

Pathways to Competence and International Joint Education Committee (InJEC)

Jim Green - BARTA Director of Operations and Animal Rescue Tactical Advisor

National Operational Guidance



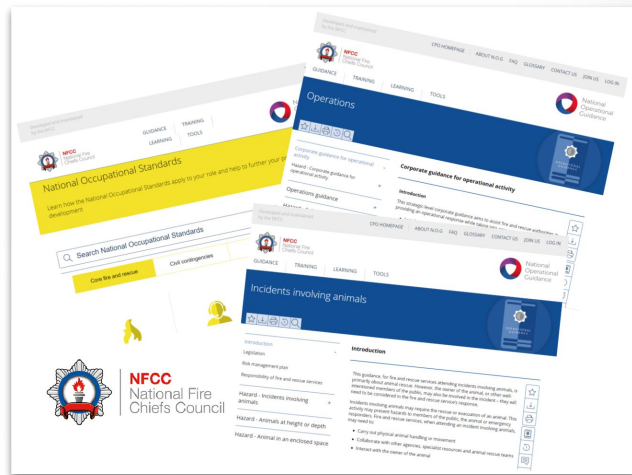
Strategic and Tactical Requirements

- Hazard Knowledge
- Risk Awareness

Role Specific Training

Maintenance of Competency

UKFRS National Operational Guidance and National Occupational Standards



NOG - Operations

NOG - Incidents Involving Animals

NOS - Plan and Prepare for Incidents Involving Animals

NOS - Respond to Incidents Involving Animals

<https://www.ukfrs.com/guidance/incidents-involving-animals>

What does the Operations NOG say about animals?



Hazard Knowledge

Animals may be encountered at any incident; their presence and behaviour may have an impact on the incident, or on the emergency responders in attendance.

Animals may present hazards such as:

- Obstructing emergency responders
- Physical injuries

Operations NOG: Strategic actions



Fire and Rescue Services should:

- Ensure that information about animals, where held in a permanent location, is included in Site-Specific Risk Information (SSRI)



PATHWAYS TO COMPETENCE

Operations NOG: Tactical actions



Incident Commander

Incident Commanders should:

- Identify and communicate the presence of animals, and any associated hazards, to emergency responders and the public
- Minimise the stress response of animals
- Seek specialist advice or assistance for dealing with animals (internal/external)
- Avoid, contain or control animals if necessary

Refer to Incidents Involving Animals NOG for more detail...





Incidents Involving Animals NOG...

Incidents involving animals may require the rescue or evacuation of an animal. This activity may present hazards to members of the public, the animal or emergency responders.

Fire and rescue services, when attending an incident involving animals, may need to:

- Carry out physical animal handling or movement
- Collaborate with other agencies, specialist resources and animal rescue teams
- Interact with the owner of the animal
- Deal with members of the public

Operational Competencies...



Identify levels of responder competency based on:

- Species involved
- The nature of an incident involving animals
- The physical environment the animal is in

