



NFCC
National
Resilience



College of
Policing



Joint Working Principles for Urban Search and Rescue Support to Police in Disaster Victim Identification

These Joint Working Principles between the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC), The National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) and the College of Policing (CoP) are intended to provide guidance that will enable integrated working between the USAR hosting Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) and the Police in relation to the recovery of the deceased and human remains at large scale multiple fatality incidents, which will support the requirements of the Police forensic and Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) processes.

They are a statement of intent, and the aim of this guidance is to outline the operational structure, roles and responsibilities, operational processes, and associated working principles, for incidents involving large scale fatalities and complex recovery operations, where the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability provided through National Resilience and hosted within strategically located FRS, can provide effective and relevant support to the Police DVI response.

This will assist in the provision of a structure that enables and reinforces the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles and provides formal guidance on joint DVI operations.

These Joint Working Principles do not take away any responsibility, seek to replace, or affect, the normal command & control structures that exist between Police Forces or Fire and Rescue Services. They are simply a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial co-operation.

This document is not intended to create a legal relationship between the parties and no legal obligations or legal rights shall arise between the parties from these Joint Working Principles.



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1. INTRODUCTION

What is a Disaster Victim Identification Process?

A Disaster Victim Identification process involves the recovery and identification of the deceased and human remains in a dignified manner, taking account of the investigation process, the needs of the bereaved and the needs of the community.

Following a mass fatality incident, Police on behalf of HM Coroner (Procurator Fiscal – Scotland) will instigate the recovery of the deceased and human remains from the scene of the incident. This will include whole victims, body parts and human material also known as Residual Human Tissue (RHT).

The Process will consist of the following elements, with each element relying on the provision of accurate information and continuity;

- Casualty Bureau
- Ante Mortem Collection (Family Liaison Officers)
- Victim Recovery
- Mortuary Investigation
- Reconciliation Process
- ID Commission – HM Coroner
- Repatriation

1.1 Aim

The aim of this document is to provide guidance that will enable integrated working between the Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) and Police in relation to the recovery of the deceased and human remains at large scale multiple fatality incidents, which will support the requirements of the Police forensic and Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) processes and adhere to the overarching principles laid down by Lord Justice Clarke.

Lord Justice Clarke - General Principles

- Provision of honest and, as far as possible, accurate information at all times and at every stage
- Respect for the deceased and the bereaved
- A sympathetic and caring approach throughout
- The avoidance of mistaken identification

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of this guidance are to outline the operational structure, roles and responsibilities, operational processes, and associated working principles, for incidents involving large scale fatalities and complex recovery operations, where the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability provided through National Resilience and hosted within strategically located FRS, can provide effective and relevant support to the Police DVI response.

This will assist in the provision of a structure that enables and reinforces the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles and provides formal guidance on joint DVI operations.

2. SCOPE

2.1 Devolved Administrations

The content of this guidance has been developed predominantly in relation to the USAR capability and its activities within England and Wales. However the underpinning principles contained within the document and its associated guidance are equally applicable to all Devolved Administrations and maybe considered as a framework to support USAR involvement in wider UK operations.

2.2 Legal Aspects

The Police and Fire and Rescue Service operate under legislation that determines their respective responsibilities at emergency incidents. The Policing and Crime Act 2017 legislates that the Emergency Services must collaborate. This document seeks to facilitate such collaboration.

2.2.1 The Police Service

The Police Service has the responsibility for the recovery of the deceased and human remains to assist the Coroner with their enquiry into the death of an individual under the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, and the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

However at large scale incidents involving multiple fatalities, access may prove to be difficult and hazardous due to a structural collapse or from an emergency involving road vehicles, trains and aircraft. Under these circumstances it may be necessary for the Fire and Rescue Service to provide support to the Police DVI operations.

2.2.2 Fire and Rescue Service

In accordance with the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, The Civil Contingencies Act 2004, the Fire and Rescue Services (Emergencies) (England) Order 2007, and the National Mutual Aid Protocol (FRS Circular 42/2006); Fire and Rescue Services have powers and duties to respond to a wide range of eventualities. This includes incidents other than fire and road traffic accidents.

