LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Policy number: **0822**

Version date: 23 September 2025

Operational use of turntable ladders

UPDATED POLICY

This policy should be read with:

Official

Policy summary

The purpose of this policy is to provide information and guidance needed to facilitate the safe deployment of the turntable ladders.

- Responsible Head of Service is the Assistant Commissioner, Operational Policy & Assurance
- Responsible team is Fire and Operational Support

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 London Fire Brigade has 11 front line aerial stations, consisting of 8 x 32m TLs with an articulating (pivoting) 5m top ladder section, and 3 x 64m TLs which are straight ladders.

1.2 The 32m TLs are highly specified, with an extensive range of capabilities to assist IC and firefighters to resolve incidents safely and effectively.

1.3 One of the key advantages of the 64m TL over the 32m TL is the additional working height for a range of scenarios.

1.4 Turntable ladders have a range of uses:

- Rescue operations (including below ground level).
- Casualty retrieval with on-board stretcher equipment.
- Observation platforms.
- Water tower.
- Foam delivery.
- External dry riser if the fixed installation is unavailable or defective.
- High level ventilation.
- Floodlighting.
- Bariatric rescue.
- Line operations interoperability.
- High level thermal imaging.
- Other special service incidents such as assisting other agencies.

This list is not exhaustive.

2 Hazards and risks

2.1 Collisions during ladder movements and jacking operations. For example, when working on or near:

- Roadways.
- Overhead obstructions.
- Obstructions below the cage.
- Protruding buildings.

2.2 Trip hazards associated with the protruding jack beams and feet.

2.3 Capsize or collapse of appliance due to:

- Unstable ground, such as presence of drain/inspection covers (locate jacks a minimum of 1m away), pavements, kerbs, or soft ground.
- overloading.
- working on a gradient.

- high wind speeds.

Note: Jacks should not be deployed on or near unsupported walls, drains or obscured ground such as puddles or snow.

2.4 Working at height - falls from the appliance cage, ladder, or appliance decking.

2.5 Exposure - working for extended periods in open areas in either hot or cold weather conditions can lead to sunburn/sunstroke or hypothermia.

2.6 Electricity – electrocution and electric shock risk posed by contact with low or high voltage overhead power line–

2.7 Exposure to high intensity radio transmissions in close proximity to aerial transmitter sites.

2.8 Fire, explosion, blast hazard caused by flashover/backdraught, ruptured gas mains or cylinders erupting from buildings.

2.9 Objects and/or debris falling from above.

2.10 Respiratory hazards and visual impairment caused by smoke due to wind change/worsening conditions/escalation of fire.

3 Pre-planning

3.1 Where exceptional risks for the siting of turntable ladders are identified by crews these should be recorded on the Operational Risk Database (ORD) and TL access should form part of the pre-planning in accordance with policy 800 - Management of operational risk information.

3.2 As part of Development and Maintenance of Operational Professionalism (DaMOP), Sub/Stn officers should arrange regular training in various scenarios, with TL crews from local stations, focusing on the siting TLs and use of the vehicle.

3.3 TL crews are also expected to complete DAMOP objectives in line with the agreed learning outcomes for TL trained staff.

4 Operational procedures

4.1 All operational personnel need to know the basic capabilities of the Brigade's TL fleet (see appendix 1).

4.2 On receipt of a call to an incident that attracts a TL as part of the Pre-Determined Attendance (PDA), the nearest available TL will be mobilised. If a 64m TL is mobilised, the nearest Aerial Support Pump (ASP) will also be mobilised to assist operations and provide a safe system of work – see Appendix 3 for more information.

4.3 At special service incidents if a 64M TL is mobilised an ASP will not be required to attend

4.4 If a 64m aerial is part of the PDA for the incident, the ICs should identify if it is required at an incident at the earliest opportunity and return it to base along with the ASP if not required, to ensure availability for other calls. Whilst the IC should always consider returning resources that are not required, they should be mindful that there are a maximum of three 64mTLs available at any one time and a maximum of nine ASPs, that may be travelling large distances under blue light conditions.