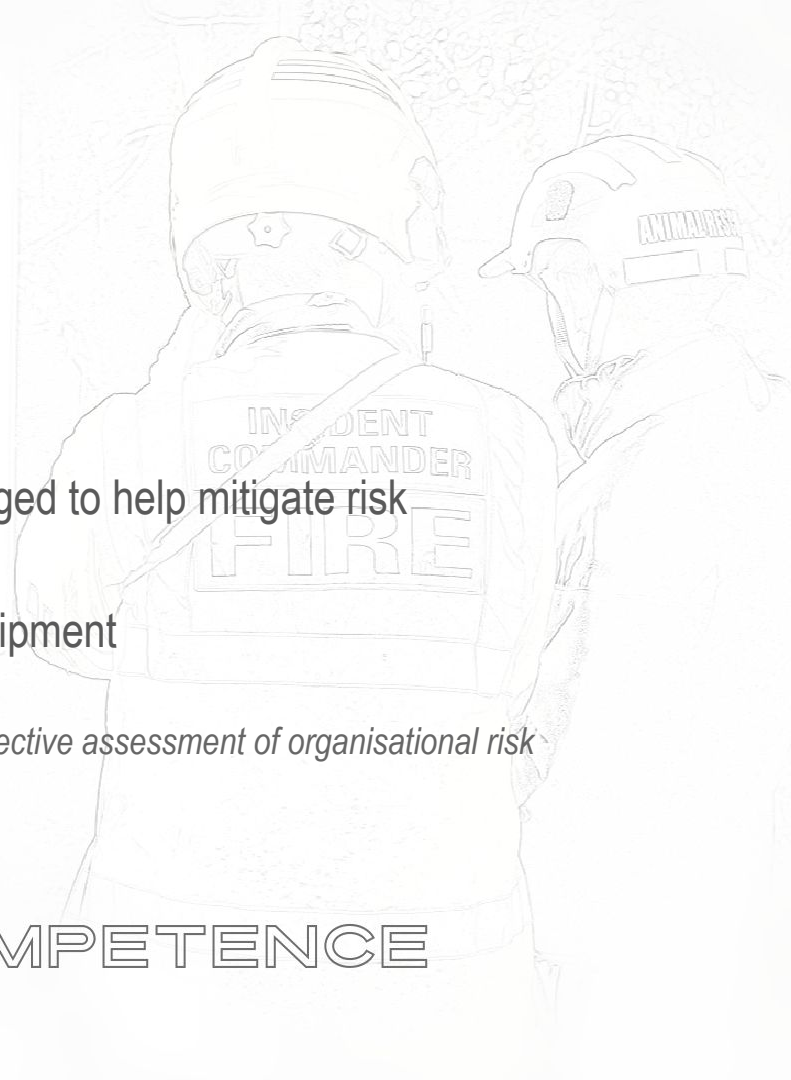
Some of the control measures in this guidance, for example the techniques for moving or lifting animals, require specialist skills.

Summaries of those techniques have been provided as a reminder about their use, but should not be seen as a substitute for training and practice.

Steps to NOG Compliance

1. Identify foreseeable community risk
2. Identify foreseeable operational risks
3. Service Integrated Risk Management Plan *
4. Consider legislative responsibilities
5. Determine agencies or specialists who might be engaged to help mitigate risk
6. Review capabilities of responders
7. Create a response model with associated training/equipment

** Foundation training will support the understanding required to carry out effective assessment of organisational risk*



Incidents Involving Animals - Interpretation of the NOG

10 Steps to Situational Awareness

1. Consider Species
2. Assess Situation
3. Consider Environment
4. Impact of People
5. Determine the Task
6. Identify Additional Animal Risks
7. Planning
8. Determine PPE and Equipment
9. Appropriate Skill Sets
10. Communicate Actions

Tactical decision makers at all levels, emergency planners, organisational managers