Fire and Rescue Services have duties to respond to emergencies due to the collapse or instability of a building or other structure, and emergencies involving a train, tram or aircraft (excluding tunnels) which is likely to require a Fire and Rescue Authority to use its resources beyond the scope of its day to day operations. The USAR capability was developed to respond to incidents of this nature, and has the personnel, skills, and specialist resources required to do so, in a safe and timely manner.

This document should be read in conjunction with The USAR Concept of Operations Document and USAR National Operational Guidance documentation.

2.3 Preparedness

To develop effective joint operational processes and interoperability, thereby developing clear understanding of roles and responsibilities at incidents involving large scale fatalities where the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability can assist and support the Police DVI response during the retrieval and investigation phase of an incident, every effort should be made to maximize joint training opportunities.

The Urban Search and Rescue National Resilience Capability teams and the National Resilience Assurance Team facilitate periodic validation exercises across the UK to undertake assurance of the national capability, this is in addition to local training exercises held by individual USAR Teams. Police DVI teams and managers are encouraged to participate in this exercise programme.

The location of the USAR teams is based upon a national risk assessment process that includes the locations and predicated response times to pre-identified risk sites and population centres across England and Wales. The USAR teams are strategically positioned within the following Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) areas, to ensure that a range of pre-determined response options can be met:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Avon | 10. Lincolnshire |
| 2. Buckinghamshire | 11. London X 4 |
| 3. Devon & Somerset | 12. Merseyside |
| 4. Essex | 13. Norfolk |
| 5. Hampshire | 14. Tyne & Wear |
| 6. Hereford & Worcester | 15. Wales |
| 7. Kent | 16. West Midlands |
| 8. Lancashire | 17. West Sussex* |
| 9. Leicestershire | 18. West Yorkshire |

*Logistics Management Team who also provide local and cross border USAR response.

2.4 Mobilisation

National Police mobilisation will be coordinated by the National Police Coordination Centre (NPoCC), located in London. NPoCC has the capacity and capability to scale up for significant operational mobilisation demand when required. NPoCC's strategic lead acts as the national mobilisation coordinator (NMC) when NPoCC is required to coordinate large-scale mobilisation in response to spontaneous events.

Fire Service Mobilisation, Co-ordination, and Monitoring of National Resilience assets is undertaken by National Resilience Fire Control (NRFC) which is located within the Lead Authority for National Resilience: Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority.

The NCAF Electronic Support System (ESS) provides a 24/7 overview of the availability of National Resilience assets. On receipt of a request for assistance the National Resilience Assurance Team (NRAT) supported by the Capability Lead/National Strategic Advisory Team (NSAT) duty officer will facilitate the mobilisation of assets for the duration of an incident. The NRAT Operations Room will be established within the Lead Authority Joint Control Centre for the duration of any protracted incident.

This is undertaken within the remit outlined in the National Coordination and Advisory Framework (NCAF) which provides robust and flexible response arrangements to emergencies that can be adapted to the nature, scale, and requirements of the incident. The framework is part of the mechanism to provide the coordination of Fire & Rescue assets during major incidents. NCAF enables decision makers, both locally and nationally, to receive clear and unambiguous advice on how best to co-ordinate specialist Fire and Rescue Service capabilities, in response to relevant emergencies.

Protocol for requesting USAR resources (FRS in attendance):

- The Scene Evidence Recovery Manager (SERM) should liaise with the FRS Incident Commander and inform them of the nature of the assistance required (the effect required) If a known USAR capability (items of equipment or procedure) is required this should be stated to the FRS Incident Commander.
- The FRS Incident Commander will make a decision as to whether the resources they have in attendance or that have been requested already are sufficient. Additional advice is available to Incident Commanders from a member of the USAR Capability Team which can be accessed via National Resilience Fire Control.
- If specific USAR resources are required to deal with the request, the FRS Incident Commander will request a USAR response through their local FRS Fire Control
- On receipt of a request for USAR assistance, the affected FRS control will mobilise the appropriate local USAR resources to the incident (if available) and/or request USAR assistance via NRFC
- The NR Capability Team may elect to recommend the deployment of a Tactical Advisor in advance of the USAR deployment to attend the incident who will liaise with DVI to assess the type of equipment and numbers of personnel required.

