. Vehicle inspection and checks completed and recorded at start of each duty period. Non-roadworthy vehicles are not to be used Training on all equipment that FRS personnel will use. 	1	4	4				
Driving the vehicle	Road Risk Road Traffic Collisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle Collison Major Injury Major vehicle damage Minor Injury Adverse effect on FRS trainer's mental health and wellbeing Driver fatigue Loss of life Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure doors, lockers and equipment are secured before moving off. Use vehicle seat belts. Utilise satellite navigation and maps. Evaluate weather and road conditions. Good knowledge of topography and risks including road closures etc. Drivers to be aware of the process for the reporting of RTC's in Service vehicles Adherence to the road traffic act at all times (no FRS exemptions) 	1	4	4				
Arrival at the face mask fitting venue	Low speed manoeuvring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor vehicle damage Minor Injury Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 2, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to arrive early Park vehicle in a safe location to allow FRS personnel to exit vehicle on arrival Adhere to low speed manoeuvring procedures Health and safety - Inform FRS personnel before moving vehicles Utilise hi-vis jackets if required. Appoint 'safety person' to assist with manoeuvres, if available. Adhere to agreed signals from 'safety person' Observe cameras and vehicle sensors, if available 	2	2	4				
	Contact with slow moving vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slips, trips and falls Minor injury Musculoskeletal injury Inability to continue with activities 	1, 2, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed restrictions at premise Designated parking area/s identified prior to attendance Pedestrian routes identified Safety brief and premise rules. 	1	3	3				

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction of building including information on evacuation procedures • Access fobs be issued where required. • First aid/Welfare facilities. • Identify buildings/parts of buildings (designated room/s) essential to the task. • Location of first aid facilities 						
FRS Staff attending sites to carry out activity	Unfamiliarity of building layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slips, trips and falls • Minor injury • Musculoskeletal injury • Inability to continue with activities • Potential exposure to COVID-19 	1, 2, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction of building including information on evacuation procedures. • Pedestrian routes identified • Safety brief and premise rules. • Access fobs be issued where required. • First aid/Welfare facilities. • Location of defibrillator • Identify buildings/parts of buildings (designated room/s) essential to the task • Designate specific room for face mask fit testing to take place. • Individuals requiring face mask fit testing to be briefed in advance not to attend appointment if showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • Individuals to be face mask fit testing to have safety induction and briefing on safety procedures when moving around the building. • Only one person carrying out the face mask fitting to accompany individual being tested to and from fitting room • Social distance guidance for 2 metre social distancing to be adhered to wherever possible • Room to be set up so that social distancing is to be maintained during fitting. • Adequate lighting provided. • Relevant PPE to be worn whilst undertaking this task as detailed in Section A1 	1	3	3			
Undertaking the task of face mask fit testing	FRS staff coming into contact with person/s with COVID19 or other contagion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of exposure to COVID-19 via touch or airborne transmission • Infectious diseases transmission to other parties (COVID-19) 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals requiring face mask fit testing to be briefed in advance not to attend appointment if showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • Site users to be made aware of start and finish times for when face mask fitting is to be undertaken 	1	4	4			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of exposure to biohazard • Stress • Anxiety • Other psychological injury • Adverse impact on FRS operational response. • Adverse impact on the NHS. • Loss of life • Reputational damage to the Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personnel, Staff or visitors to site to have safety induction and briefing on safety procedures • Travel routes used for access and egress are to be kept as separate from site personnel if possible • Only individual to be face mask fit tested are to enter the room. • Individuals being fitted for non-disposable masks should clean the mask themselves before and immediately after the test • Provision of a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe/solution • Provision of face shielding protection if social distancing cannot be maintained • If personnel, visitors or Staff become symptomatic whilst on site during face mask fit testing the activity is to cease immediately, the individual will self-isolate and the designated area affected is to be deep cleaned. • If personnel become symptomatic they will self-isolate and follow test and trace guidance • Avoid skin-to-skin contact or being in close proximity to the exhaled breath whenever not wearing suitable protection • FRS staff will adhere to COVID-19 PPE guidance as per Section A1 • Ensure staff have support available for advice with regards to occupational health needs. 								
	Non-qualified personnel carrying out face mask fit testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorrect face mask fit test leading to inability of RPE to achieve the desired protection • Possible exposure for the wearer to biological hazards including COVID 19 • Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask fitting practitioners conducting testing will have required valid documentation • Familiarisation provided to those face mask fitting practitioners who have not practised face mask fitting for some time. • A manager of suitable seniority at all external sites to deal with any events or difficulties that arise • Face mask fitting practitioners kept up to date with any changes in practice 	1	5	5					

