



AURA FIRE

60 second microlearning

60 Second micro learning has been split up into 8 small segments to provide an introductory overview to fire safety.

At AURA Fire we take fire safety very seriously as lives could very legitimately depend on it.

The information here is designed to give an introduction to understanding what is involved in ensuring the environment you design or work in is up to standard.

If you require more information, please get in touch with the team at:

INFO@AURAFIRE.CO.UK

Or call us on: 020 3038 261

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Why Fire Risk Assessments Matter

When guests check into a hotel, they're focused on their stay, not on fire exits or evacuation routes. That responsibility falls on you*, under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. A Fire Risk Assessment isn't just about compliance.

It's about protecting lives:

Guests are often unfamiliar with the building, and may be asleep when an incident occurs. A clear, rehearsed evacuation plan and well-maintained systems ensure everyone has the best chance of reaching safety.

It's about meeting legal duties:

The law requires assessments to be regularly reviewed, especially after changes to layout, staffing, or building use. Failing to keep your FRA current risks not only fines but personal liability for directors and managers.

and It's about protecting your reputation:

In hospitality, trust is everything. A single fire incident even a small one can have devastating consequences for brand confidence, guest loyalty, and insurance costs. Preventing incidents is always less costly than recovering from them.

At AURA Fire, we work with hotels and hospitality groups to keep assessments practical, compliant, and tailored to real-world risks. Because your guests don't know the building but your staff must be completely fluent in fire safety.

*covered in week 3

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Fire Safety - Myths That Could Cost You

One of the most common mistakes we see is businesses treating Fire Risk Assessments as a one-off job.

Myth: “Once completed, a Fire Risk Assessment doesn’t need updating.”

Fact: Every time your space changes, your assessment should too.

Think about your environment:

In retail and restaurants, staff turnover is constant. Are new team members trained in what to do during an evacuation?

In offices, even a new partition wall or a change in desk layout can alter escape routes.

In hotels, seasonal refurbishments or upgrades can affect fire alarm coverage and evacuation procedures.

Under the *Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005*, assessments must be reviewed regularly and immediately if your building layout, use, or occupancy changes.

At AURA Fire, we help businesses keep assessments practical and live because fire safety is not a tick-box exercise. It's a culture.

3 of 8: The Responsible Person

Who Is the Responsible Person in Your Business?

Many people assume it's the landlord. Others think it's the facilities team. The truth is often more complicated and sometimes, more personal.

Under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, every non-domestic premises must have a Responsible Person. That could be:

- The employer or business owner.
- A facilities or operations manager.
- A managing agent.
- In some cases, it's shared between multiple people.

In an office, for example, if you're the tenant in a commercial building, you're likely the Responsible Person for your demised space. But the landlord still holds duties for shared areas. That overlap means both sides must stay aligned or risk leaving gaps in compliance.

Being the Responsible Person isn't just about ticking a box. You're legally required to:

- Carry out a Fire Risk Assessment.
- Implement and maintain fire safety measures.
- Ensure staff are trained.
- Review assessments regularly.

At AURA Fire, we work with businesses to make sure responsibilities are clear and nothing falls through the cracks. Because when fire safety is everyone's job, it's nobody's job.

4 of 8: Legal Framework & Standards

Fire Safety Law: The Minimum Standard, Not the Benchmark

The *Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005* applies to every non-domestic premises, from small offices to large data centres. It places the legal duty on the Responsible Person to ensure fire safety.

But please note: the law only sets the minimum. For high-value, business-critical environments like data centres, that's rarely enough.

What the law says:

1. Carry out a Fire Risk Assessment.
2. Implement and maintain fire safety measures.
3. Train staff and review regularly.

What the standards add:

- PAS 79-1:2020 practical guidance for non-housing premises.
- PAS 9792 (2025) a new standard for housing, shaping best practice across the industry.

For sectors where downtime costs millions, the benchmark must be higher than compliance alone. Advanced suppression systems, business continuity planning, and scenario-based testing are not just “nice-to-haves” they’re essential.

At AURA Fire, we go beyond the letter of the law to help organisations safeguard people, assets, and operations. Because in critical environments, the cost of failure is far greater than the cost of prevention.

Are your fire safety measures built to the minimum standard — or to the standard your business really needs?

5 of 8 Myths VS Facts

Fire Safety Myth: “Fire Drills Are Optional”

Fire drills are sometimes treated as an inconvenience, perhaps something to skip when the hotel is busy, or when guests might be disturbed.

But under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, drills and staff training are not optional, they’re a legal duty.

Here’s why it matters in hotels:

Guests don’t know the layout they rely entirely on staff guidance during an evacuation.

Night staff are critical: with reduced teams on duty, rehearsed procedures make the difference in an emergency.

International visitors: language barriers and unfamiliar exits mean staff must be confident, clear, and calm.

Skipping drills doesn’t save time, it creates risk. The middle of the night, when alarms sound and corridors fill with smoke, is not the time to be working it out for the first time.

At AURA Fire, we help hotels embed fire safety into daily operations so that drills aren’t a disruption, they’re part of the culture.

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Fire Safety in Restaurants & Retail: Who's Responsible?

In busy environments like restaurants and retail, it's easy to assume fire safety sits in the background. But, if you're the person in charge, under the *Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005*, the responsible person has clear legal duties.

Your role isn't just to keep the lights on and the tills running. It's also to make sure that:

Fire Risk Assessments are carried out and kept up to date.

Escape routes remain clear, even during peak trading hours.

Kitchens and back-of-house areas are maintained, with extinguishers and suppression systems ready.

Staff are trained - especially in sectors where turnover is high and new starters are frequent.

These aren't just "best practice" they're legal obligations. A missed step could put staff, customers, and your business at risk.

At AURA Fire, we work with restaurants and retailers to make compliance straightforward, practical, and part of daily operations. Because in these sectors, fire safety is as essential as customer service.

7 of 8: Continuous Review

Fire Safety in Offices: Reviews Aren't Optional

If you're a developer, contractor, facilities manager, or office fit-out specialist, your role in fire safety doesn't end once the project is handed over.

Under the *Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005*, the Responsible Person, often the employer or facilities team, must keep Fire Risk Assessments up to date.

These assessments rely heavily on how the building is designed, maintained, and adapted over time.

Why reviews matter in offices:

Refurbishments and fit-outs: a new partition wall or change in layout can affect escape routes and alarm audibility

New services and equipment: added IT rooms, HVAC systems, or power supplies may alter fire load and risk.

Accessibility: every design change must still account for safe evacuation of all building users.

A Fire Risk Assessment isn't a one-off document, it's a living part of the building's lifecycle. When the space changes, the assessment must change too.

At AURA Fire, we partner with those involved in the build and ongoing management of office spaces to make sure compliance and safety stay aligned from design through to daily use.

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Fire Safety: Beyond Compliance

Over the past eight weeks, we've shared the basics of fire safety, from myths and responsibilities to legal duties and sector-specific risks. All of which are available to view on our website:

The message is simple: fire safety isn't just about compliance. It's about creating safe, resilient spaces for people to work, stay, shop, and operate in.

The law sets the baseline: through the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and the Fire Safety Act 2021.

Standards set the framework: like PAS 79-1:2020 for non-housing premises, and the upcoming PAS 9792 for housing.

Every sector has its realities, hotels with night staff, offices with constant refits, restaurants with high turnover, data centres with critical infrastructure.

At AURA Fire, we bridge the gap between compliance and practicality. We work with developers, contractors, and building managers to embed fire safety into every stage of a building's lifecycle from design to daily operations.

Fire safety isn't a tick box. It's a culture. Get in touch to find out more.



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