

S₂ Partnership Ltd
Intelligent Risk Management

Fire Drills and COVID-19

Fire Drills and COVID-19

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and Government guidance on social distancing, fire drills have been put on hold to help control the spread of the virus. However, life safety must not be compromised; information, instruction and training must continue in buildings with any level of occupancy.

The Responsible Person under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 must be able to demonstrate that there is continuous training for people with regard to fire safety, fire evacuation drills and fire safety awareness training. This is also a requirement under the relevant Scottish and Northern Ireland Fire Safety Regulations.

Fire safety training (often fire drills are used to provide this) must be completed, as a minimum, every 12 months or in line with six-monthly best practice. This could be in the form of a full drill with limited persons present, training or a meeting to reinforce the systems on site and inform any new persons of the procedures.

Up to now, we have recommended that all drills and training have been postponed in order to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19. However, now that restrictions on meetings have been removed (with appropriate precautions) we are now able to offer services in order that businesses can meet with the periodic fire training requirement.

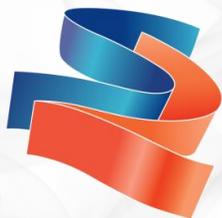
As traditional fire drills may lead to an increase in contact between persons on site, we are offering either fire drill simulation meetings, for buildings with instantaneous evacuation, or for buildings with phased evacuation, emergency preparedness testing, focusing on fire.

Fire drill simulation meetings are for the site management personnel (if based on site) and fire marshals. New tenants could also attend, to enable them to familiarise themselves with the procedures on site. These would involve one of our fire consultants attending the site to run through the process, responsibilities and reasons for the fire drill. We would record any outcomes and learning opportunities as a result of this, produce a report and this can then be shared with tenants, as required.

Emergency preparedness testing is a more in depth service, where a scenario is run real-time on site and escalations are made as they would be if the situation was real and is suitable for complex buildings.

Social distancing measures will be adhered to and promoted throughout both of these, making them a safe way to comply with the requirement to ensure continual fire safety training. We are also able to offer remote fire awareness training to tenants, if required.

For further information on any of the above services, [contact our specialist fire safety team](#).



S₂ Partnership Ltd
Intelligent Risk Management

For guidance or support, please contact:

Email: hello@s2partnership.co.uk

Call: +44 (0)1954 267788

www.s2partnership.co.uk