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask fitting practitioners to keep in their possession proof of competency whilst testing is being undertaken and must show it to the manager of suitable seniority prior to undertaking any fit testing • Face fitting equipment will only be used by competent qualified practitioners within the manufactures guidance • Testing results to be given to the wearer prior to leaving the testing site 						
	Inability to secure an adequate face fit due to individuals personal characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frustration of potential wearer • Anger • Verbal abuse • Physical abuse • Minor injury 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals requiring face mask fit testing to be briefed in advance as to the requirements to be clean shaven at least in the areas the face mask makes contact with the skin HSE RR1052 (See Section B) • Ensure a range of RPE is available prior to each fit testing event • Face mask fitting practitioners to withdraw from the testing • A manager of suitable seniority at all external sites to deal with any events or difficulties that arise • Recommend individual to return to their employer to be provided with alternative RPE • First aid and emergency contact arrangements to be known prior to testing commencing • Record as an act of violence at work/known hazard and log for future attendances 	1	3	3			
	Cross contamination of masks/testing equipment during testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contraction of COVID-19 • Increased risk of exposure to biohazard • Stress • Anxiety • Other psychological Injury • Spreading the COVID 19 infection. • Adverse impact on the NHS. • Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals requiring face mask fit testing to be briefed in advance not to attend appointment if showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • All personnel, Staff or visitors to site to have safety induction and briefing on safety procedures • Social distancing to be maintained whenever possible • Relevant PPE to be worn whilst undertaking this task as detailed in section A1 if social distancing cannot be maintained • RPE to be used and issued on an individual basis • Individuals being fitted for non-disposable masks should clean 	2	3	6			

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the mask themselves before and immediately after the test • Provision of a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe/solution • Cleaning of the testing area and equipment between tests must be carried out by competent staff • If personnel, visitors or Staff become symptomatic whilst on site during face mask fit testing the activity is to cease immediately • Avoid skin-to-skin contact or being in close proximity to the exhaled breath whenever not wearing suitable protection 						
	Failure of testing equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability to provide recommendation/s as to the appropriate RPE • Adverse impact on the NHS/Carers • Stress to tester • Stress to potential wearer • Anxiety • Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face mask fitting equipment to be tested prior to the event commencing • Face mask fitting equipment will only be used by competent qualified practitioners within the manufactures guidance • Ability to cancel the session if the testing equipment is suspected of not being in the correct working order • Face mask fitting practitioners conducting testing will have the required valid documentation • Familiarisation provided to those face mask fitting practitioners who have not practised face mask fitting for some time. • A manager of suitable seniority at all external sites to deal with any events or difficulties that arise • Face mask fitting practitioners kept up to date with any changes in practice 	1	2	2			
Cleaning of equipment/testing area	Contamination of face mask fit practitioner and/or individual being tested	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased risk of exposure to biohazard • Contraction of COVID-19 • Stress • Anxiety • Other psychological injury • Spreading the COVID 19 infection. • Adverse impact on the NHS. 	1, 2, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals requiring face mask fit testing to be briefed in advance not to attend appointment if showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • All personnel, Staff or visitors to site to have safety induction and briefing on safety procedures • PPE to be worn whilst undertaking this task as detailed in section A1 • Maintain social distancing measures wherever possible 	2	3	6			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reputational damage to the Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RPE to be used and issued on an individual basis • Cleaning of the testing area and equipment between tests must be carried out by competent staff • If personnel, visitors or Staff become symptomatic whilst on site during face mask fit testing the activity is to cease immediately • Avoid skin-to-skin contact or being in close proximity to the exhaled breath whenever not wearing suitable protection • Regular washing of hands and use of alcohol / sterile hand gels. • Advise that all venue surfaces/equipment utilised will be cleaned post face mask fit testing and prior to any occupants being allowed access to the room utilised. This requirement is the responsibility of the venue staff 						
	Equipment insufficiently cleaned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viral infection • Increased risk of exposure to biohazard • Minor Physical injury • Delay in getting to work • Exposure to COVID-19 	1, 3, 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow COSHH guidance for protective equipment when using chemical disinfectants • Relevant PPE to be worn whilst undertaking this task as detailed in section A1 • All equipment to be visually inspected and wiped down prior to use • Individuals being fitted for non-disposable masks should clean the mask themselves before and immediately after the test • Provision of a suitable disinfectant cleaning wipe/solution • Any equipment faults to be recorded, reported and replaced. • RPE to be used and issued on an individual basis • Cleaning of the testing area and equipment between tests as per face mask fitting training/qualification 	2	3	6			
Disrobing at the end of shift	Cross-contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biohazards: e.g. pathogens, virus's etc. • Spreading an infection 	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish physical separation of clean and dirty areas • Ensure the provision of warm water and soap 	1	4	4			

