Fire contingency planning:

Escape routes, building evacuation, fire wardens and use of evac + chairs
Why do we need a plan?
"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." Benjamin Johnson, often paraphrased by Winston Churchill et al, as "Failing to plan is planning to fail"
The need for contingency planning for fire and other events.

• Legal Reasons:
• The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 has placed a duty on employers to ensure the premises they occupy have suitable emergency evacuation procedures in place.
How do we develop our plans?
What are evacuation plans?

- Documented set of expectations from Management to employees.
- Evacuation plans set out the steps an organisation needs to take to evacuate a building or area due to circumstances which might put people at risk.
- The purpose of an evacuation is to move people from an area where they might be at risk to a place of lesser risk.
Under what circumstances might an evacuation plan be required?

• The most common evacuation plan prepared by businesses is one for fire safety. Every business needs to know what steps and procedures need to be taken if the building needs to be evacuated due to a fire.
Insert fire warden video
What should be considered in a fire safety evacuation plan?
Escape Routes/Means of Escape
Means of Escape

- All doors used as means of escape in the event of fire should be readily available at all times the building is occupied without the use of a key.
- Doors used as means of escape should be checked daily and made available as soon as the building is occupied.
Means of Escape

PEEP - Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan
Fire Drills

- A fire drill should involve a full evacuation of the premises
- In the event of a false alarm, if a full evacuation has been effected, then this should be recorded in the fire log book
- An evacuation should be conducted in accordance with the evacuation procedure for the premises
- An evacuation should take place ideally every six months preferably more and then recorded in the fire log book
Why do we have Evacuation Chairs?
Action To Take In the Event Of Fire

• Raise the Alarm

• Leave the building immediately do not stop to collect belongings

• Ensure that you close all doors behind you

• Leave by the nearest fire exit, this may not be the main entrance
Action To Take In the Event Of Fire

• Do not use lifts because they may stop or could take you to location of the fire

• Make sure you go to the assembly point because if you are unaccounted for the fire brigade will have to assume you are missing and possibly inside the building

• Contact the fire brigade as soon as possible
Fire Extinguishers

• Insert latest video off desk top
Classes of Fire

**Class A** Ordinary Combustible Solids
Wood, paper, cloth, plastics, rubber, coal, carbon based compounds etc

**Class B** Flammable & Combustible Liquids and liquefiable solids; Petrol, oil, paint, thinners, alcohol, tallow etc

**Class C** Flammable Gases
L.P.G. Propane and Butane, Acetylene, Hydrogen, natural gas and Methane etc
Classes of Fire

**Class D**  Combustible Metals  
Magnesium, aluminum, sodium or potassium etc.

Electrical Fires  
Computers, switchboards, power-boards, etc.

**Class F**  Cooking Oils and Fats  
Cooking oils and fats usually found in industrial kitchens etc.
Fighting a Fire -  
Do not fight the fire if :-

- It is bigger than a waste paper bin  
- One extinguisher is not enough  
- Smoke is affecting your breathing  
- You cannot see the way out  
- Gas cylinders or chemicals are involved  
- Your efforts are not reducing the size of the fire  
- You are not trained in Fire Extinguisher use.
Water Extinguisher
Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Extinguisher
Dry Powder Extinguisher
Foam Extinguisher

(AFFF) Aqueous Film Forming Foam
Wet Chemical Foam Extinguisher
Operating Fire Extinguishers

Select Correct Fire Extinguisher
Check the gauge
Pull pin to break the seal
Squeeze trigger, test range of Extinguisher
Aim at base of Fire, then sweep from side to side
Summary

You Should now have an understanding of the following :-

• Contingency planning (for fire)
• Escape routes in Buildings
• The role of the Fire Warden
• Building evacuation plans
• Evacuation Chairs
• Portable fire fighting equipment
Summary

• Fight the fire only if it is safe to do so
• Never endanger yourself or others
• Get out and Stay out
• Do not attempt to re-enter the building unless instructed to do so by the Fire and Rescue Service