

# AFAC – FPA Australia Joint Position on: Routine service during COVID-19 and beyond

## Routine service is an essential service

Routine service of fire protection systems, equipment and features in buildings and sites is critical to the safety of building occupants, property and the environment.

FPA Australia's members are contracted to building owners, occupiers and managers to provide essential routine servicing in buildings and sites prescribed by legislation.

FPA Australia and AFAC acknowledge that without these essential services, the community, the economy and fire services could be severely impacted in their day to day operations. Building, occupant protection and public safety could also potentially be compromised if these services aren't properly maintained. Failure to ensure that these systems are operational would impact fire services' operational readiness and emergency response efforts.

This routine service, when conducted by competent fire protection industry professionals across Australia, should continue where safe to do so.

FPA Australia and AFAC consider routine service of fire protection systems and equipment to be an essential service during COVID-19 and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Semos'.

Nathan Semos  
Chief Operating Officer  
Fire Protection Association Australia

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Ellis'.

Stuart Ellis  
Chief Executive Officer  
AFAC

### Who are AFAC and FPA Australia.

**AFAC** is the Australian and New Zealand National Council for fire, emergency services and land management, creating synergies across the emergency management sector. AFAC members support mitigation and response phases of emergency management across multiple hazards and the transition to recovery. Representing 31 different member agencies, and a workforce of around 288,000 paid and volunteer fire and emergency service workers, AFAC is the facilitator and custodian of contemporary fire and emergency service knowledge and practice, for the benefit of our members and through them, the community.

**Fire Protection Association Australia (FPA Australia)** is the national peak body for fire safety that provides information, services and education to the fire protection industry and the community. FPA Australia supports and represents accredited and competent practitioners working across all disciplines of the fire protection, building and construction industry. The Association is supported by approximately 1700 members consisting of leading companies, organisations and individuals around Australia with a growing reach of up to 30,000 people operating across every aspect of the fire protection, building and construction industry.