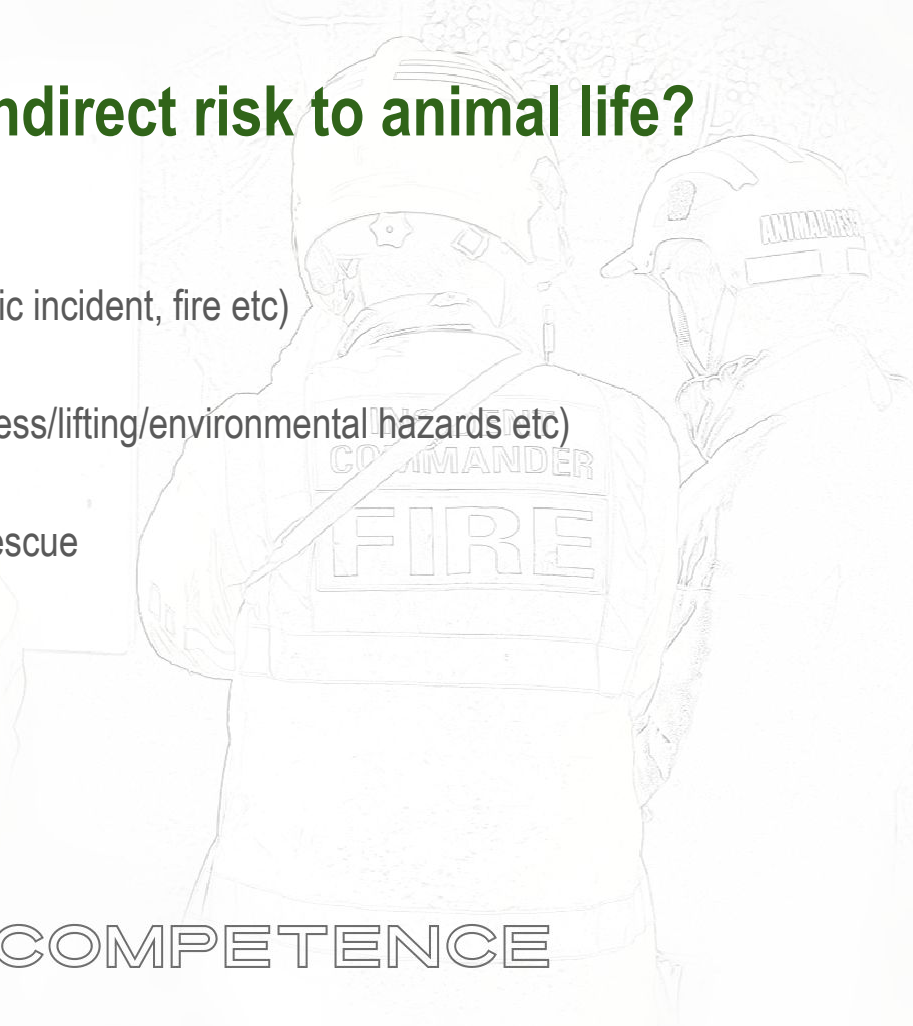
Identifying situations involving direct risk to animal life?

- Physical entrapment or entanglements
- Fires in transport, structures or wildland situations
- Water incidents (swiftwater, flooding, tidal)
- Animals loose on live transport networks (road/rail)

Identifying situations involving indirect risk to animal life?

Indirect life or animal welfare risk:

- Displacement following other emergency (road traffic incident, fire etc)
- Animals loose and uncontained
- Task exceeds other agencies capabilities (gain access/lifting/environmental hazards etc)
- Marooned at height, at depth or in water
- Form part of a household requiring evacuation or rescue
- Animal compatibility at shelter or refuge
- Biosecurity at shelters for evacuated animals



Identifying situations involving direct risk to human life?

Physical harm may occur:

- Trapped or injured with an animal
- Injuries may be caused by an animal
- Attempting rescue of animals, whilst ill equipped for task or environment
- Interacting with an animal in distress without knowledge of likely behavioural characteristics and defence mechanisms