4.5 Considerations regarding siting of appliances. Turntable ladders have a larger footprint than pumping appliances and require a stable supported surface, such as a roadway, before they can be safely

deployed. Pavements, grass verges and alleyways should be avoided unless it can be confirmed that they are able to support the full down pressure of a TL's jack plates. Jack down pressure can be as much as 7 Tonnes for the 32m and 13 tonnes for 64m.TL Operators will be able to give guidance and advice to the IC regarding these issues.

4.6 When the IC's plan utilises a turntable ladder at an incident, they should recognise that the TL crew will know the capabilities and limitations of their appliance. Whilst the IC will determine if a TL is to be deployed, once the decision is made the IC must take the advice of the TL crew. If the IC overrules the advice of the TL crew in exceptional circumstances this must be recorded as a key decision.

4.7 Fire appliance commanders should always consider the appropriate siting of their own appliances upon arrival at an incident. Appliances should be parked so that special appliances can gain access and get to work without disrupting existing operations.

4.8 As part of their dynamic risk assessment, ICs should also consider the potential for turntable ladders to be used at the incident. Once pumping appliances begin to deliver water, or are augmented from a hydrant, they will be difficult to re-site.

4.9 Where a TL is in attendance at an incident, the Aerial crew (and ASP crew if in attendance) should not be separated from the TL, nor should they be detailed to carry out other tasks on the incident ground unless there is an imminent threat to life.

4.10 All personnel must only:

- Access the decking or the cage with permission of the TL operator.
- Enter the cage, lift, or get on the decking by using the built-in steps and handrails.

4.11 All TLs are equipped with safety scene lighting to keep the area immediately above and around the appliance lit when working in darkness. It does however not lessen the need for TL crews to keep in mind all the obstructions and hazards they may encounter relating to TL operation.

Siting and loading turntable ladders

4.12 Jacks must not be deployed on or near the following:

- Drain/inspection covers (minimum distance 1m away).
- pavements and kerbs.
- soft and unstable ground.
- obscured ground, such covered by puddles or snow; and
- unsupported walls.

4.13 When working near high voltage power cables, aerial crews must use the following safe working distance rules as for other equipment

- 10m operationally (no water),
- 20m training (drills),
- 30m water tower.

4.14 Turntable ladders are earthed through their jack plates. Should the appliance accidentally come into contact with live electric cables the operator should attempt to move the ladder away from the cable. No other personnel must touch or go within 10 metres of the appliance until such time as the electric current has been discharged and the appliances certified safe by an attending engineer. The incident commander will need to speak to the duty transport officer to arrange this.

4.15 TL crews must not position their appliance cage near mobile phone transmitters or microwave antennae. See policy 298- Operations at radio transmitter sites.

4.16 During prolonged operations, stability checks at regular intervals must be instigated by the operator to ensure that there is no creeping of the jacks under load. This risk increases when an aerial appliance is being used as a water tower, as water on the ground may create movement under the jacks. Depending on the ground/surface these may need to be checked more frequently.

4.17 Operators of turntable ladders must be aware of and adhere to the loading regulations for their individual appliance.

4.18 To protect from overloads, mechanical damage or uncontrolled ladder movements, turntable ladders have a range of safety cut out functions. These functions are for additional safety and must never take the place of the operators own situational awareness.

4.19 Both turntable ladder types can work on gradients. The IC should:

- Liaise with the TL crew and observe any limitation they advise.
- best practise is to ensure that the appliance cab is facing uphill; and
- avoid icy surfaces wherever possible.

Breathing apparatus

4.20 On all occasions where BA is being used on a TL the turret operator should ensure a clear view of the cage/head whenever possible. If the cage/head becomes enveloped in smoke or be otherwise out of view, the base operator should confirm with the firefighter working at the head that it is safe to continue operations and should inform the IC of the change in conditions.

4.21 The turret console operators' seat must be sited in "safe air" (i.e. an atmosphere that will not cause respiratory discomfort or injury) and the operator must not wear BA, as the BA facemask may restrict vision. If this cannot be achieved, then the IC must consider re-siting of the TL or not using one at all.

4.22 TL cages must not be used as BA entry control points.

4.23 Where a TL is used to provide means of access for personnel wearing BA the ladder must remain in position to maintain access/egress for crews committed.