Protocol for requesting USAR resources (FRS not in attendance):

- The SERM should request a Local Authority FRS duty officer via the FRS control room. The name and contact details of a designated Police point of contact (POC) should be passed onto the FRS control room.
- The SERM should liaise with the FRS duty officer and inform them of the nature of the required effect
- If a known USAR capability (equipment or procedure) is required this should be stated to the FRS duty officer
- The FRS duty officer will decide whether the resources they have within their host FRS are sufficient to achieve the required effect
- On receipt of a request for specific USAR assistance, the affected FRS control will mobilise the appropriate local USAR resources to the incident (if available within the affected FRS) or request USAR assistance via NRFC
- A USAR Tactical Advisor may be deployed in advance of the USAR deployment to assess the type of equipment and numbers of personnel required.

2.5 Response and Recovery

Process	Phase
RESPONSE	Reaction Rescue Retrieval & Investigation
RECOVERY	Relief Remediation Regeneration

This document and associated guidance encompasses the Response phase of a large-scale incident. During the rescue phase the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) will retain primacy within the inner cordon for rescues (as per current major incident SOPs), however the police have primacy for the Retrieval and Investigation of physical evidence and the deceased and human remains.

Therefore, where practicable, Incident Commanders, Sector Commanders & USAR Managers will need to liaise and plan with the SERM, and/or Bomb Scene Manager (BSM) if terrorism is suspected, or the appropriately nominated individual at the earliest opportunity to consider the Police DVI needs.

If during the Retrieval and Investigation phase there are any continuing DVI requirements that exceed the Police's capability to provide a safe system of work, to affect the recovery of the deceased and human remains safely and expediently, they will similarly liaise with the FRS.

Police will normally ask the host FRS to request the support of USAR in body recovery operations as outlined within this document and associated guidance. As USAR are a Fire and Rescue Service asset, this would be in line with the National Mutual Aid Protocol, National Coordination Advisory Framework, and the USAR Concept of Operations Document.

3– ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

3.1 Incident Command and Control

The overall incident command structure for both Police and Fire and Rescue will follow their respective standard formats for operational incidents.

FRS Incident Command Guidance is detailed within two documents;

- National Operational Guidance – Incident Command
- The Foundation for Incident Command – National Operational Guidance Programme.

Both can be found at www.ukfrs.com

Police personnel will respond in accordance with the Authorised Professional Practice Major Incident and DVI Guidance at all operational incidents.

It is possible that DVI and USAR teams working at an incident may not be members of the force/service in which the incident has occurred. In these circumstances USAR and Police DVI teams will operate on a functional basis on behalf of the Incident Commander of the affected Force/Service

In line with standard protocols for incident command;

Strategic Command - Will set strategic objectives for the operation

Tactical Command - Will establish the tactical plan based around the Strategic objectives

Operational Commanders - Will implement the plans on the incident ground.

It is essential that the appointed commanders of each service, operating at every level, liaise with each other at the earliest opportunity. Operational Commanders, particularly, must make every effort to achieve the closest possible co-ordination to agree their priorities by meeting face-to-face.

3.2 Roles and Responsibilities

During any multi-agency incident, each agency will operate under their relevant recognised command structure, within which a number of functions and roles will exist. For an incident involving USAR and DVI activities in the recovery of deceased and human remains, the following roles and responsibilities have been identified:

3.2.1 Police

Senior Investigating officer (SIO) - Responsible for the overall investigation of the incident.

Senior Identification Manager (SIM) - Responsible, in liaison with the Coroner and SIO for the recovery and identification of the deceased and human remains.

Scene Evidence Recovery Manager (SERM) - Responsible for the coordination of the retrieval and investigation efforts at the scene on behalf of the SIO & SIM. A SERM should be deployed in the initial phase of the incident in order to start liaising/integrating with the operational incident commanders. In addition to the SIO and SIM, The SERM will also be in close liaison with the following police resources and/or personnel:

Crime Scene Manager (CSM)- This officer will be responsible for managing all aspects of forensic recovery and will advise USAR teams on any forensic requirements.

Police Search Advisor (POLSA) - This officer will be responsible for coordinating the police search of the scene and will be responsible for the deployment of police search teams, including specialist under water, confined space and working at height trained and equipped officers. The POLSA will need to liaise very closely with FRS resources in relation to gridding and sectoring to ensure consistency and avoid any confusion or duplication of search areas.