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking a contamination home with you • Contaminating family members • Unwarranted impact on the NHS. • Reputational damage to the Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PPE donning and doffing in accordance with guidance in Section B • Use of alcohol / sterile hand gels. • Use the pre-arranged appropriate storage facilities for personal clothing • Disposal point for contaminated PPE/ uniform etc. • FRS personnel to be trained in personal decontamination procedures • Appropriate decontamination of PPE by professional cleaners, condemned PPE to be treated as clinical waste 						
Leaving venue on completion of face fitting of masks.	<p>Staff coming into contact with venue staff member with COVID19 or other contagion.</p> <p>Increased risk of FRS personnel leaving the venue with COVID-19 now present within the premise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for contracting COVID - 19 or other with minor to severe health consequences. • Potential to spread an infection/virus to other premise users • Potential to spread an infection/virus to other premises • Reputational damage to the Service 	1, 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remind all participants to maintain social distancing on leaving the room • FRS staff to exit building utilising shortest travel route. • Dispose of single use PPE in medical waste bin at premise, if available. • If a medical waste bin is not available, all PPE to be bagged and sealed prior to returning to the vehicle and disposed of on return to FRS premise • Use defined decontamination procedures for PPE on leaving the building. • Follow hygiene rules on leaving premise e.g. provision of hand sanitiser, workplace hygiene rules etc. 	1	4	4			
Provision of Welfare facilities	Inadequate welfare and hygiene facilities provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress • Anxiety • Infection of FRS responders from bio-hazards • Adverse effect on FRS responders' mental health and wellbeing • Loss of working time. • Potential exposure to COVID-19 • Unwarranted impact on the NHS. • Reputational damage to the Service 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare Facilities for suitable rest breaks for face mask fitting practitioners and in appropriate designated areas that can maintain social distancing measures. • Facilities provided are to be COVID-19 secure areas • Suitable facilities for adequate hand hygiene to be adopted and adhered to • Only utilise buildings/parts of buildings essential to the task. These facilities are to be COVID-19 secure areas • Suitable facilities for facemask fitting practitioners to change clothing • Training to be given prior to activity commencing 	2	2	4			

