

**Risk-Based Compliance Monitoring
Questions and Answers
Date: November 28, 2024**

1. In the risk-based compliance monitoring system it is understood that fire safety inspections will be risk based, but the frequency should not exceed a specified amount of time defined in policy. What is the minimum frequency of fire inspections and who determines this?

- The Fire Safety Act and its associated regulations do not dictate minimum frequency for fire safety inspections.
- National Fire Protection Association Standard 1730 has been used as a reference by the Office of the Fire Commissioner policy to establish minimum inspection frequency for Occupancy Types, but a risk-based compliance monitoring system will consider additional General and Specific risk factors.
- The monitoring entity will set the frequency of fire safety inspections and will use the determination of total risk to assist in that decision.

2. Does the Fire Safety Act and/or regulation set the frequency for a fire safety assessment for the building owner or building owner's agent to reference and follow?

- The Fire Safety Act and associated regulations do not dictate minimum frequency for fire safety assessments.
- The frequency of fire safety assessments is to be set by the monitoring entity (the municipality) and should be based on factors associated with the risk analysis and compliance monitoring which includes factors such as, General and Specific risk that includes enforcement history.
- The monitoring entity will inform the building owner of the frequency requirement and method by which the fire safety assessment is to be sent to the monitoring entity.

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3. What recourse does the monitoring entity have if the owner or authorized owner's agent fails to complete and submit a fire safety assessment at the frequency determined by the monitoring entity?

- Failure for an owner or owner's authorized agent to conduct a fire safety assessment may result in other compliance monitoring actions by the monitoring entity, which may include completing a fire safety inspection for a fee by the municipality.
- Any established fire safety inspection fee will be imposed by the monitoring entity via a local authority bylaw.

4. Is there a simple formula for the monitoring entity to use to determine Total Risk?

- The Total Risk is defined by identifying General Risk (Major Occupancy) and incorporating Specified Risk using additional detail to identify (Static Risk) and (Dynamic Risk) factors.
- Required risk factors are provided in detail in the Fire Safety Act Guidelines for Risk Analysis for Monitoring Entities in British Columbia manual that can be located on the BC government website, [here](#).
- Although the General Risk is rigid for occupancy type or use, the Specific Risk is influenced by individual building history, age, construction, location, and other factors such as the historical record of the building owner's compliance to fire safety requirements and maintenance of the building along with required fire safety systems.