Bomb Scene Manager (BSM) - This Police officer is responsible for the control of any scene where an explosive device has been used. They report directly to the SIO and support the Bomb Scene Examiners and are part of the Forensic Management Team (FMT) within the scene to collect all potential evidence.

Recovery Team Leader (DVI) - This officer will provide advice on the method and procedures to be employed in the recovery of the deceased and human remains and will be responsible for the deployment of DVI Recovery Teams into the scene.

DVI Recovery Teams - These officers and staff are trained to recover the deceased and human remains from scenes in an evidentially sound manner whilst having due regard for the dignity and respect of the deceased and the overall aim of the investigation. Generally, such teams will consist of 6 members including a scribe, photographer and 4 manual handlers to assist in the removal of debris, affixing continuity labels and safe recovery process. When deployed each team will be responsible for providing and completing, associated documentation, photographic equipment and evidence, body and fragment bags, and other necessary equipment to affect the recovery.

Continuity throughout the DVI process is vital, not only for the integrity of the investigation, but also to provide an element of reassurance to grieving relatives. It is for this reason that every effort must be taken to ensure that continuity is provided in relation to;

- Location found (time and by whom)
- Recognition of Life Extinct (time and by whom)
- Victim/Fragment recovery and subsequent movement (time and by whom)

Police DVI Recovery Teams will be responsible for the supply and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as dictated by the forensic and/or safety requirements of the scene or recovery. The SERM may ask for the supply of a USAR safety officer to oversee their work within a certain sector where there are risks which relate to the USAR environment or USAR operations being undertaken.

3.2.2 Fire and Rescue Service & Urban Search and Rescue

FRS Incident Commander - The Incident Commander will exercise authority over Fire and Rescue Service resources on the incident ground. They will ensure that adequate resources are available and that arrangements have been made to control them.

The Urban Search and Rescue Tactical Advisor (USAR TacAd) - has the role of providing advice for the effective management of USAR operations within the Fire and Rescue Service command structure. This role is provided by an officer who has an extensive knowledge and understanding of USAR operations and the capabilities of the teams.

The USAR Tactical Advisor is the key liaison to the Incident Commander for all matters relating to USAR capability. The TacAd may operate between all levels of command to provide advice.

Within the National Coordination Advisory Framework, Tac Ads will not be mobilised to assume command, however, in the event of a request for USAR assets, where there is no other Fire and Rescue Service presence at the Incident, the USAR Tactical Advisor is likely to be the senior FRS officer in attendance, and would therefore assume overall responsibility for the FRS assets in attendance.

USAR Unit Leader - USAR Unit Leaders are nominated Crew or Watch managers who have direct responsibility for their USAR unit personnel. At an incident, they will comply with the standard requirements for all oncoming assets. The Unit Leader will manage a unit of 9 USAR technicians.

USAR Technician

USAR technicians are deemed sector competent in accordance with the USAR maintenance of skills framework. They respond to a range of major incidents and provide specialist/technical knowledge and skills. The range of specialist skill sets includes confined space working, shoring specialists, canine search specialists, chainsaw operators, and hot cutting operators. The USAR Unit Leader will monitor and supervise specialist rescue operations on behalf of an Incident or Sector Commander.

3.3 DVI Interoperability

Once a casualty has been discovered and declared life extinct by a suitably qualified person, the task of recovering the deceased falls under the responsibility of the police acting on behalf of the Coroner. The police may call upon the assistance of the FRS to provide a safe system of work and to assist in the physical extraction if required.

Outside of equipment carried on a frontline fire appliance, a range of specialist capabilities are available within the USAR capability. USAR teams are strategically located around the country, and can mobilise specific resources according to the response required.

Once the location of a victim has been identified, the location may be marked to ensure it can be located again in the event of further collapse, or the requirement to withdraw from the worksite. This will be done using approved marking systems and Worksite Identification cards as described in **Appendix A**.

When USAR assets are utilised at any incident involving multiple fatalities, the recovery of the deceased will take place within one of the following categories:

Category 1 - No difficult access or safety issues relating to retrieval

Police DVI teams will be able to recover without USAR assistance.

