



Business Fire Safety FAQs

- 1. Will North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service still attend my business in the event of fire?**

Emergency response to your business will continue unaffected at this time. North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service recommend you review your Fire Risk Assessment to help reduce the risk of fire as much as possible.
- 2. Will North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service's response times to my business be affected?**

Attendance of appliances and emergency response times will not be affected at this time.
- 3. I run a residential care home; do I need to keep the same staffing levels on a night-time?**

Staffing levels should be sufficient for you to implement your fire evacuation plan. This is particularly important on a night-time with many residents in bed who may need assistance evacuating.
- 4. Do I still need to test the fire alarm?**

The fire alarm is one of the most important fire precautions in your property. Testing of the alarm ensures that it is working effectively, keeping you and your employees safe. Testing should continue as usual with further guidance available in the Government publications Fire Risk Assessment Sleeping Accommodation & LACORS.
- 5. I am closing my business for a temporary period; how do I safeguard against arson?**

Measures such as ensuring the outside of your premises are well lit, securing all entry points, removing combustible rubbish, moving waste bins and skips away from the buildings and securing the site perimeter all help to reduce the risk from arson.
- 6. Will North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue still respond to automatic fire alarms (AFA'S) through an alarm receiving centre (ARC)?**

Emergency response to your business will continue unaffected at this time. North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service will periodically review the attendances to AFA's using the current mobilising procedures. We recommend businesses ensure that all contact and keyholder details are current and communicated to the relevant ARC's, adding any other relevant information with regards to the current occupancy of the premises to assist in call filtering.
- 7. What do I need to consider when I re-open my business again?**

Reviewing your fire risk assessment should be the first step in re-opening your business. Consideration should be given to ensuring fire alarm and emergency lighting systems are tested and working correctly with all fire exits being unsecured and available for use.



NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

8. I run a residential care home and have a lot of agency staff now. Do I have to make sure they have fire safety training?

Yes. All staff, both existing and new should have an awareness of basic fire safety in your business. Importance should be placed actions to take in the event of fire and your fire evacuation plan. In the event of a fire, the actions of your staff will save lives.

9. I have very high stock levels now, is there anything I need to consider?

You should give thought to where and how you are storing any extra stock. Make sure fire exits do not become blocked and that combustible items are stored away from sources of ignition.

10. Where do I go for further advice?

Further general advice can be found on our website www.northyorksfire.gov.uk. For specific questions and guidance, you can use our 'Ask us a question' page.