



NSAI

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

NSAI CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEES

NSAI TC16 - FIRE SAFETY
STANDARDS COMMITTEE (FSSC)

Contents

1	Chairman's Statement	3
2	Introduction	3
3	Scope of TC.....	3
4	Structure and Membership	3
4.1	Structure	3
4.2	Members	4
5	Summary of 2020 Activities	4
5.1	National	4
5.1.1	Meetings	4
5.1.2	National Work	5
5.2	International/Regional	5
5.2.1	Meetings	5
5.2.2	International/Regional Work	5
5.2.3	International/Regional Standards Reviewed	5
5.2.4	International/Regional Voting Results	5
5.3	Regulatory Development/Update	6
6	Irish Publications/Reviews	6
6.1	Publications	6
6.2	Reviews	6
7	Work programme for 2021 onwards	7

1 Chairman's Statement

I'm delighted to share the 2020 annual report with our stakeholders. Over the past year the FSSC working groups have made great progress on delivering National Standards on Fire Safety. I look forward to continuing to work with the committee in 2021.

2 Introduction

The Fire Safety Standards Committee (FSSC) is the committee that steers Fire Safety Standardization. The FSSC advise on what standards and codes of practice are necessary for products and processes in all aspects of fire safety.

3 Scope of TC

- To advise the NSAI with regard to Irish Standards and Codes of Practice concerning all aspects of fire safety including Passive Fire Protection, Active Fire Protection, Fire Service Equipment and Fire Safety of Furniture & Fittings and to make recommendations as required.
- To draft appropriate documentation including Standards, Codes of Practice, and Amendments as necessary.
- To ensure that interested parties are consulted in the drafting of these standards and codes of practice.
- To liaise with similar bodies in other EU countries and in particular CEN (European Committee for Standardisation) and ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation).
- To advise NSAI on how to vote on draft European and International Standards in the area of fire safety.

4 Structure and Membership

4.1 Structure

The FSSC has set up a number of Working Groups to deal with specific areas of Fire Safety. These groups have a Chairman and develop standards and recommend voting positions on International Standards. The groups report back to the FSSC at regular intervals and advise the FSSC on current developments

The working groups are:

- Fire Safety in Buildings (Standby)
- Fire Alarms
- Fire Services Equipment
- Fire Safety of Furniture & Textiles (Standby)
- Emergency Lighting

The Figure below illustrates the structure of the Committee:



4.2 Members

The membership (approximately 50 in all) is drawn from representatives of:

- Local Fire Authorities
- Government Departments
- NSAI
- Consultants
- Manufacturers
- Major users
- Industry Representative Groups
- Professional bodies
- Government Agencies (e.g. OPW, HSA)

5 Summary of 2020 Activities

5.1 National

5.1.1 Meetings

Committee members attended the following national meetings in NSAI as follows:

Meeting No.	Date	Minutes Reference
1	4 February 2020	N0524
2	12 May 2020	N0528
3	16 September 2020	N0530
4	01 December 2020	N0532

5.1.2 National Work

Each of the FSSC working Groups has a Chairperson and some develop standards. National work items in 2020 included;

- 4th edition of I.S. 3218: 2013 - Fire detection and alarm systems for buildings - System design, installation, servicing and maintenance
- 4th edition of I.S. 3217:20XX – Code of Practice for Emergency Lighting
- Amendment No. 1 to I.S. 291:2015 - Selection, commissioning, installation, inspection and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers
- I.S. 391:20XX - Fire mains for buildings - Installation, commissioning, maintenance and testing

5.2 International/Regional

5.2.1 Meetings

Committee members attended international CEN meetings as follows:

Committee Name	Location	Date	No. of Attendees
CEN TC169 WG3	Virtual	Various	1
CEN TC70	Virtual	8+9 October	2
CEN TC72	Virtual	14+15 October	2
CLC TC34 WG1	Virtual	Various	1

5.2.2 International/Regional Work

Each FSSC working group recommend voting positions on International Standards in their respective fields. Within the active working groups there is strong engagement with our international counterparts. In 2020, Irish experts were successful in introducing Irish requirements into draft European Standards, in particular within the area of Emergency Lighting.

5.2.3 International/Regional Standards Reviewed

International Standards reviewed by the various working groups are too numerous to list. Standout documents of high importance are as follows;

- EN 3 Series of Standards on Portable Fire Extinguishers
- EN 54 Series of Standards on Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems
- EN 1838 - Lighting applications - Emergency lighting
- EN 50172 - Emergency escape lighting systems

Note: This list is non-exhaustive

5.2.4 International/Regional Voting Results

The results of votes cast by working groups under the umbrella of the FSSC are too numerous to list.

5.3 Regulatory Development/Update

The FSSC maintains a close relationship with the Dept. of Housing, Local Government, and heritage (DHLGH). The DHPLG is responsible for the development of the Technical Guidance Document B on Fire Safety.

A meeting between the DHLGH and NSAI took place in November 2020. The intent of this meeting ensures there is a forum for bilateral exchange of information between both organisations. This meeting typically occurs twice annually.

6 Irish Publications/Reviews

6.1 Publications

I.S. 391:2020 was published in November 2020.

6.2 Reviews

The Committee reviewed the following Irish national Standards and agreed to withdraw

- I.S. 415:1988 – Fire blankets

7 Work programme for 2021 onwards

Work Plan	Number of meetings
FSSC	
Normal Meetings	4
Events	0
Meeting with the DHPLG	2
WG1 Fire Safety in Buildings	
Monitor documents/votes for CEN TC 127, ISO TC 92	
WG2 Fire Alarms	
Develop next edition of I.S. 3218	10
Monitoring CEN TC 72 documents and attend Plenary Meetings (2 meetings per year) where appropriate.	2
WG 3 Fire Services Equipment	
Publish new I.S. 391	2
Develop and Publish Amendment No.1 to I.S. 291: 2015	4-6
Monitor documents/votes for CEN TC's 70, 79,158,162, ISO TC94	
Monitor documents/votes for CEN TC 191	
WG 4 Fire Safety of Furniture/Textiles	
Continued monitoring of Furniture regulations	2
Monitor documents/votes for CEN TC's 207,248, ISO TC136	
WG 5 Emergency Lighting	
Develop/Publish revision of I.S. 3217	10
Monitor documents/votes for CEN TC 169 WG3 and CLC TC34 WG1	