Category 2 - The Retrieval is from a restricted access but safe/stable environment

Consideration will be given to the requirements for confined space working in accordance with the Confined Space regulations, and appropriate Safe Systems of Work will be implemented if required. Circumstance may be appropriate for deployment of a smaller Police Team supported by USAR technicians - for example a team of four comprising of 2 Police DVI and 2 USAR team members.

Category 3 - The retrieval is from a difficult access area, not safe or stable and/or rescues still ongoing.

These scenes are likely to be extremely hazardous and the default position will be that USAR technicians are deployed to conduct the initial retrieval and continuity using the National USAR Casualty Extrication Form. Once recovered into a safe area they will hand over to a Police DVI team who will then complete the recovery using INTERPOL documentation to ensure continuity.

Only in exceptional circumstances will consideration be given to the deployment of police personnel in a Category 3 retrieval.

For example, at an explosion where terrorism is suspected and there is an immediate requirement to examine/recover a suspect in order to prevent an on-going and realistic threat to life in a fast-time investigation. In these circumstances, it is likely that a National Inter-agency Liaison Officer (NILO) may also be involved in the inter-agency communication, and decision making process.

As part of the initial sector/scene assessment – the Scene Evidence Recovery Manager and USAR Tactical Advisor should consider which category the retrieval falls into. Where the retrievals fall into category Two or Three above; the SERM and USAR Tactical Advisor should consider the most appropriate resource, based on the assessment of risk, the specialist nature of the retrieval, and the level of training, experience and equipment required to determine the make-up of teams to be deployed.

No deployment should take place until the risks have been fully assessed by the Safety and Health Advisory Group and approved by Strategic Command, and all other options have been considered.

In the event of a category three recovery being carried out entirely by the USAR Unit, they will provide the following information-

- Time of recovery
- Specific location using Global Positioning System (GPS) co-ordinates if obtainable
- Images of Recovery (If possible, context, location and perspective, URN/Extraction Form, Recovery process)
- Recovery is recorded using standardised Police DVI forms to ensure continuity of evidence, and the USAR Form 09 Casualty Extrication Form will be used to record details of the hand over for continuity (details of the USAR recovery team, details of the Police Team taking over, time, location, circumstances etc)- **Appendix B**

In all situations where it is anticipated that there are casualties to be rescued, the incident will be in the rescue phase and FRS/USAR will have priority to carry out rescue operations. The saving of life is the priority for all emergency services, however, the scene of an incident will be treated as a crime scene until it is proved otherwise.

Inter-agency communication will be vital in order to agree and establish a recovery strategy including dedicated entry and exit scene control systems, by establishing this at an early stage of the incident it will be possible to maintain the integrity of the scene, without compromising Rescue or Retrieval phase operations. To assist in this process, early consideration should be given to establishing a Scene Evidence Recovery Group. This will include representatives from USAR, Police and relevant stakeholders e.g. transport investigation branches as shown in **Appendix C** - recommended command structure and Scene Evidence Recovery Group.

A wide range of decision making models exist, including specific models used by the individual emergency services. Such models exist to practically support decision makers working under difficult circumstances and a guiding principle is that they should not be over complicated. One of the difficulties facing commanders from different organisations in a joint emergency response is how to bring together the available information, reconcile objectives and then make effective decisions together. The **JDM** (Joint Decision Model shown at Figure 2, has been developed to enable this to happen. This model should be used to form the basis of the agenda for any meeting of the Scene Evidence Recovery Group.



A major incident of this type may dictate that a Strategic Holding Area (SHA) or an initial RVP is established for teams to be held and briefed, prior to attending the scene. Whilst rescue operations are ongoing it will be the decision of the Fire and Rescue Service Incident Commander, in liaison with the USAR Tactical Advisor and Unit Leader to consider facilitating Police teams to access the scene of operations to recover fatalities and take up forensic opportunities.

If during the Retrieval and Investigation phase there are any continuing DVI requirements that exceed the Police's capability to safely and expediently to affect the recovery of the deceased and human remains, they will similarly liaise with the FRS

4 – POST INCIDENT CONSIDERATIONS

In the event of major incidents a wide range of both physical, psychological and safety hazards may be faced by both the public and emergency responders; all of which need to be managed appropriately if the safety of staff and the public is not to be put at unacceptable risk.

