



# Bringing Principal Designers up to speed on Fire Safety

**Manchester** 100 Barbirolli Square, M2 3PW  
25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

We are delighted to have you join us for this comprehensive, expertly crafted course designed for professionals in the construction sector who play a vital role in fire safety but are not fire safety specialists.

Over the course of two days, you will gain valuable insights and practical knowledge to confidently navigate the evolving landscape of fire safety in your projects.

This course addresses critical topics, including regulatory changes following the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, and equips you to collaborate effectively with fire safety professionals, ensuring safety and compliance.

We're proud to offer a well-structured, engaging learning experience led by a team of experienced professionals. By the end, you'll feel more confident in understanding the complexities of fire safety and your responsibilities as Principal Designers.

## To find out more, contact:



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## Course objectives

- Equip architects, particularly Principal Designers, with the knowledge to identify fire safety requirements and navigate responsibilities under the Building Safety Act.
- Enable attendees to evaluate fire safety strategies, understand the rationale behind fire safety engineering methods, and recognise competent fire safety professionals.
- Clarify how fire safety principles impact design, approval processes, construction, and lifecycle management.
- Provide tools to engage confidently with fire safety engineers and assess the quality of the work provided.

*“Excellent course and very insightful. Well hosted and prepared with expert presenters.”*

Head of Pre-Construction, Legal & General

## Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, attendees will be able to:

- Understand the role of fire safety engineering within architectural design and its integration into the RIBA stages.
- Navigate and apply the principles of the Building Safety Act and related regulations to manage fire safety responsibilities effectively.
- Recognise the rationale behind guidance-based and performance-based approaches to fire safety, understanding why and when fire safety engineers might use these methods.
- Identify the limitations of fire safety guidance and red flags during early design stages to ensure that fire safety considerations are addressed appropriately.
- Assess the quality of fire safety strategies provided by professionals and evaluate the competence of those delivering them.
- Incorporate fire safety considerations into project planning, design reviews, and discussions with stakeholders, ensuring fire safety remains a priority throughout all project phases, including construction and lifecycle management.

## What can you expect from this course

This course is designed to be an interactive, engaging experience that will deepen your understanding of fire safety in the UK's evolving regulatory landscape. Over two days, you will gain insight into:

- The responsibilities and expectations for Principal Designers under the Building Safety Act.
- How fire safety strategies influence project design, approval, and delivery.
- Practical approaches to identifying competence in fire safety professionals and assessing their work.
- Tools and strategies to navigate compliance challenges and design complexities confidently.

You will leave with actionable knowledge to apply to your projects and a clearer understanding of how fire safety impacts your role.

## What is expected of you?

To ensure you get the most out of this course, we kindly ask you to:

- Familiarise yourself with the course agenda and learning outcomes provided with this summary.
- Be aware of the Building Safety Act, as the course will assume prior knowledge of its key elements.
- Come prepared with ideas, questions, and insights to share with the group—this is not a passive experience.
- Engage actively in discussions, including raising questions or challenging points, as this course explores rapidly evolving topics where diverse perspectives are valuable.

*“A well balanced interactive course with a diverse set of attendees.”*

Architectural Associate, Pascall+Watson



## Who will deliver this course?



**Simón Santamaria**

Credentials: MSc, Ph.D, CEng, MIFireE, MSFPE

Technical Development Director

Dr. Santamaria is a Chartered Engineer who holds a master's and PhD in fire safety engineering, with extensive international experience spanning research and industry. A key contributor to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry's experimental investigations at the University of Edinburgh, he spent 2.5 years conducting groundbreaking research on façade fire performance. As the Technical Development Director, Dr. Santamaria leads a comprehensive upskilling program to enhance competence and improve project quality across the fire safety division.



**Philip Wroot**

Credentials: MIFireE, MIFSM

Innovation and Quality Assurance Lead

Philip is our Innovation and Quality Assurance Lead, with extensive experience in fire risk management across both the Royal Air Force and civilian sectors. Over his five years at Stantec (formerly Hydrock), he's been instrumental in shaping internal training and ensuring the highest quality in our risk assessment work. Philip brings deep technical knowledge, practical insight, and a clear, engaging teaching style to every course he delivers.

*“Very engaging and comprehensive – I have practical tools to use now in my day-to-day.”*

Senior Project Architect, Cowan Architects



**With every community, we redefine what's possible**

Stantec is a global leader in sustainable architecture, engineering, and environmental consulting. The diverse perspectives of our partners and interested parties drive us to think beyond what's previously been done on critical issues like climate change, digital transformation, and future-proofing our cities and infrastructure. We innovate at the intersection of community, creativity, and client relationships to advance communities everywhere, so that together we can redefine what's possible.