

SFJ FF9 - SQA Unit Code FA6P 04

Drive fire and rescue service vehicles



Overview

This unit is about driving a fire and rescue vehicle safely for non emergency driving, and to an incident under emergency response conditions. The unit also covers preparing the vehicle to drive and siting the vehicle safely and securely at incidents.

The unit is not intended to reflect the requirements for statutory driver testing.

Target Group

This unit is recommended for fire and rescue personnel who are required to drive Fire Service vehicles and who have undergone appropriate driver training and testing.

Performance criteria

Prepare to drive fire and rescue service vehicles

You must be able to:

- P1 check the vehicle to make sure it is fit for purpose and ready to drive on the public highway in accordance with organisational requirements
- P2 familiarise yourself with the vehicle's controls before driving
- P3 plan your route, taking account of the purpose of the journey and local conditions
- P4 make sure you and the vehicle are ready for the next operation on completion of incident duties
- P5 report any vehicle damage, defects and deficiencies to the relevant person within specified timescales

Drive fire and rescue service vehicles for non-emergency purposes

You must be able to:

- P6 drive manoeuvre and park the vehicle in accordance with relevant legislation and organisations requirements
- P7 communicate with people in a way that encourages understanding, goodwill, and co-operation and promotes a positive image of yourself and your organisation
- P8 drive the vehicle safely
- P9 make sure your records are in the agreed format, accurate, complete, legible and available to authorised users

Drive fire and rescue service vehicles for emergency response

You must be able to:

- P10 make the journey in the shortest time whilst minimising risks to life, property and the environment
- P11 comply with all relevant legislation and organisational requirements
- P12 drive the vehicle safely within its capabilities and your own limitations
- P13 use warning devices only when they are appropriate to the situation
- P14 ensure that an emergency response is justifiable and should be maintained
- P15 continuously assess driving conditions and modify your driving to minimise risk to yourself, colleagues and members of the public
- P16 manoeuvre and site the vehicle in the best position whilst avoiding undue risk to the vehicle, yourself and others
- P17 obtain assistance of colleagues to guide difficult manoeuvres
- P18 make sure that the siting and positioning of the vehicle does not interfere with access and operations
- P19 treat colleagues and members of the public in a way that promotes a positive image of yourself and your organisation
- P20 communicate with people in a way that encourages understanding,

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goodwill, and co-operation and promotes a positive image of yourself and your organisation

P21 make sure your records are in the agreed format, accurate, complete, legible and available to authorised users

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Legislative and organisational requirements

- K1 Own role and responsibilities in relation to health and safety in the workplace
- K2 Legislation and organisational policy covering driving
- K3 Legislation and organisational policy concerning emergency response
- K4 how and when to apply exemptions from the road traffic act
- K5 Purpose and implications of recording and reporting systems

Personal and Interpersonal

You need to know and understand:

- K6 how to communicate clearly and effectively with the range of people involved
- K7 how to treat colleagues and members of the public with respect and consideration, taking account of, and accepting, diversity
- K8 lines and methods of communication/reporting in the workplace
- K9 roles, responsibilities and limits of authority of self, others and other agencies in the workplace
- K10 effects of physical and physiological factors related to driving

Technical

You need to know and understand:

- K11 technical specifications or fire and rescue vehicles within own level of authority to drive
- K12 how and when to use vehicle warning devices and systems
- K13 the requirements for availability and operational readiness of vehicles
- K14 how to apply defensive driving techniques when driving to incidents
- K15 Factors to take into account when siting vehicles
- K16 Driving techniques for difficult/different driving conditions

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Regulations and guidelines:

- 1 Road Traffic Law
- 2 Civil Law (Duty of Care)
- 3 Health and Safety Law
- 4 Highway Code
- 5 Legal Exemptions
- 6 'Roadcraft'
- 7 Organisational policies, procedures and guidelines
- 8 Legislation relating to high speed or emergency response driver training

Driving conditions

- 1 Speed
- 2 Type of road
- 3 Traffic volume
- 4 Road surfaces conditions
- 5 Visibility
- 6 Weather conditions
- 7 Skid avoidance

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