All emergency responders need to ensure that their plans, including pre-deployment assessments, and major incident response, facilitates quick identification and management of hazards in all stages of an incident from initial report to recovery. Further supportive guidance on achieving this within the Police service whilst meeting health and safety requirements is given in HSE guidance "Striking the Balance" and associated guidance.

4.1 Occupational Health and Welfare

Health surveillance and health monitoring following potential exposure to physical and chemical hazards on a deployment will be developed from the scene hazard profile and related activity risk assessment. In addition, the DVI role carries potential psychological exposure including 'Post Traumatic Stress Disorder' (PTSD). Forces and Services must also ensure that a robust and auditable process is in place to manage these physical and psychological hazards both during and post deployment. Forces and Services should have Occupational Health and trained psychologists to support this process.

Working together in a formal joint multi-agency way on safety can only serve to promote professional collaboration on difficult safety issues, ensuring the best use of health and safety expertise and resources. All of which enhances the safety of the incident response and informs the decision-making process to the benefit of those responding. Collaboration on safety and wellbeing should be considered for all staff involved in the recovery process.

4.2 Recording of incident debrief arrangements

Many post event debriefs and inquiries have highlighted specific learning points to improve future response efforts. Single service debriefs and post-event investigations have similarly highlighted the need for internal improvements.

In order to facilitate operational debriefing and to provide evidence for inquiries (whether judicial, public, technical, inquest or of some other form), it is essential to keep records. All agencies must ensure that appropriate de-briefing processes have been established.

The Scene Evidence Recovery Group should also consider at an early stage the welfare of staff both during and post the incident. They should ensure that appropriate arrangements have been put in place for staff. This may include a wide range of support mechanisms through Occupational Health Units such as;

- Appropriate Welfare and Occupational Health Support

- Defusing
- Structured Debriefs

4.3 Disclosure and Freedom of Information

The disclosure of unused material in criminal cases forms an essential part of any policing investigation. It still remains as 'one of the most important – as well as one of the most misunderstood and abused- of the procedures relating to criminal trials' according to Lord Justice Gross (2011).

Debrief information could be subject to disclosure and form part of the unused material. In deciding whether the material satisfies the disclosure test the investigator must pay attention to material that has potential to undermine the prosecution case or assist the defence. A debrief may well prove to be relevant but the person best placed to decide is the officer in charge of the case. Hence, debrief material should be made available to the officer in charge so that an informed decision can be made. Debrief material includes not only the debrief report but also individual feedback and notes made by any party at the debrief.

5. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis by NFCC, NPCC, CoP and UK DVI representatives to determine whether it remains fit for purpose. The representatives should consider any action points from debrief or evaluation processes following an incident or exercise where the guidance has been implemented. The outcome of the review and any resulting changes to the document and its associated guidance should be reported to each organisation through the representative's management structure.

GLOSSARY of TERMS

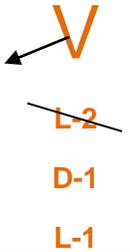
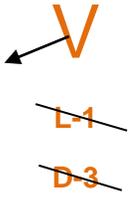
BSM	Bomb Scene Manager
C&C	Command and Control
CoP	College of Policing
CSM	Crime Scene Manager
DVI	Disaster Victim Identification
DVR Team	Disaster Victim Recovery Team
FRS	Fire and Rescue Service
FMT	Forensic Management Team
HART	Hazard Area Response Team
JSHAC	Joint Safety Health Advisory Cell
LACE	Line Access Casualty Extrication
MFCG	Mass Fatality Coordination Group
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NFCC	National Fire Chiefs Council
NPCC	National Police Chiefs Council
NCAF	National Coordination Advisory Framework
NRAT	National Resilience Assurance Team
NSAT	National Strategic Advisory Team
POLSA	Police Search Advisor
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
RA	Risk Assessment
RHT	Residual Human Tissue

RLE	Recognition Life Extinct
RPE	Respiratory Protective Equipment
SERM	Senior Evidence Recovery Manager
SERG	Scene Evidence Recovery Group
SIM	Senior Identification Manager
SIO	Senior investigating officer
UKDVI	United Kingdom Disaster Victim Identification
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
VAA	Victim Audit Area
VR	Victim Recovery

