

	<p>ACT Rural Fire Service Standard Operating Procedure 2.6</p> <h2>Establishing A Forward Command Point</h2>	<h1>2.6</h1> <p>Incident Management</p>
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### Purpose

The Forward Command Point (FCP) is generally a fixed location that is identifiable and accessible from which a Divisional Commander operates and provides operational resource command, incident information collection, situational awareness, incident SITREPS and updated weather.

An FCP may be established:

- If a fire is of a size and/or complexity that it requires a fixed location for command to be undertaken;
- If a number of fire fighting appliances and/or personnel attending an incident would be better managed by the establishment of a FCP; or
- At any other time that the Incident Controller so requests.

### Operating Procedure.

The Incident Controller or Operations Officer will organise the establishment of a FCP. The Incident Controller or Operations Officer will advise the Incident Management Team (IMT) of any specific resources required to establish the FCP and will obtain these resources and arrange for their delivery to an area as designated by the Incident Controller or Operations Officer.

### **STAFFING**

Staffing levels and requirements will be at the discretion of the Incident Controller or Operations Officer, this will usually comprise of a Divisional Commander, Radio Operator and Penciller.

### **LOCATION**

A FCP may, and on occasions will, be established at the place where the Forward Communications Unit (FCU) is located, or if the FCU is unavailable for this purpose, at some other suitable area or structure. The Incident Controller or operations Officer will determine the most appropriate place for the FCP to be established.

The requirements of the location are:

- That where possible, it allows for radio and telephone communications with the fire ground, and IMT;
- That the FCP is sufficiently near the incident to allow the Divisional Commander to carry out the role without undue travelling;

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- That it is located so that it can be easily found and identified by oncoming crews; and
- That it should be large enough that it may be upgraded and downscaled along with the incident.

### **CALLSIGNS**

Where a FCP has been established, it will be given its own unique call sign. This call sign is to be used for all communications between the FCP and the IMT, and units at the incident scene.

For example an FCP established at Mulligan's flat for a Divisional Commander to work from would be "FireCom this is Mulligan's DivCom" or "Mulligan's DivCom this is Sector Golf".

**Maintained By:** Manager, Operations

**Approved By:** Andrew Stark

**Position:** Chief Officer RFS

**Signature:**



**Date:** 15/02/2011

**Cross Reference SOP/s:** SOP 2.3 Establishment of staging area

**Amendments:**