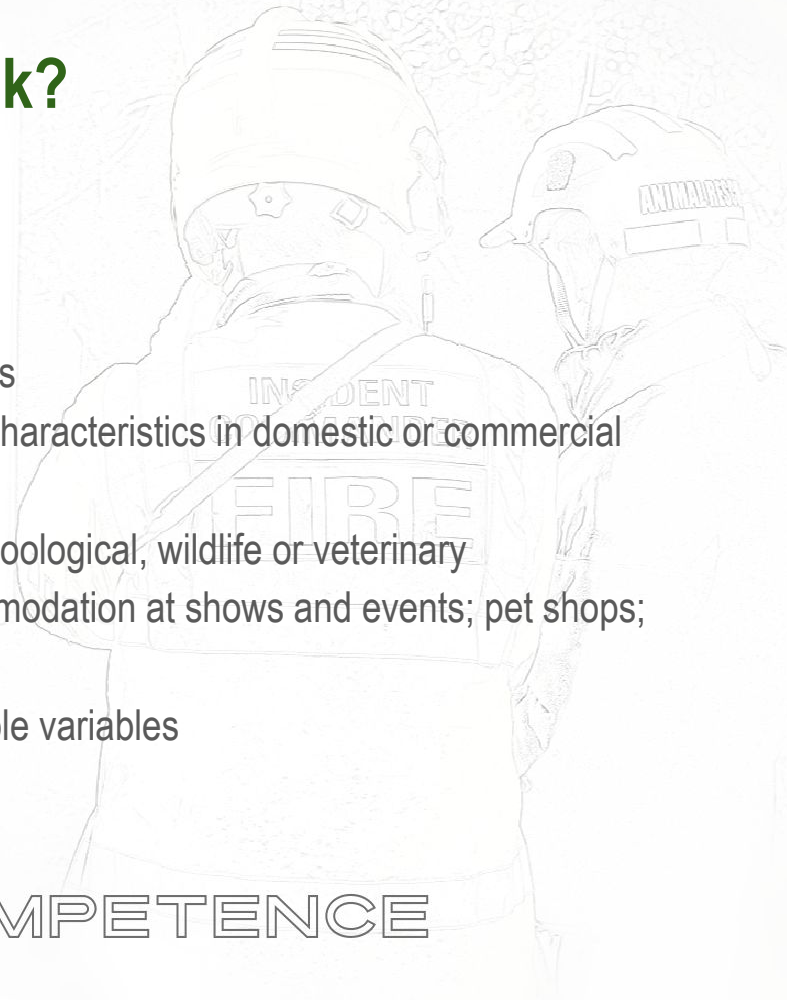
Identifying situations involving direct risk to human life?

Physical harm may occur through lack of organisational knowledge or understanding:

- Interacting with an animal in distress without training in likely behavioural characteristics and defence mechanisms
- Animals posing a public safety hazard and no time critical response capability by emergency services
- No joined up interagency plan for incidents involving animals or understanding of hazards and risk
- Persons unwilling to evacuate a risk area without their animals - injured by environmental factors

What might constitute operational risk?

- Rescue from entrapment or entanglement
- Rescue or evacuation from flooding or fire
- Decontamination of animals during an emergency event
- Interaction with canines during human medical emergencies
- Encounters with exotics or species with aggressive breed characteristics in domestic or commercial settings
- Emergencies in animal establishments; research centres; zoological, wildlife or veterinary establishments; farming, studs, raceyards; temporary accommodation at shows and events; pet shops; shelters
- Emergencies during transportation; multiple species, multiple variables



National guidance encourages specialist advice and skill sets...

Safety

Species

Casualty
Centred
Rescue

Tactics

Equipment
and PPE

Techniques

Leadership



Who decides what these skill sets
look like or are capable of?

BARTA stakeholders and collaborators



Identify training or resource requirement

Select appropriate expertise to contribute

Build required resource

Pilot with target audience

Review the content regularly

Levels of training and understanding



Initial - Situational Awareness



Intermediate - Operational Responder



Advanced - Tactical or Specialist (task or environment)

Continued development through refresher training and maintenance of skills / maintenance of competency frameworks