Appendix A – USAR Victim Marking System

Victim marking is used to identify potential or known casualty (Live or Deceased) locations that are not obvious to rescuers, e.g. under debris or entombed. The following requirements should be considered before applying victim marking;

- When USAR personnel are not remaining on site to immediately commence operations
- At incidents involving multiple casualties or where any confusion on exact location exists
- Markings are made as close as physically possible to the actual surface point identified as the location of the casualty
- Material used can be spray paint or builder's crayon (as long as the colour is highly visible and contrasting to the background)
- The size should be approximately 50cm high, and applied as shown below;

Description	Example
<p>Large "V" applied to location of all potential victims – live or deceased.</p> <p>Optional arrow from "V" to clarify location if required.</p>	
<p>Under the "V" either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An "L" indicating confirmed live victim, followed by a number (e.g. "2") indicating the number of live victims at that location – "L-2," "L-3" etc, and/or - A "D" indicating confirmed deceased victim, followed by a number (e.g. "3") indicating the number of deceased victims at that location – "D-3", "D-4", etc. 	
<p>On removal of any casualty, the relevant marking is crossed out and updated (if required) below: e.g. "L-2" may be crossed out and an "L-1" applied indicating only one Live victim remaining.</p>	
<p>When all "L" and/or "D" markings are crossed out, all <u>known</u> victims have been removed.</p>	

Worksite ID cards

Each USAR team is issued with 25 pre-printed cards, each with an individual ID number. This gives a quick and easy method of identifying a worksite and gives a precise location for personnel and equipment deployments.

The card will also act as permanent risk assessment process for each worksite. The cards are A4 in size, orange in colour and laminated for ease of writing with a chinagraph pencil. A duplicate white copy of the Worksite ID is maintained in the USAR Coordination Cell and can be used to brief oncoming teams or partner agencies

USAR WORKSITE ID						
SECTOR		LOCATION				
		GPS				
TRIAGE CATEGORY	A	B	C	D	E	F
ASR LEVEL	2	3	4	5	MERSEYSIDE	
IN PROGRESS					100	
COMPLETED						
MARK ON PLAN ABOVE	WORK (being undertaken)			LIGHTSTICK CODES		
Entry point Escape routes Hazards Safe Zones Restricted Zones Casualty locations	Search		Working at height	Red	= Hazard	
	Shoring		Confined space	Green	= Safe Route	
	L & M		Chainsaw	Orange	= Area of Interest	
	SSS		Hot cutting	White	= Illumination	
				Blue	= Monitoring Equipment	
TEAM(S) ON SITE:						

RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST		
HAZARDS RISKS	RISK / \ X	CONTROL MEASURES
SECONDARY COLLAPSE		
GAZES		
ELECTRIC		
WATER		
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES		
SMOKE/DUST		
BIOHAZARDS		
EXPLOSIVE/FLAMMABLE		
POOR LIGHTING		
ASBESTOS		
RESTRICTED ACCESS		
FALLING OBJECTS		
SHARP PROTRUSIONS		
OXYGEN DEFICIENT		
SECONDARY DEVICES		
RADIATION		
OTHER		
DATE & TIME RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATED		
NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING		

Appendix B - USAR Form 09 Casualty Extrication Form

USAR FORM 09 – CASUALTY EXTRICATION FORM



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Resilience

WORKSITE ID

Ref No	Insert number	DD	MMM	YYYY

This form is to be used to record all casualties and fatalities removed from an operational worksite by USAR Personnel. It should be handed into the Unit Leader/Group Response Management team.

1. Site Information	
1.a	Address/Location
1.b	Worksite Description
1.c	Casualty/body part location (building, floor, position)
1.d	GPS Coordinates (if not in building)

2. Casualty Information		
2.a	Live (X)	Fatality (X)
2.b	Date of casualty extrication	DD MMM
2.c	Time of casualty extrication	HH:MM
2.d	Casualty Details	

3. Handover Information			
3.a	FRS Unit/name (s) recovering the casualty		
3.b	Casualty Handed to (insert name alongside agency)		New Casualty Reference No.
	Ambulance	TIME	
	HART		
	Police		
	Other		
4.	Completed by:	Position:	
5.	Handed to:	Position:	

Date	Status	Version No	Section	Page
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Appendix C – Recommended Command Structure and Scene Evidence Recovery Group