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff have support available for advice with regards to occupational health needs. 						
Post activity considerations	FRS personnel becoming infected or showing symptoms of an infection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress • Anxiety • Psychological stress • Adverse effect on FRS personnel mental health and well being • Further transmission of COVID-19 within the workplace • Spreading the transmission to home premise • Loss of working time. • Impact on an operational response. • Impact on the NHS. • Reputational damage to the Service 	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early engagement of safety representatives via joint H&S committee meetings to assist in debriefing the work activity • Health and Safety brief to reiterate signs and symptoms of COVID-19 • Personal and workplace hygiene - e.g. provision of hand sanitiser, workplace hygiene rules etc. • The health surveillance arrangements for the activity is to continue for a period of 10 days on return to the FRS workplace. • Staff to be instructed that those who during this activity have had close contact (as defined in official guidance) with a confirmed COVID-19 patient should inform their appropriate manager • Seek medical advice - NHS 111 or 999 if medical emergency. • Inform appropriate manager. • Ensure staff have support available for advice with regards to occupational health needs. • Access to professional counselling services to be communicated to staff. • Employee Assistance programme or service equivalent to be flagged and highlighted to all staff • If personnel become symptomatic they will self-isolate and follow test and trace guidance • Review the risk assessment to ensure suitable and sufficient control measures are in place 	1	5	5			

Appendix A

Section A - General Assumptions:

1. COVID -19 PPE mentioned within this risk assessment is based upon standard infection control precautions below a-e
 - a. FFP3 respirators must be worn whenever 'aerosol generating procedures' (AGP) are taking place. AGP's include
 - i. intubation, extubation and related procedures
 - ii. manual ventilation and open suctioning of the respiratory tract (including the upper respiratory tract)
 - iii. induction of sputum (cough)

FFP3 masks must be compliant with BS EN149:200.1 **NOTE:** If wearing a FFP3 that is not fluid resistant, a full face shield/visor **must** be worn in these cases.

- b. FFP2 or Fluid resistant type IIR mask non 'aerosol generating procedures'
- c. Long sleeved disposable apron/gown
- d. Disposable gloves
- e. Eye protection –full face shield/visor or polycarbonate safety spectacles or equivalent

Items of PPE b & d will be donned at all times from the time the activity commences until the activity is concluded when they will then be safely and hygienically disposed of. Items of PPE a, c & e will be provided and will be available for immediate use to each individual staff undertaking the activity. These items to be donned when an event occurs or a situation arises whereby FRS assistance may be required and/or the activity presents any anticipated/likely risk of contamination with splashes, aerosol, exhaled breath, droplets of blood or other body fluids.

Face fit tester to maintain 2 metre social distancing whenever possible throughout the testing period.

2. FRS personnel involved in the activity of face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients will have received relevant and appropriate information, instruction & training.
3. FRS personnel will wear the correct Service provided work wear (See Section B) and as a minimum RPE/PPE appropriate to the task of the face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients see Section A1.
4. FRS personnel involved in the activity of face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients must have received information, instruction & training in the safe use of any associated equipment.
5. Any equipment used for the activity of face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients must have first been the subject of an appropriate inspection, maintenance and servicing regime.
6. All additional activities must be under supervision by a competent person
7. Partner agencies must receive information, instruction, training and supervision where appropriate to work safely within the FRS identified safe systems of work.
8. FRS personnel involved in the activity of the face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with COVID-19 patients must have first received relevant manual handling information/training and any follow up refresher training as required. (See Section

B)

9. All FRS personnel are all fit and well (See Section B)
10. A safety briefing/induction must be given to all personnel.
11. A debrief of the additional activity will be undertaken at routine intervals whilst the additional activity is being undertaken.
12. Safe systems of work identified in this and any subsequent risk assessments will be adhered to with all applicable HSE guidance and ACoPs applied as a minimum standard.

Section B - relevant documents/links:

1. Tri-partite/NJC agreements
2. Self- isolation document available on TEAMS
3. Guide to donning and doffing standard PPE available on TEAMS
4. Stay at home guidance available on TEAMS
5. Home care guidance available on TEAMS
6. Social distance guidance available on TEAMS
7. Insert service work wear policy
8. Insert service fitness policy
9. Insert service manual handling policy
10. HSE RR1052 - The effect of wearer stubble on the protection given by Filtering Face pieces Class 3 (FFP3) and Half Masks

Appendix B

The Health Surveillance arrangements in place in relation to Face fitting for masks to be used by frontline NHS and clinical care staff working with Covid-19 patients as of the 1st of January 2021 are 2 Lateral Flow Tests per week (1 completed pre activity 1 completed post activity as part of health surveillance monitoring) (HS Comparator Care/Nursing Home Worker DHSC).