4.24 Firefighters working at the head of a TL must only wear BA on the order of the IC. BA can be worn at the head of a TL (for example when using the monitor) and following points must be adhered to:

- Policy 466 - RPE - breathing apparatus – operational procedures, section 4.6, and section 21.
- All BA command and control procedures; the Entry Control Operative (ECO) should make an entry in the remarks column of the location of the wearer and the fact that they are working alone.
- Regular communication must be maintained between the ECO, the wearer and the aerial operator.
- The BA wearer must not leave the head/cage.
- If the cage operator is required to wear BA, consider operating the TL at the turret. The turret operator must never wear BA.

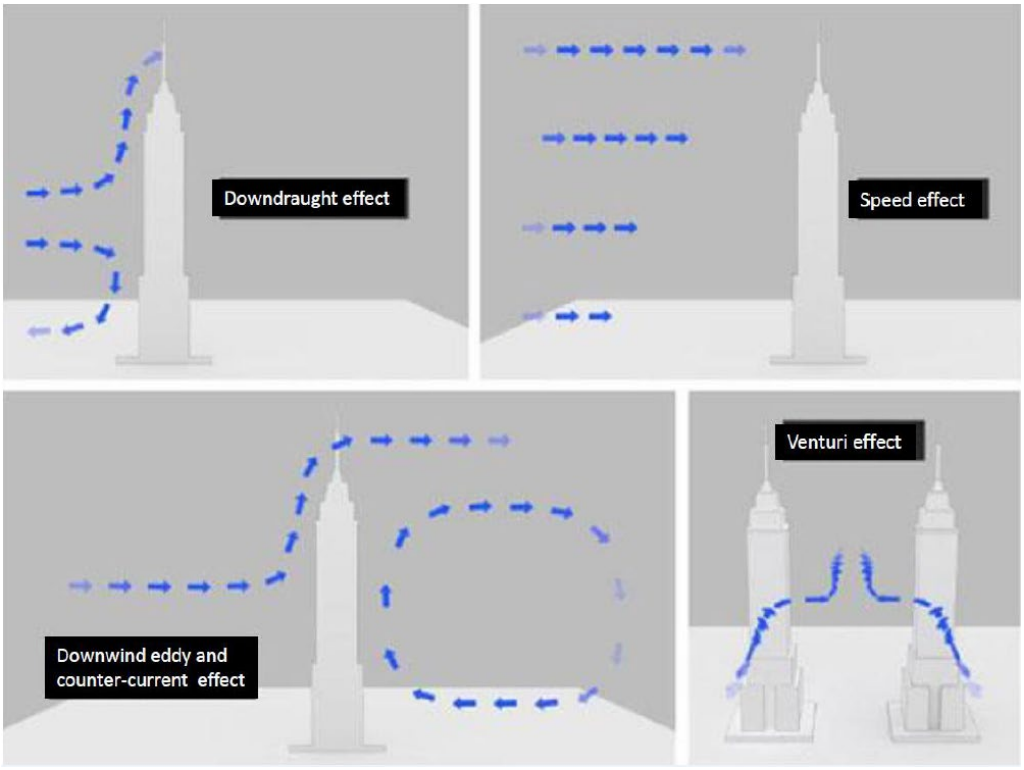
4.25 Where all forms of communication are lost, or conditions deteriorate, the turret operator must immediately train the head of the appliance away from the hazard area.

Operation in strong winds:

4.26 All TL's have specific restrictions placed upon them during windy conditions and this can affect their operational capability. The anemometer fitted to the cage of the TL's will assist operators to identify wind speeds (registered in m/s) it should be noted that this reading may be inaccurate due to surrounding buildings and local conditions.

- 32m Turntable ladder may be used without any restrictions in wind speeds up to 12m/s.
- 64m turntable ladder may be used without any restrictions in wind speeds up to 9m/s.

4.27 Building impact on wind:



4.28 If the ladder is used as a water tower in a strong wind (wind force six, 10.8 –13.8 m/s on Beaufort Scale) no person is to be allowed on the ladder and the monitor is to be controlled from the turret console.

