



Effective Command

Scenario questions and considerations

EC Video No: EC 075CA	EC Video Name: ICL1 – Detached Bungalow
Delivery Model: Self-directed or Instructor led Group Discussion	Reference Material: UKFRS National Operational Guidance (UK specific) Scenarios - All Incident Actions - NFCC

Scenario Summary:

Fire in detached bungalow, in residential area near to main road (to the rear of)

- Initial reports of smoke visible from a house at 123 Main St. Closest hydrant 125 Main St. Single 9-1-1 caller

Video Tasks / Questions:

Turn out / dispatch questions (3 minutes)

- What are your thoughts when receiving this call?
- What additional information would support any decision at this time?
- What arrangements does your organisation have for this type of incident?

En route questions (3 minutes)

- What are your considerations when proceeding to the scene?
- What information is at hand whilst responding?
- What resources do you expect to assist with operations at this incident?
- On your approach, you can see visual cues from the incident. What are your thoughts when these are identified?
- What brief would you give to your crew?
- What are your thoughts having gained this information?

You are now in attendance at the incident and have a number of visual cues (1min 30 sec)

- Complete your 360 and send your initial report to dispatch

Initial actions (10 minutes)

- How will you gain situational awareness?
- What are your priorities at this incident?
- Considering the cues, what actions are you going to take to resolve the operational incident?
- What are the risks and predicted escalation of this type of incident, what will you do to minimise these risks?
- Explain what your plan is to deal with the incident.
- Ensure that the actions that you get your crew to take comply with any necessary guidance or procedures, what are these?
- Formulate a brief that you would give to your crew for them to proceed including the sequence of activities, state the rationale for all the intended actions.
- Provide an accurate update for your Dispatch using your departments agreed method.

- With regards to the current situation do you have any requests for the Police, if so, what are these and why”?
- What are your considerations regarding the development of the incident?
- Are there any other people you need to liaise with, if so, who are these people and why?
- Do you have any further requests for your police colleague?
- If so, what are these and why are you requesting these?

Visual cues

Visual cues may be linked to past experiences. However, the accurate understanding and interpretation of these cues is fundamental in resolving operational incidents safely.

Assumption should be avoided as it may distort situational awareness.

The cues you are given during any incident are not just visual cues but also audible.

- The building construction and layout
- Fire at high level
- The extent of fire spread
- The colour of the fire gases and amount of visible flame
- Wind direction
- Building access

This is not an exhaustive list. What additional cues have you added during your discussions or assessment of the incident?

Do your proposed actions demonstrate a rational understanding of the associated risks and benefits of intervention?

Incident Specific Considerations:

Incident information

- Consider using thermal imaging equipment for scanning when carrying out a scene survey.
- Identify number and last known position (LKP) of any occupants in need of rescue or assistance to evacuate.
- Continually monitor and assess the fire development for signs and symptoms of escalation.

Resource information

- Request appropriate medical resources at the earliest opportunity for the number of casualties, and the type and severity of their injuries.
- Request the attendance of the police and the utility supplier if illegal activity involving utility systems is identified or suspected.
- Secure sufficient firefighting media to enable the fire to be fully extinguished.

- Request sufficient and appropriate additional resources.
- Consider requesting external specialist resources appropriate to the type, size, and complexity of the incident.
- Confirm with fire control that required specialist resources and specialist advice have been requested or notified, such as police, ambulance, or environmental agencies.

Risk information

- Timber buildings
- Provide early protection of external boundaries to prevent fire-spread, flame extension and thermal radiation.
- Consider that rapid fire spread may occur at incomplete timber framed buildings.
- Consider cordon size due to thermal radiation produced by incomplete timber framed buildings.
- Consider that the structural integrity of incomplete timber framed buildings may fail rapidly.
- Tactical ventilation may accelerate fire growth and spread where timber framed buildings are incomplete.

Objectives

- Maintain the safety of all personnel, other responders and the public
- Save life and reduce harm
- Prevent escalation, contain and extinguish the fire considering all ignition sources

Tactical priorities

- Carry out any rescues or lifesaving actions.
- Develop and communicate a firefighting plan and ventilation strategy to all personnel.
- Put safety jets in place to protect firefighting teams and maintain safe access and egress.
- Consider taking action to prevent a serious escalation of the incident.
- Establish appropriate emergency arrangements for releasing personnel from cable entanglement.

Operational tactics

- Consider the appropriate speed of intervention to limit fire development.
- Select an appropriate firefighting method (i.e. cooling, smothering, starving, interrupting)
- Select an appropriate firefighting technique (e.g. direct firefighting, firebreaks, controlled burn)
- Select appropriate firefighting equipment (e.g. extinguisher, hose reel, main jet, cutting extinguisher)
- Select appropriate firefighting media (e.g. water, foam, dry powder, CO2)

Communication

- Ensure that crews are briefed on all firefighting activities and provide regular updates on progress.
- Establish communications to coordinate internal and external firefighting operations.
- Establish and maintain communication with responsible person on site.
- Inform all personnel and other responders which utilities have been isolated and if any remain operative.

Control

- Ensure that appropriate inner and outer cordons are established and communicated following an assessment of risk to all people present
- Establish a tool area in which to store tools that are not in use
- Ensure that everyone on the incident ground is fully briefed on the current hazards, specific risks and control measures including other agencies and organisations

Incident closure and handover

- Ensure that hazards, potential hazards, and control measures are identified when handing over responsibility for health and safety to the responsible person.
- Consider decontamination of personnel, PPE and equipment prior to redeployment
- Avoid movement of unnecessary items or record original position for investigation purposes.

References:

<https://nfcc.org.uk/?s=scenarios>