

Consultation Title: Practical Fire Safety Guidance for Existing Non-Residential Premises

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To:

**From: Scottish Land & Estates
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Scottish Land & Estates is a member organisation that uniquely represents the interests of both land managers and land-based businesses in rural Scotland. Scottish Land & Estates has members with interests in a great variety of land uses and welcomes the opportunity to respond to this consultation.

Question 3. Is there any information or guidance that is not covered in the revision which you think needs to be included?

At paragraph 121, we would prefer to see a definition of what is referred to as a 'low risk premises', similarly in paragraph 122, 'other premises' should be defined. Perhaps by using examples.

Question 4. Do you have any other comments on the guidance document?

Scottish Land & Estates welcomes the review of the series of sector specific guides for non-domestic premises. We agree that the original five guides contain a substantial amount of duplication and we also believe that by reducing the number of guides dutyholders should find them easier to use. Consolidating and superseding these guides with one overarching document is the right course of action. Having all relevant information in one guide should make the guide more accessible, however there are different needs and expectations for different types of premises, something which should be clear and easy to understand for the dutyholder and enforcer.

We expect that careful consideration should be given to ensure that fire safety requirements are not overly complex and are not prohibitively expensive. Given that a significant number of premises owned by our members are historic in nature, it remains that our members

could have to consult at least two guides when it comes to fire safety (this guide, Fire Safety Management in Traditional Buildings as well as guidance on quality assurance of external fire safety consultants). We would therefore expect that the additional guidance set out in 'Fire Safety Management in Traditional Buildings' be complimented and not complicated by this revision.

Scottish Land & Estates would also encourage improved dissemination of this and other associated guidance in order to further increase awareness and accessibility amongst existing and potential dutyholders. This could be achieved via increased availability online (council, government and SFRS website etc.), awareness sessions, and pro-active engagement in other related processes such as the planning process.