

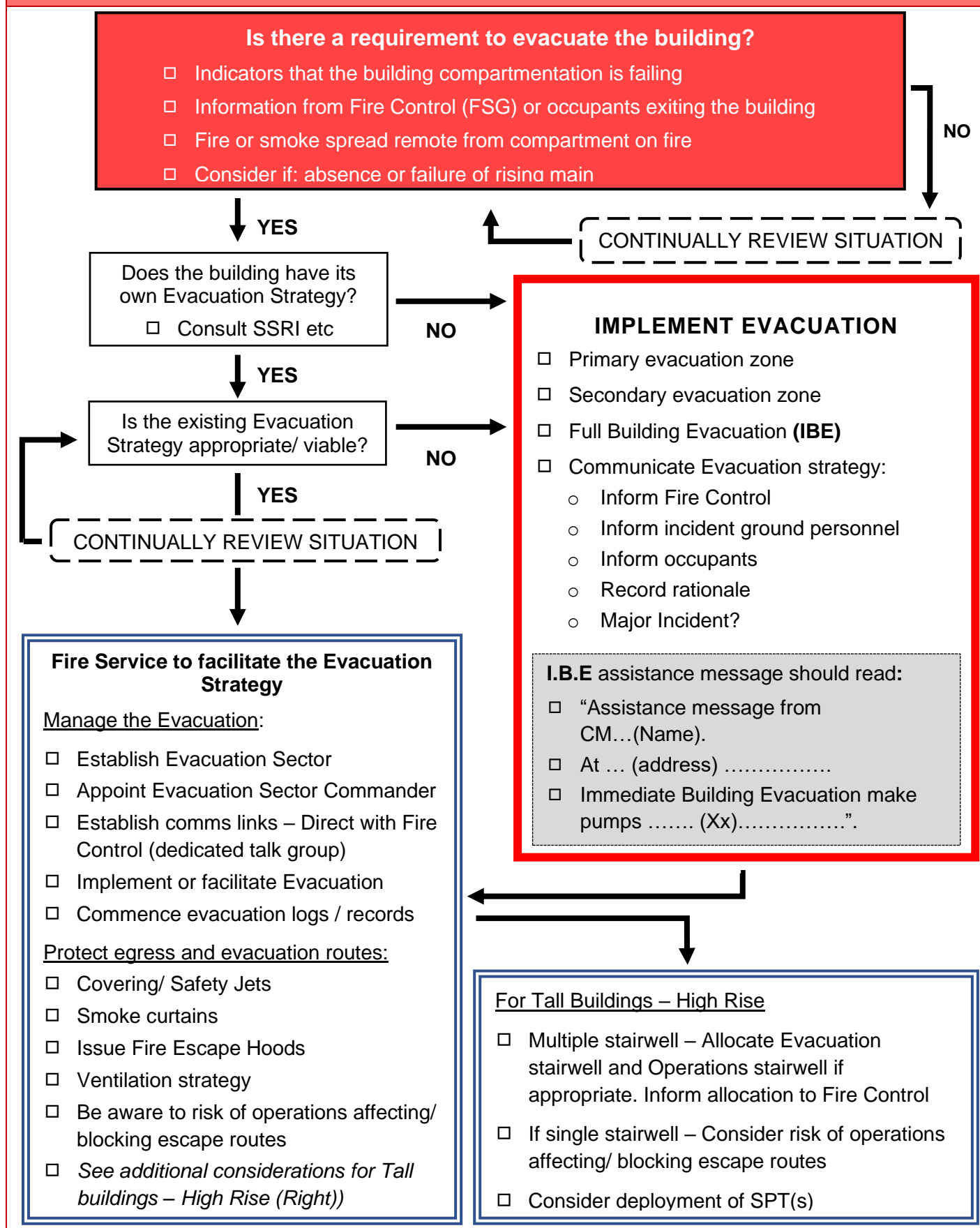


# Evacuation of Buildings on Fire

To be used in conjunction with Fires in Buildings Tactical Guidance



## EVACUATION FLOWCHART



OPERATIONAL ACTIONS		✓
<p><b>Initial considerations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Identify pre-arranged evacuation strategies of building and communicate to Fire Control</li> <li>❑ If the policy is “stay put/ defend in place”, consider if this is still viable</li> <li>❑ Establish Evacuation Sector and appoint Evacuation Sector Commander as soon as resources permit – see <u>OP: Evacuation Sector Commander</u></li> <li>❑ Consider evacuation based on fire spread and those at most risk i.e. furthest from safety,</li> <li>❑ Identify the most appropriate evacuation plan/ strategy, record rationale for decision and inform Fire Control</li> <li>❑ If evacuation is necessary, identify the number of people affected and develop a plan(s)</li> <li>❑ For a confirmed fire, crews should consider the use of Tactical Evacuation of the immediate areas around the fire compartment</li> <li>❑ Where indications suggest that building compartmentation is failing, instigate a Full Evacuation</li> <li>❑ Consider implementing the Major Incident procedure</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Tactical Evacuation: Primary/ secondary Zones:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Primary Zone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flats/ Compartments on same corridor or lobby area as the one/s affected</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ Secondary Zone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flats/ Compartments within the Fire Sector</li> <li>○ Flats/ Compartments above the Fire Sector (Search Sector)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>NB.</b> Tactical evacuation does not affect the overall evacuation strategy of the building, i.e. this does not trigger a full building evacuation, or a change to the advice being given by Fire Control.</p>		
<p><b>Full Evacuation – are there evacuation triggers present?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Indications that suggest the building compartmentation is failing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The fire is having a significant impact on the external fascia of the building</li> <li>○ The fire has spread beyond the floor of origin</li> <li>○ The fire has spread to three or more compartments on the fire floor – including the compartment of origin</li> </ul> </li> <li>❑ Information available indicates that available resources may not be sufficient to contain or extinguish the fire. This information may be obtained visually on scene or be provided by Fire Control (e.g. levels of Fire Survival Guidance (FSG) being provided)</li> <li>❑ Absence of/ failure of rising main</li> <li>❑ Timber Frame Buildings or Structural Insulated Panel (SIP) construction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If fire spread into voids is detected, then Full evacuation should be implemented – due to the potential for rapid fire spread and/ or structural collapse - See <u>OP: Fires in Timber Frame Buildings</u></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

<p><b>Adopt appropriate evacuation strategy for the building and occupancy type:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> For Tall Buildings/ High Rise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Multiple stairwell</u>: Consider allocating Evacuation and Operations stairwells if appropriate. Inform stairwell allocation to control using terminology used by residents</li> <li>○ <u>Single stairwell</u>: Be aware to risk of operations affecting/ blocking escape routes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Communication:</b></p> <p>If ICs decide to change a building's evacuation strategy to a Full Evacuation, they should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Communicate to all personnel and partner agencies on the fireground</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Send an Immediate Building Evacuation (<b>I.B.E</b>) assistance message to Fire Control *</li> </ul> <p>* The <b>I.B.E.</b> assistance message should read;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ "Assistance Message, from CM XXXXXXXX.</li> <li>○ At .....</li> <li>○ Immediate Building Evacuation make pumps ....xx....".</li> </ul> <p><b>NB.</b> The number of pumps required is at the discretion of the IC requesting assistance</p>	