4.29 TL's must not be used for training or display purposes when strong winds are present. Brigade Control no longer send strong wind warnings to stations, so it is the crew's responsibility to monitor the weather conditions when they are using the appliance.

4.30 TL operators are to risk assess the wind conditions when deciding whether to carry out standard tests.

5 Operational capabilities

5.1 Both 32m and 64m TLs have an extensive range of capabilities, which are detailed below. This is not an exhaustive list.

5.2 A 64m TL will be mobilised with an ASP for the purposes of operating the onboard pump and/or rescue lift. (see Appendix 3).

Water and foam delivery:

5.3 Before water is discharged into or onto any building the IC must consider:

- Water loading – TL's can supply up to 2000 litres of water per minute. (2 metric tons)
- Water pressure and its effect on the fabric of the building, debris, and personnel.
- Fire travel - application of water from a TL may have the effect of pushing fire through the building and affect crews working elsewhere and other occupants.
- Damage control and flooding.
- Water run-off.

5.4 Prior to its use as a water tower, a thorough risk assessment must be undertaken by either the IC, operations commander or sector commander if delegated to do so by the IC, in consultation with the TL Crew. Personnel should be withdrawn to a place of safety immediately prior to the operation of a water tower and the fact a water tower is being used must be communicated clearly to all personnel in the sectors. Once the water tower is in use, the IC, operations commander, or sector commander should undertake a further risk assessment before re-committing personnel into the area where the water tower has been in use.

5.5 A dedicated water supply pump must be provided to supply the TL. The IC must nominate an appliance pump and its crew to facilitate this. This may mean that the IC has to amend the operational plan and order an additional pump for this purpose and this should be considered when planning resource requirements. The 64m TL is mobilised with an ASP for this purpose.

5.6 The dedicated pumping appliance should be sited one length from the base of the TL to maximise flow and minimise frictional loss. The pumping appliance crew will be allocated to the TL crew and will only undertake tasks to assist the TL crew at any time whilst in use as a water tower. These tasks include but are not limited to delivering water and the safe management of hose when the appliance is being extended, elevated, depressed, trained or housed. Additional personnel should be provided where required to perform any other tasks. The ASP crew will always remain with the 64m TL.

5.7 The TL must be in or near the desired position for water application prior to charging the hose and TL pipework. Minor adjustments to the ladder can be made once water is on. This is to avoid the weight of the delivery hose being dragged up the ladder and applies less stress on to hose couplings. This operation is to be led by the TL crew, assisted by the support crew.

5.8 The jet from a TL must never be directed into a compartment where firefighters are working, or where there are building occupants, but may be directed on other parts of the building depending on the location and the effects of large quantities of water on the fire, building and floors.

5.9 Monitors can be remotely controlled at ground level from the turret console operator's seat. There is a camera installed on the monitor so the turret operator can see where the water is being directed.

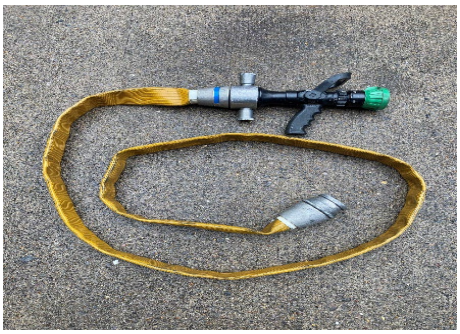
5.10 32m and 64m TLs have the capacity to be utilised as an external dry rising main for high rise firefighting.

5.11 If a 64m TL is being used to deliver water or foam, a trained Aerial Support Pump Operator (see Appendix 3) must operate the onboard pump.

Use of smaller firefighting media

5.12 32m and 64m TLs are also equipped for smaller scale firefighting, such as cutting away or in circumstances where the full-sized monitor is inappropriate. A 3m length of 45mm hose plus Rosenbauer RB101 (or similar) is stowed on the appliance for this purpose. It is not designed to be used

for compartment firefighting. All TLs also carry a 3m length of hose reel tubing and branch for external firefighting and use with misting lances.



PV stop

5.13 32m and 64m TLs carry PV stop for isolating solar panels. TLs carry two 9 litre extinguishers of PV stop.

