

Document control	
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Date for next review	March 2027

DIRECTORATE OF ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FIRE SAFETY POLICY

1 INTRODUCTION & STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (FSO) requires provision to be made for the prevention of fires and the safety of people in the event of a fire. York St John University acknowledges the extreme risks to life, property and the university's livelihood caused by fire, and the legal requirements to control and mitigate such fire risks.

It is the university's policy to maintain a high standard of fire safety practice, create an overall culture of vigilance and apply the most modern standards of building and personal control to allow a safe environment from fire for all those with vested interests in the university.

2 GENERAL PROVISION

Under Article 4 of the FSO, the university must make a general provision for fire safety in relation to `fire safety precautions`.

Such precautions include the following:

- Measures to reduce the risk of fire on the premises and the risk of the spread of fire on the premises;
- Measures in relation to the means of escape from the premises;
- Measures in relation to the means for detecting fire on the premises and giving warning in case of fire on the premises;
- Measures in relation to the arrangements for action to be taken in the event of fire on the premises.

The university will also apply the `principles of prevention` of overall risk mitigation toward fire safety, these being:

- Avoiding risks;
- Evaluating the risks which cannot be avoided;
- Giving appropriate instructions to employees.

The university will ensure the general provision under Article 4.

3 THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON

Under Article 3 of the FSO there is a need to identify a `responsible person` (RP). This a legal position under whom the requirements of the Order, as it applies to the university, must be applied. This includes general fire precautions, risk assessment, arrangements and provision of information.

As primary responsibility of all university buildings sits with the Director of Estates Management & Development, they are designated as the principal Responsible Person.

4 FIRE RISK ASSESSMENTS

Under Article 9 of the FSO the RP has a legal duty to provide `suitable and sufficient` written assessments to all identified risks in relation to fire and fire safety. The university will carry out regular fire risk assessment of its buildings.

5 HIGH-RISE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Via Article 24 of the FSO the additional Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 have been brought into effect. This regulation specifically addresses fire safety in high-rise residential buildings.

The University shall adhere to the requirements of this regulation where it pertains to the university estate.

This Fire Safety Policy will be reviewed either (i) annually or (ii) whenever there is a significant change in circumstances which mean the policy is no longer relevant or accurate, whichever of the two occurs first.

Signed:



Nick Coakley, Director, Estates Management & Development, York St John University
(Responsible Officer, Fire Safety)

Date: 27th February 2026