

# FIRE

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November 2023

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## “A human rights disaster”

Grenfell Tower barrister speaks on adopting a human-centred response to tragedy

## An integral approach to leadership

*FIRE* introduces the Fire Knowledge Insights ‘Have a go leadership challenge’

## Excellence in Fire & Emergency Awards nominations announced

*FIRE* is delighted to announce the finalists for the Excellence in Fire & Emergency Awards

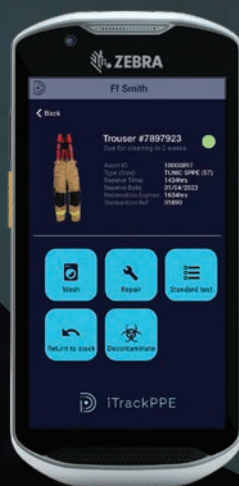
# Greater Manchester's digital innovation

‘inform engage inspire’

# FUTURE-PROOF ASSET MANAGEMENT THAT PAYS FOR ITSELF



- Intelligent asset distribution, optimisation & management
- Increased PPE availability, reducing the risk of carcinogenic exposure
- Integrated RFID & QR tracking technology
- Intuitive end user application
- Complete user and asset compliance history capture
- Sustainable logistics & performance management functionalities



INCREASED ASSET AVAILABILITY  
& LONGEVITY AT A LOWER  
OPERATIONAL COST



iTrackPPE

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# Revolutionising asset management at the Fire Service College

**FIRE** talks to **James Madine, Vehicle and Logistics Manager, Fire Service College**, about adapting the QR/RFID-enabled solution from iTrackPPE

**FIRE:** What were the main challenges experienced with the previous barcode-based asset management system, and how have these impacted the FSC's operations and efficiency?

**JM:** "In the past, the Fire Service College adopted a barcode-based asset management system, aiming to streamline the tracking of various assets, including personal protective equipment. However, this system fell short of our expectations in terms of efficiency, accountability, and real-time tracking. Scanning individual tags proved to be as cumbersome and time-consuming as the conventional paper-based method."

**FIRE:** What led you to choose a QR/RFID-enabled solution from iTrackPPE, and what are the specific goals and objectives you hope to achieve?

**JM:** "Our journey with iTrackPPE began when we attended the 2022 launch event. We were instantly drawn to the advantages of their RFID/QR code system, which promised to enhance efficiency and accountability while liberating valuable time for other critical aspects of asset management. What truly set them apart was their tailored approach for each customer and their extensive expertise in the fire and rescue sector. Their deep understanding of our challenges and vision for a digital asset management solution resonated with us.

"Our primary objective remains unchanged: the accurate tracking and monitoring of



operational assets within the college. However, given the escalating demands and workload, our aim is to empower our staff with more time to dedicate to vital tasks, such as inspecting and maintaining assets, rather than being bogged down in extended asset accountability procedures. For context, our current inventory process consumes 40 minutes per appliance, and we have 20 to verify before each course commences."

**FIRE:** How will these improvements contribute to the overall performance of asset and risk management within the FSC?

**JM:** "Historically, tracking operational assets, especially PPE, has posed significant challenges. Our team often faces tight timelines for issuing PPE and appliances to course delegates. Already, we've witnessed notable enhancements in the efficiency and accuracy of our PPE asset accounting through the use of RFID scanners. The implementation of the 'Dirty PPE collection



and containment unit' enables real-time tracking of PPE returns and flags instances where assets haven't been returned as expected. This provides an invaluable asset history and individual delegate assignment records. Additionally, the system's customisable performance dashboard and reporting capabilities equip us with the business intelligence required to reduce risks and enhance efficiency."

**FIRE:** How has the transition from the existing barcode system to the new QR/RFID-enabled solution been?

**JM:** "So far, the transition has unfolded smoothly, with unwavering support from the iTrackPPE team. We view this as a true partnership, allowing us to feel a sense of ownership over the product. Our satisfaction stems from the solution's tailored configuration to meet the specific needs of the FSC. The advantage of having solution providers with extensive experience in our sector, who fully grasp the challenges we face, cannot be overstated."

**FIRE:** What key performance indicators (KPIs) will you use to measure the success and effectiveness of the QR/RFID implementation?

**JM:** "The solution offers both passive and active tracking and monitoring of asset location, issue, and maintenance. Initially, we anticipate gaining a clearer understanding of how, when, and where our assets are being utilised, damaged, or even lost. It will provide us with a more precise record and visibility of assets within our managed care provider's system, enabling us to ensure that service level agreements and key performance indicators are consistently met.

"We foresee a significant reduction in assets being misplaced or lost through the real-time tracking capabilities of this solution."

For more information about iTrackPPE visit: [www.itrackppe.com](http://www.itrackppe.com) or contact: [enquiries@itackppe.com](mailto:enquiries@itackppe.com)

