



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

LFB Policy 01

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# London Fire Brigade MDT & Radio Policy

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# Introduction

This policy aims to provide structure and guidance for those requiring assistance in the use of the Fix Appliance MDT, and the Mobile MDT both found on the appliance and can be used by anyone. It also aims to provide structure and guidance for those requiring assistance in the use of a DP4801 Ex ATEX two way radio.

The Fix Appliance MDT is fitted to allow the Front Passenger of an appliance to use it with relative ease. With the mobile MDT on charge in the cab of the appliance when not in use. The MDT may be accessed using the Pump and water pressure display at the rear of an appliance in the event that is a more suitable place.

The DP4801 Ex ATEX is a two way radio allowing for communications with Fire Control (LOC) and other Firefighters. These are fitted in a protective case to prevent damage and wear to the radio. If the user of the radio is not actively using the radio to change band/channel then it should be seated in the protective case.

The image below shows this:



# Use of the MDT

## Callsigns & Identifications

### Identifications

The MDT can be accessed by all Firefighters, as such each firefighter has an identification, it may be found by putting your rank then the Collar number in succession of each other.

For Example

Person	Identification
[1001] Chicken	FF1001
[1134] L.Stickney	LFF1134
[1195] H.Lack	SO1195
[1808] Budmo	StO1808
[1561] D.Kemp	StC1561
[XXXX] (Username)	BCXXXX

Duty Station Officer (DSO) have an Identification for themselves; these are also their callsigns, and thus will follow the pattern setout in the following section.

SLT, similar to DSO, have dedicated callsigns for themselves as described in the following section.

### Callsigns

The callsigns will be given to each appliance and the exemptions stated above. They follow a simple pattern, that is the Station Code (H33) and a Identifying suffix (1) creating the callsign H331.

#### Suffixes

1,2 - Pump/Pump Ladder  
 3 - 32m Turntable Ladder  
 4 - 64m Turntable Ladder  
 5 - Aerial Ladder Platforms  
 6 - Fire Rescue Units  
 7 - IRU/Bulk Foam Unit  
 9 - Hose Layer  
 A - Operational Support  
 X - DIM

T1,T2 - Prime Mover  
 S - DSO

#### Exemptions

The following are the exemptions to the pattern:

CU4, CU5 - Command Unit  
 OK11 - Fire Investigations Unit  
 WB1 - Water Bowser  
 F(1-9) - SLT in descending order

## Where does the Identification go?

When you're on the MDT you can click on the Identifier to modify it, then under unit number you put your Identification. The name can be your RP name, Rank is your current rank within LFB, Agency is London Fire Brigade, Department is the station you are based at as such:

Unit Number	FF1817	AOP	
Name	Dalton Smith	Agency	London Fire Brigade
Rank	Firefighter	Departments	H33
Status	AVAILABLE	Subdivisions	
Location	Palomino Ave / Lindsay Circus		

SAVE SWITCH IDENTIFIER

This is so we can clearly Identify you through the CAD from Control or as a supervisor.

## Being Assigned an appliance

To be assigned an appliance you may need to ask over Radio to be given an assignment.

If there is a watch on you will have been made aware at the start of the watch if so then you need to ask to be assigned to that appliance; Do this by saying "Fire Control, FF1817", they may respond, "May I be added to the appliance (callsign of the appliance)". This will make the Control room aware you are on the appliance and you need to be in the appliance group.

If there is a Duty Station Officer, find them 1st, ask which appliance they would like you on and they should be able to inform you \*this may be done mid way through a watch as well\*. After getting that information you can continue similar to above contacting Fire Control by doing the following; "Fire Control, FF1817", they may respond, "May I be added to the appliance (callsign of the appliance)". This will make the Control room aware you are on the appliance and you need to be in the appliance group.

# Use of a Radio

The use of a radio is to communicate the relevant information in a quick and understandable way. As laid out by HM Government the Radio is for "Radio transmissions only. No general or OOC chat is permitted. - reference 2.4. This should be seen throughout your duties as a firefighter.

## Identifying yourself on Radio

When you turn on the radio you must tune to the correct frequency, your radio will be most likely in the "welcome" area. You must scroll down the radio frequency page till you find "London Fire Brigade" and then you must tune it into "LFB Radio" this is the frequency we will generally operate on. To be able to identify who is which person we require that you follow the normal procedure that is, (Collar Number)(Station/Callsign)(Name you wish to be identified by) as such it looks like this - [1817][H33S] Smithy, or something similar.

## Terminology

When speaking on a radio there are specific terms that can be used to provide the relevant information in the fastest possible way, there are also patterns to radio transmissions that need to be followed as well.

When speak to another user, you must follow that pattern:  
(Who I want to speak to), (Yourself).

For example

H331, H332

This shows that H332 is attempting to contact H331

Once in radio conversation you are not required to use this pattern.

Common Terms used are:

Say Again - repeat what you last message was

Correction - there was an error in your own message and need to amend it

That's all Receive/Received - information that was passed has been received and understood

There are a number of others that are used if you are unsure of what has been said, you can always ask by saying, message was Received but not understood or Message was not received say again.

## Channels

### LFB Radio Frequency

This is the standard Operating Frequency used by LFB where LOC is able to communicate with all operational appliances. If an appliance is not on an incident then they should be in this channel.

### LFB Incident Channel ½

This channel is used in the event of an incident requiring the use of more than one channel that may be assigned by the Duty Station Officer, or another member of the command team. In the event this is being used and there is an actively operating LOC operator then they must be informed.

### LFB State 12 Channel

This channel is used to have confidential conversation between members of command, or a member(s) of command and a Firefighter and should not be generally used by other Firefighters.

# Amendments

Date - Time - Change Made