



Fire & Rescue Services ITO

Assessor Assessment Guide Unit Standard 16953 Investigate and report on fire cause (Level 6, Credit 15, Version 2)

In order to achieve competency in this unit standard a candidate must display an understanding of the knowledge components by completing an oral or written assessment and practically demonstrate the performances required to investigate, repair and substantiate investigations into the cause and origins of fire.

This assessment may take place at a real fire where defensive control is employed or at a simulated practical event.

The assessor may elect to question candidates during completion of the practical assessment to ensure theoretical knowledge can be applied during practice. This technique also provides the assessor with reinforcement that knowledge has been retained.

Where a candidate is being assessed on the basis of a RCC process evidence must be produced that indicates a candidate has successfully directed operations at a defensively controlled fire at both structure and vehicle fires in a safe manner without causing avoidable environmental or equipment damage.

Assessors may use this guide to record evidence of a candidates overall performance but should be aware that this may not, on its own be an adequate record for moderation purposes without appropriate notes or appendices. Notes should include a summary of the process used and a statement about the quality of the candidate's performance.

ASSESSORS SHOULD ALWAYS REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THE UNIT STANDARD DOCUMENT PRIOR TO CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS

For this unit the following resources are available from FRSITO to assist Learners, Instructors and Assessors:

- Assessor Assessment Guide
- Learner Assessment Guide

Assessors: General Notes:

Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory. Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or practical simulated conditions. Legislation applying this unit standard includes the Fire Service Act 1975, and subsequent amendments.

Definition

Organisational best practice refers to the candidate's own workplace planning policies, procedures, and quality systems.

Fire and rescue service provider's requirements or *Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)* refer to policies and procedures on safety and operation set down by each fire and rescue service employer or host organisation.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| Assessors Name | _____ | Assessor No. | _____ |
| Candidate Name | _____ | NZQA No. | _____ |
| Date of Assessment | _____ | Final Result | _____ |

Level Descriptor

| Level | Process | Employing | Responsibility |
|-------|--|---|--|
| 6 | Carrying out processes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require a command of wide-ranging highly specialised technical or scholastic skills Involve a wide choice of standard and non-standard procedures, often in non-standard combinations Are employed in highly variable routine and non-routine contexts | Employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialised knowledge with depth in more than one area The analysis, reformatting and evaluation of a wide range of information The formulation of appropriate responses to resolve both concrete and abstract problems | Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In managing processes within broad parameters for defined activities With complete accountability for determining and achieving personal and/or group outcomes |

| | Information or actions that may provide support for competency | |
|---------|--|-----------------|
| General | Has the candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed a pre course self test? <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed an oral or written on course or post knowledge assessment? <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactorily completed simulation exercises? <input type="checkbox"/> Attend a course covering the Unit Standard subject matter? <input type="checkbox"/> Provided proof of experience through records? <input type="checkbox"/> Practically demonstrated in a practical scenario? <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list)? <hr/> <hr/> | Assessor Notes: |

| Element and PC | Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s) | Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved) | Result C/NYC |
|----------------|--|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Demonstrate knowledge of the statutory powers of fire and rescue personnel to investigate fire cause. | | |
| 1.1 | The candidate ensures legislation that empowers fire and rescue service personnel to investigate fire cause is related to SOPs. Did the candidate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Relate legislation to SOPs? Assessor notes: | Legislation that empowers fire and rescue service personnel to investigate fire cause is related to SOPs. | |

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|----------------|---|--|-----------------|
| 1.2 | <p>The candidate ensures delegations and authorities to investigate fire cause are identified and applied in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identify and apply delegations and authorities in line with SOPs?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Delegations and authorities to investigate fire cause are identified and applied in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |
| 1.3 | <p>The candidate ensures situations where the fire and rescue services must advise the New Zealand Police and other agencies when investigating fire cause are identified in accordance with organisational policy.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identify situations where police or other agency involvement is appropriate?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Situations where the fire and rescue services must advise the New Zealand Police and other agencies when investigating fire cause are identified in accordance with organisational policy.</p> | |

| Element and PC | Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s) | Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved) | Result C/NYC |
|----------------|---|---|-----------------|
| 2 | Identify, gather, control, and retain evidence from a fire scene. | | |
| 2.1 | <p>The candidate ensures variable sources of evidence from a fire are identified and collected in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Range: may include but is not limited to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> physical evidence <input type="checkbox"/> bystander witnesses reports <input type="checkbox"/> fire and rescue service response crews reports <input type="checkbox"/> profiles of related events <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy the requirements of the range?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Variable sources of evidence from a fire are identified and collected in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures</p> | |

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|----------------|---|--|-----------------|
| 2.2 | <p>The candidate ensures evidence controlled and retained minimises disruption to the fire scene in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evidence is collected in line with SOPs?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Evidence controlled and retained minimises disruption to the fire scene in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures</p> | |
| 2.3 | <p>The candidate ensures scene surveys are supervised to ensure the completeness of the body of evidence gathered in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Range:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> exterior examination <input type="checkbox"/> interior examination <input type="checkbox"/> wider scene examination</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy the requirements of the range?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Scene surveys are supervised to ensure the completeness of the body of evidence gathered in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |
| 2.4 | <p>The candidate ensures analysis of evidence gathered determines its quality in relation to fire cause and any requirement for forensic examination in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Range:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> primary evidence <input type="checkbox"/> secondary evidence <input type="checkbox"/> non-related evidence</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy the requirements of the range?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Analysis of evidence gathered determines its quality in relation to fire cause and any requirement for forensic examination in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |

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| 3 | Deduce the area of fire origin, probable fire cause, and establish a profile of related events. | | |
| 3.1 | <p>The candidate ensures the area of fire origin and the point of ignition are identified in accordance with organisational best practice.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identify area of fire origin and ignition?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>The area of fire origin and the point of ignition are identified in accordance with organisational best practice.</p> | |
| 3.2 | <p>The candidate ensures the probable fire cause is deduced through the examination of gathered evidence in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gather evidence of probable fire cause?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>The probable fire cause is deduced through the examination of gathered evidence in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |
| 3.3 | <p>The candidate ensures crucial evidence is captured and controlled for the purposes of forensic testing in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Range: may include but is not limited to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> evidence that relates to circumstances surrounding ignition <input type="checkbox"/> evidence supporting the investigators theory of probable ignition <input type="checkbox"/> evidence of a suspicious nature <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy the requirements of the range?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Crucial evidence is captured and controlled for the purposes of forensic testing in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |

| Element and PC | Evidence Typical answer/product/performance expected from the learner/candidate(s) | Judgement Statement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved) | Result C/NYC |
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| 3.4 | <p>The candidate ensures the results of forensic testing are incorporated into a profile of evidence through consultation with other subject experts in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Forensic testing results added to profile of evidence?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>The results of forensic testing are incorporated into a profile of evidence through consultation with other subject experts in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policies and procedures.</p> | |
| 3.5 | <p>The candidate ensures reports are developed that identify, analyse, and make explanations of the probable fire cause in accordance with organisational requirements.</p> <p>Range: May include but is not limited to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the fire and rescue service provider <input type="checkbox"/> National Rural Fire Authority <input type="checkbox"/> coroner <input type="checkbox"/> territorial authority <input type="checkbox"/> legal agencies <input type="checkbox"/> insurance agencies <input type="checkbox"/> building agencies <p>Did the candidate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfy the requirements of the range?</p> <p>Assessor notes:</p> | <p>Reports are developed that identify, analyse, and make explanations of the probable fire cause in accordance with organisational requirements.</p> | |