<p><b>Protect access and egress routes</b> – consider risk of operations affecting/ blocking escape routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Use of Covering/ Safety Jets</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identification and use of the building's fixed installations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining structure and integrity of fire-protected areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Where possible and without compromising firefighting activities keep fire doors closed</li> <li>○ Utilise Smoke curtains</li> <li>○ Issue Fire Escape Hoods if stairwells become compromised with fire gases</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implementing a ventilation strategy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Utilisation of Stairwell Protection Teams (SPT) – <u>See OP: Stairwell Protection</u></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Identify a place of ultimate safety outside the building.</b> Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A holding area to log persons evacuated</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Provision of sheltered area to relocate evacuated persons</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Welfare arrangements</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Once implemented, review the evacuation plan regularly.</b> Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Any development of the incident</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Changes in weather conditions</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Information gathered from emergency responders and the public</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> FSG information exchange</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Effectiveness or impact of the evacuation</li> </ul>	

## FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS



Types of evacuation strategies:

- ☐ Full evacuation: simultaneous/ phased
- ☐ Progressive: horizontal/ zoned
- ☐ Two-staged
- ☐ Stay put/ defend in place

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## SERVICE SPECIFICS

### HIWFRS

IBE Message, additional resources mobilised by Fire Control:


- ☐ 1 x Strategic Manager
- ☐ 1 x FDS officer as Evacuation Officer to the fire ground.
- ☐ 1 x FDS officer as Evacuation Support Officer to control at their discretion
- ☐ 1 x Command Support Vehicle (CSV) to support the Evacuation Officer
- ☐ 1 x Complex Buildings Advisor (CBA). If available, to provide advice on the building's fire protection features

Control input into the process' and call features.

Use of evacuation boards and evacuation pads for accountability and record keeping



## Document References

	<p>National Operational Guidance – Fires in: Buildings</p> <p>National Operational Guidance – Fires in: Tall Buildings</p> <p>National Operational Guidance – Control Measure: Appropriate intervention Fires in Tall Buildings</p> <p>National Operational Guidance – Control Measure: Evacuation and Shelter</p>
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## Partnership Relevant References

	
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## Other Related Guidance

	
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## Document Audit Information

Senior Officer Accountable	Authorised By	Implementation Date	Review Date
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	16/12/2021	30/09/2026

## Version Control

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