

# A Day in the Life of an Airport Fire Fighter



Here at Southampton Airport we run a three Watch shift system, consisting of:  
Three day shifts 0600 – 1800, three late shifts 1800 – 2300 and three rest days.

An example of a typical shift would be:

## 0600 Start of Shift

A daily inspection is carried out on all operational vehicles, appliances and equipment to ensure it is fully serviceable and in good working order. Any defects are recorded and appliances are topped up with water after their pump test.



## 0630 Morning Protocol

A daily watch meeting to discuss the planned running of the day along with any updates to the station or airport that we should be aware of. Any equipment or vehicle defects are reported here to ensure everyone is aware.

## 0730 Breakfast

Time for a cup of tea and some breakfast! It's also a good time to catch up on any emails and errands.

## 0830 Daily Station Routines

Daily routines vary from day to day and include but are not limited to: the testing of fire alarms around the airport, maintenance and inspection of equipment, station cleaning, vehicle cleaning and maintenance and inspection of vehicles.



## 1000 Training

Training is varied and designed to capture every element of our role. Training can be specific to one area or will encompass many different areas. Training exercises include First Aid, response driving, working in heat and smoke, the use of breathing apparatus, wildlife hazard management and firemanship to name but a few.



## 1200 Lunch

Time for a well-earned lunch break and a shower if needed after training!

## 1300 Daily Station Routines

Continuation of station routines, any tidying up required following training and any extra duties you may have individually such as extinguisher maintenance or hose repair.



## 1600 Self Study and Gym

If all the daily duties and training have been completed it's time for some personal gym training or some self study.

## 1800 Handover and End of Shift

The station is always handed over clean and tidy to the oncoming watch, as your relief comes in a handover occurs passing on relevant information. This is the end of your shift.



The oncoming watch start their shift exactly the same with a Daily Inspection of all operational vehicles and equipment, there is then an evening protocol, time for dinner and an evening training session. Training can be theory based, practical based or a combination of the two. Again the station is left clean and tidy for the oncoming watch the following morning.

Our operational crew are also involved with our Commercial Training Team, EchoFour. EchoFour delivers a variety of training courses, to both internal and external agencies, including Compartment Fire Behaviour Training, Confined Space Training and First Aid.