Foam delivery

5.14 TLs can deliver secondary aspirated foam that has been proportioned via fire appliance pumps.

Casualty rescue and casualty retrieval

5.15 Both 32m and 64m TLs carry a Ferno orange S71 basket stretcher with a load-bearing capability of 270kg to rescue casualties from height, or where access is restricted.

5.16 The safe working load of the stretcher holder on the cage is 150kg.

5.17 Additionally, the 32m TLs carry a reinforcing bar that raises the stretcher holder capacity to 270kg. The 64m TLs do not have this capability.

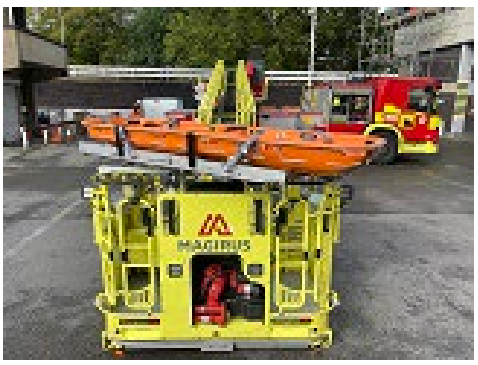
5.18 All TLs also have a crane mode. The crane function is enabled to facilitate:

- Attachment of strops for casualty rescue
- Use of the 'shaft rescue function,' whereby the TL can automatically lift a casualty in a straight line from either above or below ground.

5.19 Specialist advice should be sought from a tactical advisor rescue (TAR) when carrying out rescue that involves line operations. This is because TL operators are trained to use their equipment to support line operations but not implement a line system.

5.20 All personnel in the cage of an aerial appliance must wear a safety harness and lanyard connected to an anchor point. It is the responsibility of the cage operator to ensure all safety procedures are followed.

5.21 For the purposes of their immediate rescue, members of the public do not have to wear a safety harness.



TL rescue

5.22 As well as the hazards contained in 2.4, there are a number of hazards associated with the rescue of people using the TL. These include, but are not limited to:

- Falling debris
- Fire and heat
- The higher the elevation required to conduct the rescue, the closer to the building it is necessary to site the appliance
- Exposure to windy conditions
- Unusual or concealed fire spread

5.23 All 32m TLs have a 4-person cage which includes the operator.

5.24 32m TL Operators have a range of options to use when carrying out rescues:

(a) Use the cage to move members of public to a place of safety or the ground.

(b) Assist people down the ladder.

(c) Rest the ladder on a building and accommodate up to 12 persons on the ladder at any one time.

5.25 64m TLs have a 3-person cage which includes the operator and a 3-person lift. As a result, the 64m TL can carry out rescues in the following ways:

(a) Use the cage to move members of public to a place of safety or the ground.

(b) Use the lift to move persons from the cage to ground level.

5.26 The lift on the 64m TL can only be used at heights greater than 30m and can move up to 2 casualties and the ASP operator or 270kg in weight from 64m to the ground in 40 seconds. This should only be operated by crews trained in the use of the 64m TL. The cage must be used for heights below 30m.

5.27 Two trained aerial support pump operators must be in attendance to operate the rescue lift (together with the cage and turret operator). This is described in more detail in Appendix 3.

Line operations

5.28 The 32m TLs can be utilised with line operations and carry a range of equipment to assist with this. See Policy number 0622.

(a) 1 x 6m strop

(b) 2 x 3m strops

(c) Attachments to the cage to facilitate suspended working beneath the ladder

(d) Rigging plate and bridle for attachment to stretchers

(e) Rated anchor points on the top extension

(f) Rated anchor points in the turret at the base of the ladder

5.29 Additionally, the 32m TL will carry the 'safety 5' piece of equipment. This enables safe working at height when other line operations options are not available. TL operators are not trained in level two-line operation. TL Magirus Safety Five Safety System.

This function is carried out by appropriately trained FRU personnel. TL operators provide advice and support on the TL capabilities that support line operations. The "Safety 5" is installed with lighting and a fixed camera, so the Turret Operator can monitor the safety of the firefighters in relation to TL operation.