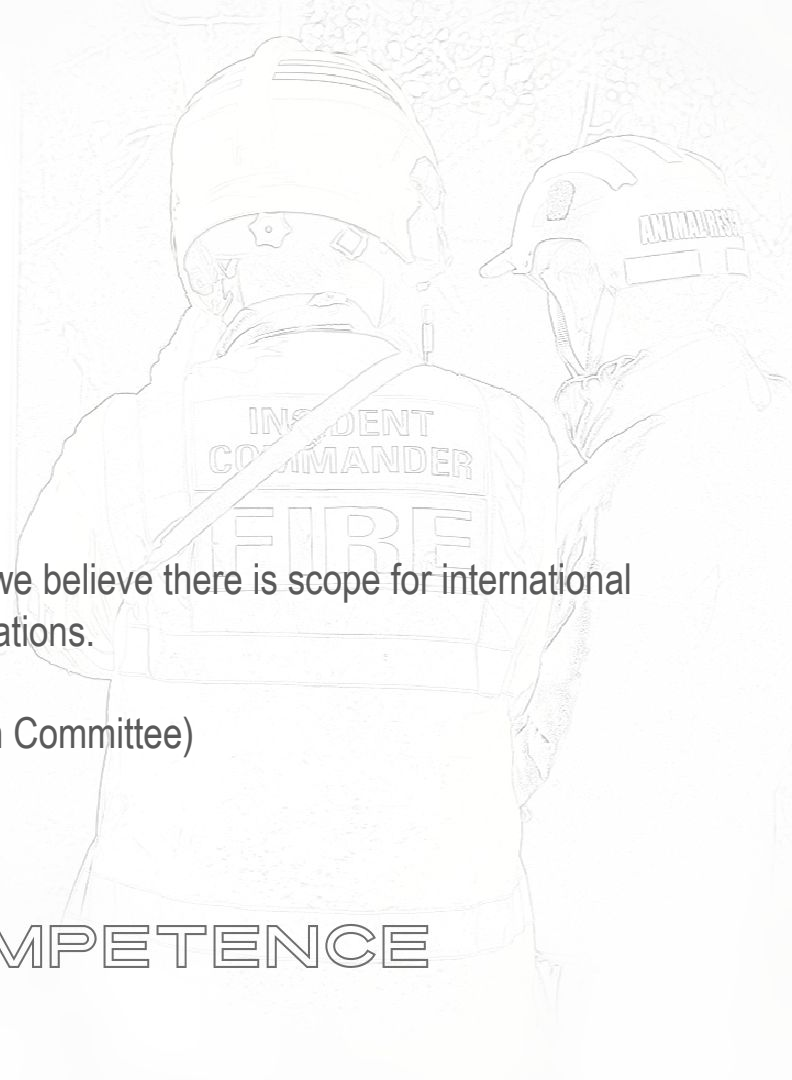
Limitations?

Multi agency educational frameworks:

- Common terminology, principles and ethos
- National governance and oversight?
- Sector engagement (who leads on this?)
- Who sets the standards?

To support training and response in this broad area of education we believe there is scope for international collaboration from established educators and professional associations.

The vehicle to achieve this is InJEC (International Joint Education Committee)



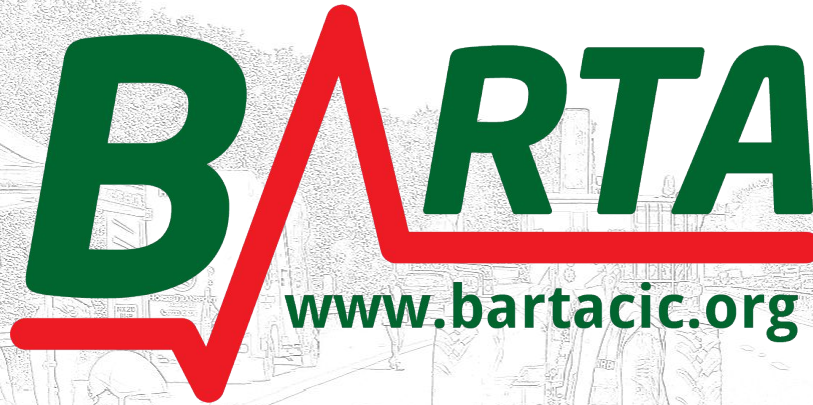
International Joint Education Committee (InJEC)

International consensus on guiding principles, knowledge and understanding and performance criteria

Mutual sharing of information

Accessible community that can support development of worldwide response capabilities for Incidents Involving Animals

Managing risk and meeting societal needs



www.bartactic.org

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