



IFE
Strategic Plan
2014–2018

The Institution of Fire Engineers

A charity managed for fire professionals by fire professionals, with the aim of promoting, encouraging and improving the science, practice and professionalism of fire engineering.

Our vision

A global organisation of fire professionals striving to build a safer society.

Our mission

To promote, encourage and improve the science, practice and professionalism of fire engineering.

Our values

Inclusivity, professionalism, value, learning, responsibility, independence and openness.



Scottish Charity No: 12694

Registered Scotland No: 13267

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About the IFE



The Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) is a truly global organisation connecting fire professionals and sharing expertise since 1918.

Members of the IFE share a commitment to envisioning, preparing, mentoring and building for the future, ensuring that the fire profession remains relevant and valued, protecting people, property and the environment from fire.

IFE members, representing the whole spectrum of the fire sector, as well as giving to the Institution, benefit greatly from opportunities to meet, exchange views and develop professional networks and friendships on a global scale.

The IFE is a professional engineering institution and assesses suitably qualified and experienced members for registration as Chartered Engineers, Incorporated Engineers and Engineering Technicians.

The IFE is neither a political organisation nor a trade union, it remains neutral from these areas, focusing on what Science in all its disciplines can provide and do for fire engineering. It is a member led organisation.



The IFE offers:

- Enhanced professional status for its members;
- Accredited qualifications for fire professionals;
- Free subscription to the International Fire Professional Journal;
- A range of accredited examinations;
- A voice in national and international debate on fire related issues;
- Unparalleled opportunities to network with fellow professionals worldwide;
- Sponsorship opportunities for higher education and research grants;
- Impartial, friendly advice on how to become an Engineering Technician, Incorporated Engineer or Chartered Engineer.

IFE Strategic priorities:

The IFE has established six priorities to ensure that the Institution provides the best possible outcomes for its members.

These priorities are to:

- **Facilitate awareness** of fire issues and developments through the communication of ideas, knowledge, information and the contribution of members, through an international network of branches and special interest groups.
- **Foster professionalism** by establishing and maintaining pathways and recognised standards of fire professionalism and competency.
- **Increase knowledge** in the science, practice and professionalism of fire engineering.
- **Provide independent leadership** and confidently promote the value and services provided by the IFE.
- **Promote the IFE** by increasing the standing of the Institution and the significance of membership.
- **Organisational development** – ensure the IFE continuously improves and provides value to our members.

Facilitate awareness



The Institution will facilitate awareness through the communication of ideas, knowledge, information and contribution of members.

International stakeholders turn to the IFE for fire science views and trusted and valued opinion. The IFE's extensive membership network is unparalleled and readily accessible through modern communication technologies.

The IFE will continue to provide opportunities to contribute to and access the world's most comprehensive fire industry knowledge base including the International Fire Professional Journal.

WE WILL ...

- employ clear and modern communication strategies;
- provide advice and positions on contemporary issues;
- provide opportunities for professional engagement, collaboration and decision making;
- provide opportunities to publish and share information.

Foster professionalism



Establish and maintain pathways and recognised standards of fire professionalism and competency.

The IFE upholds professional standards within all public and private fire sectors. The Institution provides continuing professional development opportunities including lectures, workshops and the annual IFE Conference.

The IFE conducts rigorous professional examinations in more than 100 centres worldwide.

WE WILL ...

- set and maintain standards and levels of professional competency;
- work with the sector, employers and individuals to assess professional competence and support effective learning;
- facilitate a global learning network;
- establish codes of professional conduct and capability.

Increase knowledge



Contribute to an increased body of knowledge in the science, practice and professionalism of fire engineering.

The IFE aims to encourage links between geographical and professional groupings. The Institution also provides open and transparent mechanisms for independent professional views on fire industry issues.

Provide leadership



Provide independent leadership and confidently promote the value and services provided by the IFE.

The IFE holds a unique position in the global fire industry. It is recognised as an independent, credible and non-aligned body capable of providing expert advice. Members are regularly involved in developing the engineering advice necessary for the safe construction of major urban developments and projects.

The IFE membership includes many leading fire experts including fire engineers, scientists and Chief Officers both past and present of some of the world's most prominent Fire Services. These industry leaders contribute their time and expertise to benefit all IFE members and champion their collective views.



WE WILL ...

- encourage, support and disseminate scientific research and the application of research findings;
- provide advice and influence on standards committees;
- identify key targets for professional knowledge;
- increase the involvement of IFE members as subject matter experts within the industry.

WE WILL ...

- provide clear position statements and advice;
- support the development of leadership and fire risk management skills;
- support and encourage research and consultation to identify priorities and effective risk management strategies.

Promote the Institution



Increase Institution standing and membership and awareness of services provided.

IFE membership confers numerous benefits including professional status that may enhance career prospects. Members form part of a global network with opportunities for networking and ongoing professional development.

We aim to make the benefits of IFE membership more visible and accessible to fire professionals of all nationalities.

WE WILL ...

- strengthen our influence and positioning in the fire sector;
- promote the value of membership in terms of professional standing and career progression;
- promote the benefits of the international forum, network and standards provided by the IFE;
- identify and foster strategic alliances with high-profile bodies;
- increase the recognition of the IFE as an independent respected voice for the profession.

Organisational Development



Ensure the IFE continuously improves the delivery of its objectives and provides value to our members.

Although IFE membership confers numerous benefits we believe that even more can be done to ensure all members can be assured of high quality and value.

The IFE will place renewed emphasis on ensuring effective planning and reporting, engaging with its members to determine priorities and future direction.

WE WILL ...

- improve our business planning processes;
- ensure value and professional standards of service for our members;
- ensure effective management of all required business support services;
- ensure we measure, evaluate and clearly report our performance;
- ensure we market, expand and continuously improve the services we provide.

The IFE values

INCLUSIVITY

The IFE welcomes the contributions of all fire professionals.

PROFESSIONALISM

The IFE sets and maintains professional standards that enhance competency and safety.

VALUE

The IFE provides demonstrable value to members and broader society.

LEARNING

The IFE fosters and supports life-long learning through a global learning network and professional development opportunities.

RESPONSIBILITY

IFE members are committed to improving the industry and ensuring that positions of responsibility are held by qualified experts.

INDEPENDENCE

The IFE provides an independent voice for the fire profession without favour or prejudice.

OPENNESS

The IFE is committed to a policy of openness.



Future directions

WE WILL ...

- ensure the IFE remains meaningful and that the obvious benefits of membership lead to increased membership and improved community outcomes;
- ensure the IFE adapts to changing circumstances and provides value to its members and broader society well into the future;
- support special interest groups and our worldwide branches and foster enhanced communication and engagement between members;
- increase member numbers, diversity within the membership and the involvements of these members at the Institution's Annual General Meeting and conference.
- continue our programme of supporting the fire industry within developing countries;
- foster partnerships with key stakeholders, the broader fire industry and communities;
- support our worldwide branches.









THE INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS

FOUNDED 1918 • INCORPORATED 1924

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