5.30 The 32m TL has a lifting eye at the head of the top extension which has a safe working load of 500kg.

Observation platform and other services

5.31 When used as an observation platform it is vital that communication between operator and sector commanders is established and maintained (normally via handheld radios). This is so that information relating to building construction or potential hazards such as fire spread, solar panels or communication aerials/antennae, can be passed to the IC.

5.32 Turntable ladders are equipped with cameras with thermal imaging. This can be relayed to the turret console and to a mobile app.

5.33 TLs are equipped with powerful floodlighting that can be used to support incidents such as night-time operations at RTCs or river incidents.

5.34 There may be occasions when other agencies, e.g. Dangerous structure engineers (DSE), HART, Police or other members of the public may need to travel in the cage. On all occasions they must be wearing an appropriate harness, helmet, and PPE and should be accompanied by a trained Cage Operator.

6. Further operational considerations

6.1 When requesting a TL, Control will always mobilise the nearest appliance unless the message specifies a 64m or 32m TL. Specifying a particular TL may result in a longer attendance time. When considering reliefs, ICs should consider changing crews over and leaving the working appliance in place, if they are of the same type. If this is not possible, access in and out for the TL and ASP should be maintained. Operators and ICs should ensure that fuel and fluid levels are monitored whenever an appliance is being used for extended periods.

6.2 If the TL (and ASP when in attendance) are not required at an incident, they must be released as soon as possible and operators arriving as part of the TL attendance should only carry out TL activities except in exceptional circumstances.

TL cage

6.3 The 32m TL cage must be removed to carry out the following operations.

Attachment of Rescue loader RL500 (bariatric carrier see big learning>DAMOP>Specialist skills>Aerial appliances).

The Rescue Loader RL500 is designed for rescuing persons from buildings with a maximum rescue load of up to 500 kg. It can be used to rescue Bariatric persons or if a larger basket stretcher is necessary, for example, due to an injury or disability.

TL Magirus Rescue Loader RL500

Attachment of Safety 5 attachment for line operations (see image)

The Safety 5 is a 23m wire rope Fall-arrest system that is carried on all 32m turntable ladders. It is a self-retracting lifeline that allows for greater mobility and manoeuvrability It is attached to the top of the turntable ladder after the cage has been removed. The Safety 5 allows a maximum of 5 Operators to be attached to independent Fall-arrest devices when there is no other means of providing a SSOW for working at height.

TL Magirus Safety Five Safety System

The 64m TL cage must not be removed as Rescue loader and Safety 5 is not compatible with this appliance.

7. Terminology

7.1 TL operators must adhere to the terminology below when preparing to operate the appliance from the 'stowed' position.

TL Turret to Operator	TL Operator to Turret
1. "Are you in the cage, with the gates locked, and hooked on to an anchor point?"	2. "Yes, I am in the cage, gates locked and hooked onto an anchor point."
1. "You are free to train"-to be spoken when the ladder/ boom has elevated 10º from the headrest.	2. "Free to train received."
2."You can extend/house, elevate/depress, train left/right the ladder."	1. "I am going to extend/house, elevate/depress, train left/right the ladder."

- Elevate - to raise the ladder/booms through an arc.
- Depress - to lower the ladder/booms through an arc.
- Extend - to increase the length of the ladder/telescopic booms.
- House - to decrease the length of the ladder/telescopic booms.
- Train right/left - to rotate the turntable to the left or right.
- Plumbing - to keep the centre line of the ladder in a vertical plane by eliminating any tilt to one side when the ladder is extended on a gradient or camber.
- 4th Extension - the largest ladder section.
- 3rd extension - the next largest ladder section.
- 2nd extension - the next largest ladder section.
- 1st extension - the top (smallest) ladder section.

- Articulating ladder - the pivoting top 5m of the top extension of the 32m appliances. Use 'elevate' and 'depress' to communicate movement evolutions.
- In the case of the 64m TL, this has 7 extensions, numbered 1(top) to 7 (bottom) of the ladder set.

