
Overview

This unit is about you working as a team member to search for life and rescue people during fires and other incidents. The unit may cover working as an individual but will usually involve being part of a team to provide treatment to casualties.

Conducting a search for life

This covers your ability to search safely for life using the range of personal protective and rescue equipment available to you. **Examples** of situations could include within:

- 1 a structure
- 2 transport vehicle
- 3 compartment(s)
- 4 open spaces

Rescuing life involved in incidents

This covers your ability to rescue life (human or animal) safely using the range of personal protective and rescue equipment available to you. Examples of situations could include:

- 1 fire
- 2 collapsed or dangerous structures
- 3 hazardous substances
- 4 result of adverse weather
- 5 persons trapped in conditions wreckage
- 6 animal rescue

Providing treatment to casualties including (Basic life support and casualty handling)

This covers your ability to treat casualties, using the range of treatment and equipment available to you, within its capabilities and within your agreed level of authority, responsibility and expertise. **Examples** could include:

- 1 within an incident environment
- 2 approach by a casualty at an incident
- 3 removed from an incident

Supporting people involved in an operational incident

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Save and preserve endangered life

This covers your ability to provide both physical and emotional support to people directly and indirectly involved in an operational incident. This will include:

- 1 reassuring and comforting people
- 2 maintaining security at the scene of an incident
- 3 protecting their privacy and dignity
- 4 liaising with other agencies

Performance criteria

Conducting a search for life

- You must be able to:*
- P1 confirm what you have to do with the relevant people and keep them updated on progress
 - P2 make best use of your equipment, safely and within its limitations, to carry out the search and deal with known and anticipated risks
 - P3 conduct the search within your designated area
 - P4 when searching, take account of all factors that influence the end results

Rescuing life involved in incidents

- You must be able to:*
- P5 administer aid to minimise further injury and suffering
 - P6 make best use of your equipment, safely and within its limitations, to carry out the rescue
 - P7 help to take casualties to a place of safety
 - P8 when deceased are located, report to the relevant people and ensure the remains are protected from further harm

Providing treatment to casualties

- You must be able to:*
- P9 prioritise casualties according to their signs and symptoms
 - P10 give treatment to support the stabilisation of casualties' condition
 - P11 make best use of your equipment, safely and within its limitations, to provide treatment
 - P12 monitor casualties' condition until appropriate agencies take over
 - P13 reassure casualties in a calm and considerate way
 - P14 give clear information to relevant people on your actions and any treatment casualties have received

Supporting people involved in an operational incident

- You must be able to:*
- P15 support people in a controlled, considerate and compassionate way
 - P16 restrict other people's view of the incident where necessary
 - P17 report anything which may adversely affect people's safety to the relevant person

In general

- You must be able to:*
- P18 operate safely within your agreed level of authority and responsibility
 - P19 use and adhere to ongoing risk assessment to minimise risk to yourself and others
 - P20 inform relevant people about factors involving the safety of others

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Outcomes of effective performance

- You must be able to:*
- P21 communicate with people and agencies in a way that is:
 - P21.1 supportive
 - P21.2 constructive
 - P21.3 positive
 - P21.4 timely
 - P22 complete records and make sure they are in the agreed format, accurate, legible and available to authorised people

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Health and Safety

- K1 hazards and risks of the workplace affecting people and the environment in relation to search, rescue and casualty care operations
- K2 how to make and apply decisions based on the assessment of risk in the case of search, rescue and casualty care operations
- K3 how to apply practices that maximise the health, safety and welfare of yourself and others during search, rescue and casualty operations

Organisational

You need to know and understand:

- K4 fire service or other legislation relevant to carrying out search, rescue and casualty care
- K5 record systems specific to your role and their use
- K6 sources and availability of information

Personal and Interpersonal

You need to know and understand:

- K7 how to communicate clearly and effectively with the range of people involved in search, rescue and casualty care
- K8 how to treat colleagues and members of the public with respect and consideration, taking account of and accepting diversity
- K9 how to recognise and support distressed people
- K10 lines and methods of communication/reporting during search, rescue and casualty care
- K11 roles, responsibilities and limits of authority of yourself, others and other agencies during the course of search, rescue and casualty care operations

Technical

You need to know and understand:

- K12 capabilities and limitations of personal protective and operational equipment used during search, rescue and casualty care
- K13 how to select and use appropriate personal protective and operational equipment during search, rescue and casualty care
- K14 roles and responsibilities within the incident command system
- K15 the types of evidence and its importance
- K16 how to identify and preserve evidence including fatalities
- K17 relevant search procedures
- K18 relevant rescue procedures
- K19 how to prioritise casualties
- K20 how and when to provide immediate medical care
- K21 appropriate casualty handling techniques

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K22 protocols to determine the status and removal of the deceased

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