

Mobility Scooter Guidance Consultation



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council



Mobility Scooter Guidance
for Residential Buildings

With Andy Frankum (NSHFSG) and Nigel Deacon (metroSTOR)

Background

- NFCC and NSHFSG issued national guidance for Mobility Scooters in Residential Buildings in 2018.
- This was following a significant consultation process with building owners, fire and rescue services and mobility organisations

Consultation

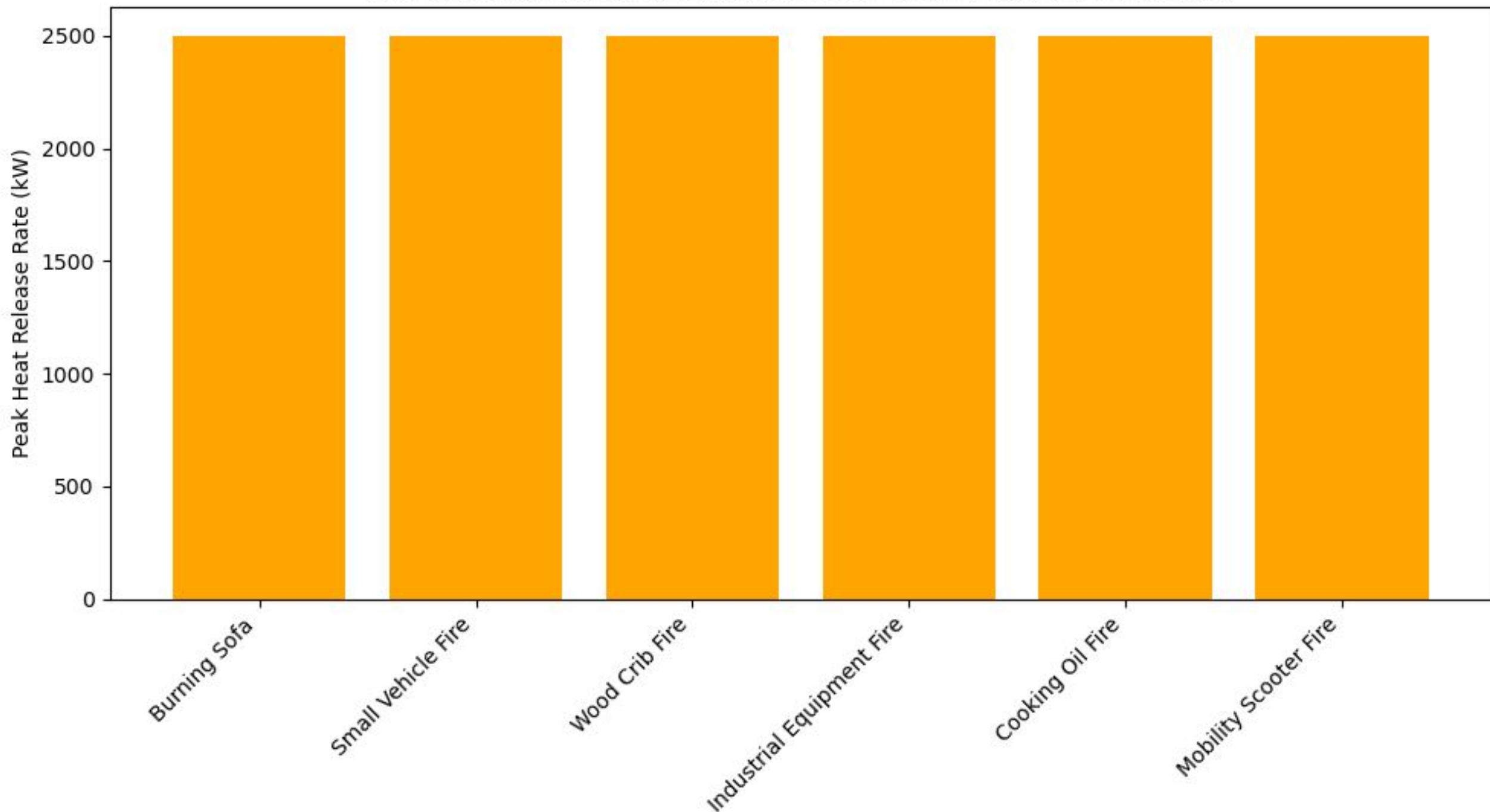
- Guidance has now been operating for 7 years, since which technology and practices have advanced.
- More use of lithium-ion batteries and associated risks
- Older population is increasing and will continue to increase
- Opportunity to share good practice and/or any lessons learnt
- Improved standards to ensure resident safety



Key Proposed Changes

- Updated guidance on how quickly an escape route can be affected – less than 3 minutes
- Clarification that guidance does not constitute Article 50 guidance
- Images added to guidance
- Technical updates on heat release rates, toxic smoke and risks associated with thermal runaway.
- Proposal to consider that you should restrict storage to ground floor storage only with external access – will require practical consideration – feedback please
- Proposal to consider that you should include fire alarm systems and smoke extraction systems in certain options and in others with recommendations for water suppression systems – feedback please on the options outlined
- Tenant information has been removed and replaced with case studies. Any case studies or examples of information provided to tenants please would be most useful

Comparison of Peak Heat Release Rates for Different Fire Scenarios




Options - Changes

- Option 3, 4 and 5 – Relating to internal storage
 - Introduction of preferred requirement that these should be ground floor level only and access from the outside, to prevent impact on escape routes during firefighting operations
 - Automatic smoke extraction venting to outside also for the same reason
 - Automatic water suppression highly recommended
 - Restriction of charging at night
 - Comprehensive fire detection which is automatically linked to an ARC

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Other Changes

- Compensatory measures now removed from the guidance to reflect the changes to options available
 - Updated management arrangements to cover requirement under the Building Safety Act for higher risk buildings and the requirement to report incidents of fire through the mandatory occurrence reporting arrangements
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Consultation Information

- Deadline: Monday 1st December @ 9am
- Consultation responses to be submitted online here:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/mobilityscooterconsultation/>
- Any questions or difficulties completing the survey contact the NFCC Protection Reform Unit at pru@nationalfirechiefs.org.uk
- Examples of good practice can be sent to scooters@shfsg.info
- Consultation Document here:
https://files.smartsurvey.io/3/0/2JF2BAZC/09062018_NFCC_Mobility_Scooter_Guidance_Consultation_Version.pdf



Questions

