



Why Work as an... Operational Firefighter

A solution for your training needs and career progression

ROLE OVERVIEW

The broad purpose of the occupation is to deal with a wide range of emergency situations where problem solving and initiative is vital to resolve incidents quickly and calmly. When in attendance, an Operational Firefighter must adopt a sensitive approach to dealing with members of the public and casualties who may be distressed and confused. These situations vary from tackling fires, searching, rescuing and protecting people and animals, by sustaining/preserving their life to protecting life and the environment from the effects of fire, natural and human disasters and hazardous materials.

KEY POINTS

- **Level:** 3
- **Duration:** 24 months + End Point Assessment
- **Entry requirements:** You may be required to undertake training in maths and English. See [HERE](#) for more information
- **Career progression:** Options include Fire Safety Inspector and Specialist Rescue Operative

KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

- The risks within their community and the methods that can be used to mitigate those risks
- Appropriate methods of resolving fire and rescue emergency incidents using various fire extinguishing media (Water, foam/chemical)
- The principles of Fire behaviour, ventilation and hydraulics
- How to prepare and maintain operational equipment and resources
- The principles of JESIP (Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles)
- Their duty within relevant Legislation

SKILL REQUIREMENTS

- Operate safely and effectively in emergency situations
- Operate in hazardous environments using Breathing Apparatus
- Safely resolve incidents involving hazardous materials, such as chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive substances
- Safely work in, on or around water e.g. to conduct rescues or extract water for firefighting purposes
- Extricate casualties from situations of entrapment
- Control and extinguish fires safely and effectively
- Communicate effectively, through listening, writing, speaking and presenting information

BEHAVIOUR REQUIREMENTS

- Commitment to integrity and diversity, understanding and adopting a fair and ethical approach and treating others with courtesy and respect
- Embrace and promote the values of the organisation
- Confidence and resilience within the role in highly challenging and changing situations, demonstrating reliability, adaptability, responsibility and accountability to the organisation
- Situational awareness by maintaining an active awareness of the working environment to ensure a safe, secure and compliant working culture
- Commitment to excellence, by adopting a conscientious and proactive approach to achieve and maintain excellent standards
- Work collaboratively with others, both internally and externally

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