Communications

7.2 In the event of the appliance fixed communication system becoming defective, the TL should remain in operational service using handheld fireground radios. All personnel are issued with fireground radios. If their radio becomes defective, they should use the station spare radio. Faults with the fixed communication system will be treated as Code 1 defect.

7.3 In the event of losing communications while in operational use, the crew/operators should revert to handheld fireground radios in the first instance (a dedicated channel should be considered) and then train the booms/ladder to a place of safety. Turret console operators have overall control and are responsible for maintaining the safety of the cage.

TL operating system failure

7.4 If the normal working TL controls have failed, operators can utilise the emergency controls located under the base operator's seat. The emergency controls on the TL can be operated by one person at the Turret console in conjunction with the cage operator.

7.5 If a TL operating system stops functioning whilst in use, whenever possible and safe to do so, the appliance is to be left running with the ladder set left in situ, but trained to a place of safety if required by using the auxiliary systems the operators are trained in The reason for this is that stopping the road engine will have the effect of 'resetting' the vehicle electronics and thus potentially losing valuable data that might otherwise assist with investigations. This event must be reported immediately via the incident command vehicle as a safety event to Resource Management and Logistics (RML) who will notify a senior accident investigator and duty transport officer, who may attend to carry out an investigation. A mobile repair technician (MRT) will be dispatched to the location.

7.6 The IC, operations commander or sector commander if delegated, should consider the most appropriate method of bringing any personnel in the cage to safety in consultation with the TL operator. If necessary, an additional TL should be requested for this purpose. It should be borne in mind that the TLs have multiple systems for moving the ladder to a place of safety or making it up which would be quicker than waiting for another appliance.

8. Related documents

- Operator manual.
- Theory manual.
- Policy number 0722- Reliefs at incidents.
- Policy number 0978– Utilities and fuel.
- Policy number 0298- Operations at radio transmitter sites.
- Policy number 0466- RPE BA operational procedures.
- Policy number 0979- rescue – NOG.
- Policy number 0622- Line operations equipment.
- Policies available via THE HUB on Hotwire.

Appendix 1: Aerial appliances attributes

There are 11 frontline aerial appliances in the Brigade - 8 32m TLs and 3 64m TLs. They are operated by qualified crews, and no personnel are allowed onto the appliance without permission from the operators.

32m TL (Suffix 3)	**64m TL (Suffix 4)**
A21 Paddington - RL500 A24 Soho A33 Tottenham - RL500 E22 Greenwich E31 Forest Hill - RL500 G30 Wembley - RL500 G40 Hayes H21 Clapham	E35 Old Kent Road F41 Dagenham H34 Wimbeldon
	
Physical Attributes Working Height: 32m Maximum Projection: 27.6m Cage Capacity: 4 Persons Jack Spread: 2.5 – 5.2m variable Jack Ground Pressures: up to 7t 17t Laden Weight Can reach up to 10m below ground level Wind Restrictions begin at 30mph	**Physical Attributes** Working Height: 64m Maximum Projection: 21.5m Cage Capacity: 3 persons Jack Spread: 2.5 – 6.2m variable Jack Ground Pressures: up to 13t 32T Laden weight Wind Restrictions begin at 20mph
Additional Features Manufacturers Specifications for Water Tower Output: 2000 l/m @ 5.8 bar @ tip (10 bar @ base)	**Additional Features** Manufacturers Specifications for Water Tower Output: 2000 l/m @ 5.8 bar @ tip (16 bar @ base)

32m TL (Suffix 3)	64m TL (Suffix 4)
Stretcher Frame for Casualty Rescue (Orange Ferno - FRU/LAS compatible) 150/270kg	Stretcher Frame for Casualty Rescue (Orange Ferno - FRU/LAS compatible) 150kg
Floodlighting Tower	Floodlighting Tower
Thermal imaging camera	Thermal imaging camera
Line operations interoperability	Can deliver secondary aspirated foam
Safety 5 SWH equipment	Light and heavy crane function
Light and heavy crane function	
Can deliver secondary aspirated foam	
Bariatric Rescue Loader RL500	

Appendix 2: Mobilising

Where available, the nearest TL will be mobilised as part of a PDA to:

- A1 HR - All high-rise residential premises (unless removed by local pre-planning) as defined in policy number 633- High rise firefighting.
- A1 - All calls to fire in non-residential high-rise premises as defined in policy 633– High rise firefighting.
- B12 - Persons threatening to jump (at the discretion of Control).
- B10 - Person in a precarious position (at the discretion of Control).
- Forward Mobilising Control Point.

