



Federation Newsletter

Spring 2022

Making sure your voice is heard

Number 39

EVENTS

- FIREX International 17th-19th May
- Fire Sprinkler International 31 May to 1 June
- INTERSCHUTZ 20 to 22 June 2022 Hannover.
- Emergency Services Show 21st-22nd September
- Fire Conference 18 October 2022 London

Directors

Michael Harper
(Chair)
John Spencer (Deputy
Chair)
Dave Russell
Dennis Davis
Jon O'Neil
Niall Rowan
Tom Roche
Ólöf Jonsdóttir
Steve Hamm

Links

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Successful Annual General Meeting

The Federation held a successful AGM in London where the Board reported on activity throughout last year with the financial position and proposed the 2022-23 budget.

The Board's recommendation of two new appointments was also agreed. John Spencer now joins the Board as Deputy Chairman, to allow a smooth transition as a successor to Michael Harper. Steve Hamm was also elected in the role of Technical Director, a task that has so far been a dual role undertaken by the Executive Officer.



There was a significant discussion on a proposal to establish a Fire Strategy Panel within the policy workstream aimed at improving fire safety progress within the fire sector in the post Grenfell era. In a constructive and well-rounded debate members offered opinions that will now help develop the proposal, on which the Board advised it will keep members informed.

More detailed notes and papers from the meeting have been distributed directly to members and are available on Federation Basecamp site.

Fire Safety Act 2022 in Force

Commencement of Powers to Amend the Fire Safety Order
A Statutory Instrument introduced on the 16 May 2022, "The Fire Safety Act 2021 (Commencement) (England) Regulations 2022", has finally opened the way for the government to begin the process of regulating to strengthen the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO).

The commencement order brings the Fire Safety Act 2021 into force after enactment last April. It is also now anticipated that a government consultation will soon begin on improving the working of the Fire Safety Order following the commitment to implement the recommendations of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 report.

It is anticipated new regulations will now follow, as part of the Building Safety Act 2022 which has already received Royal Assent. These regulations will be far reaching, requiring additional measures to be taken by Responsible Persons, especially those accountable for multiple occupied residential buildings, and are designed to assist residents and responding fire and rescue services.

The FSO regulations, which are linked to commencement of the Building Safety Act 2022, will therefore introduce further fire safety provisions, including a direct requirement to ensure those who are employed to assist in fire risk assessment are competent. The regulations firstly have to be

consulted upon but ultimately will represent a significant step forward in the government's ambition to raise building fire safety standards, something the Federation strongly supports.

Meeting with Minister for Building and Fire Safety

At the request of Lord Greenhalgh, the Federation's EO, CEOs of the Fire Industries Association and Institution of Fire Engineers together with FIA and IFE technical officers held a round table discussion on fire risk assessment issues on 12 May 2022.

The Minister was advised of the sectors' recommendation that assessment on higher risk buildings, which includes going beyond high-rise residential buildings into buildings housing residents in care settings, should be mandated to use only assured third-party certified assessors.

The Minister, who was also thanked for his commitment to assist in resolving concerns on PII, was also updated and his support sought regarding the ongoing work being undertaken within the sector to improve the wider unregulated general fire risk assessor market.

Scottish Building Regulation Report

The Scottish Government has published a consultancy report offering analysis of the responses received in its consultation on building safety compliance. The proposals introduced a new compliance plan manager role with oversight on defined high-risk buildings together with a range of suggested penalties and measuring of likely impacts. The full report is available [here](#)

Fire Safety Modelling Event



The Institution of Mechanical Engineers is holding a seminar to examine Improving Fire Safety Through Simulation and Modelling: Tools Techniques and Real-World Applications on 21st June 2022 at offices in London.

Federation members qualify for a reduced rate equivalent to IMechE members. Further information for anyone interested in attending is available [here](#).

Extreme Weather Conference 6-7 June

The NFCC and FIA are jointly hosting an event on 6-7 June to explore the effects of climate change on our weather in the UK and the impact on incidents that the Fire Service responds to. Full details available [here](#)



Supporting Diversity and Equality

As part of our continuing policy to signpost resources that are informative and helpful we draw attention via the Government Statistical Service link to a variety of resources on specific topics and protected characteristics. More information is available [here](#)

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