An Aerial Support pump will attend all 64m TL incidents to support operations except special services unless requested.

Appendix 3: Aerial support pumps (ASP)

Aerial Support Pumps are required to support the deployment of the 64m TL. An ASP is a pumping appliance which is riding with at least two individuals who are trained to carry out this task. The entire crew of the ASP will remain with the 64m TL to assist the crew of the TL at an incident.

The purpose of the ASP is to provide a safe system of work for the use of the onboard pump or rescue lift on the 64m TL. All other operations on the 64m TL can take place without the ASP (for instance: rescues using the cage or deploying the jacks).

An ASP is mobilised on all incidents that attract a 64m TL, or when a 64m TL is requested from the incident ground. The ASP provides a dedicated pump and crew to be utilised by the crew of the 64m TL.

On arrival at the incident, the officer in charge of the ASP must inform the incident commander that they are in attendance for aerial support and must not be used for any other role on the fireground, except in exceptional circumstances. ASPs must also form part of the relief plan if the 64m TL remains in operation at the incident. If a 64m TL is no longer required, the ASP must be returned to maintain operational availability.

Using the on-board pump

The ASP crew will book in at the command unit, report to the officer in charge of the 64m TL and don their ASP jerkins (located on the TL). The ASP crew will assist the crew of the 64m TL to deploy the monitor and ensure a dedicated water supply from an appliance is secured. When the onboard pump on the 64m TL is in use, the pump must be operated by an 'AS' trained individual at all times. The 64m TL cage and the turret are operated by the 64m TL operators. The additional personnel from the ASP should be used for hose management, establishing, and maintaining a secure working area around the 64m TL. ASP personnel will work under the direction of the officer in charge of the 64m TL.

Using the Rescue Lift

The Rescue lift is utilised for "Mass casualty rescue. The Rescue Lift must always have AN 'AS' trained individual in the lift when in use for rescues. The role of the 'AS' operator is to provide reassurance and guidance for members of the public using the lift, including assisting them down from the cage to the lift. The 'AS' operator must wear a harness and fall arrest and be always secured to the anchor points on the 64mTL when carrying out this role.

The second 'AS' operator is responsible for assisting members of the public exiting the lift at ground level, either on to the TL working platform or utilising the TL's fly-ladder. The ASP operator in the lift should always remain in the lift so it can remain in use to assist other members of the public. The additional personnel from the ASP should be used to escort members of the public from the lift to outside of the hazard zone and to secure a safe working area around the 64m TL.

The cage operator must always remain in the cage when carrying out mass casualty rescue to ensure that members of the public do not overload the ladder. With three persons in the lift only one is permitted in the cage. The ladder cannot be moved when the lift is in operation. However, it can be moved in exceptional circumstances when the lift is stationary.

The remaining crew from the ASP will ensure that all members of public are escorted out of the hazard zone and that the secure area around the 64m TL is maintained.

The Monitor and Lift cannot be used at the same time.

Document information

Dates

Issue status	Date
Issued	5 March 2013
Reviewed as current	19 August 2025
Last amended	23 September 2025
Next review due	19 August 2028

Assessments

An equality, sustainability or health, safety and welfare impact assessment and/or a risk assessment was last completed on:

EIA	11/02/25	SDIA	H – 17/03/25	HSWIA	26/06/25	RA	26/06/25

Audit trail

Listed below is a brief audit trail, detailing amendments made to this policy/procedure.

Page/Paragraph nos.	Brief description of change	Date
Pg 9. Para. 5.33	Working with others in the cage added.	17/06/2024
Throughout	Changes throughout policy. Pictures and links to Rescue loader, safety 5 added.	19/08/2025
Pg 11, Para. 5.34	Changed wording to "Appropriate harness".	23/09/2025

Related policies

Listed below are all the related policies:

Policy number	Name of policy