



SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Her Majesty's Chief  
Inspector of Fire Services  
for Scotland  
*Report for 1982*

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Scotland  
by Command of Her Majesty  
September 1983*

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Report 1982  
of P. Watters, Esq., Q.F.S.M., F.I.FireE.

To the Right Honourable George Younger, M.P., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my Report on the Fire Services in Scotland for the year ended 31st December 1982.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

P. WATTERS, Q.F.S.M., F.I.FireE.

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## SECTION A

### *General*

#### **Introduction**

1. Nineteen eighty-two has seen a period of consolidation within the Scottish Fire Service and changes have been minimal. Manning levels remain fairly static and the number of deaths directly attributable to fire shows little variation from the previous year. More emergency calls were received by brigades but their workloads in other respects did not change.
2. The fire service is always ready to provide owners and occupiers of properties with advice on fire precautions and fire prevention. Too few of those responsible for premises take advantage of this expert advice. A greater awareness of the fire danger on the part of both owners and occupiers could lead to a significant reduction in the damage done by fire.
3. The most important function of the service is to prevent the loss of life from fire, and brigades will take some satisfaction from the fact that there were fewer deaths than in the previous year (142 as against 145). This number, however, is still too high, and greater vigilance on the part of the public is required if the tragic toll is to be reduced.
4. The Committee set up to Review the Standards of Fire Cover continued their deliberations during the year and a Sub-Committee Report on "Assessment of Risk Factors" is expected to be produced during 1983. The main committee also considered the various services other than attendances at fires which are provided by fire brigades throughout Great Britain. Involvement in road accident rescues is an aspect of particular importance and the committee's deliberations on this and other matters will continue into 1983.
5. I again pay tribute to Firemasters and Fire Authorities for their careful control of the limited finance available within their budgets which has enabled them to maintain a satisfactory level of operational efficiency in all brigades in Scotland. In expressing my gratitude to those concerned with the management of the fire service I would also thank the uniformed and civilian personnel for their unselfish dedication to duty throughout the past year and in particular to those members who put their own lives at risk in order to protect the members of the community.
6. Members of the fire service are a breed of people who undertake a range of humanitarian actions in order to alleviate distress and suffering, and in the more remote rural areas, sacrifice a considerable amount of their spare time for the greater good of the community. Without the tremendous voluntary effort of such people, trained and encouraged by the wholetime professionals, fire would claim many more deaths and create much more havoc.

### **The Inspectorate**

7. The complement of the Inspectorate remains at:

HM Chief Inspector (1)  
HM Inspector Grade II (1)  
Assistant Inspectors (2)  
Assistant Inspectors (2) — Inspectors of Crown property.

8. During the year Assistant Inspector A. Macklin, M.B.E., F.I.FireE., retired from the Service and I should like to put on record my appreciation of the contribution made by Mr Macklin to the Inspectorate and wish him well in his retirement.

9. The replacement approved for the Assistant Inspector post is Mr H. Moran, G.I.FireE., at present Firemaster of Central Region Fire Brigade. Mr Moran will take up his new duties early in 1983.

### **Inspections**

10. During the year all Scottish fire authorities were inspected by means of official visits, and in accordance with a planned programme. As a result of such visits I am pleased to be able to report that all authorities are carrying out their legal duties in a satisfactory manner.

11. During the past few years all brigades run by fire authorities have made good progress towards providing a more efficient service for the public, and those improvements most worthy of mention are noted in more detail in Section D of the Report.

12. The liaison which has developed between the Inspectorate and Firemasters and fire authorities has brought about a situation where the important advisory role of the Inspectorate is becoming more apparent. I hope such a trend will continue to develop as it has proved beneficial in recent years.

### **Fire Authorities and Firemasters**

13. At the end of the year the following Firemasters headed the respective brigades:

*Central Region Fire Brigade	Firemaster H. Moran, G.I.FireE.
Dumfries and Galloway Fire Brigade	Firemaster R. F. Holland-Thomas, Q.F.S.M., G.I.FireE.
*Fife Fire Brigade	Firemaster F. Ballantyne, Q.F.S.M., M.I.FireE.
Grampian Fire Brigade	Firemaster T. Bond, G.I.FireE.
Lothian and Borders Fire Brigade	Firemaster W. M. G. Kerr, F.I.FireE.
Northern Fire Brigade	Firemaster W. Shand, Q.F.S.M., G.I.FireE.
Strathclyde Fire Brigade	Firemaster R. J. Knowlton, Q.F.S.M., F.I.FireE.
Tayside Fire Brigade	Firemaster D. Nicoll, M.B.E., F.I.FireE.

\*Firemasters in these brigades will retire early in 1983.

14. Early in the year Mr D. R. Close, O.B.E., F.I.FireE., retired from the post of Firemaster with the Grampian Fire Brigade. He was replaced by Mr Thomas Bond, G.I.FireE., who was previously Assistant Firemaster with Strathclyde Fire Brigade. Mr Ballantyne, the Fife Firemaster, is due to retire early in 1983. I would like to thank both retiring officers for their considerable contributions to the fire service and to wish them long and happy retirement.

### **Honours and Awards**

15. The following fire service employees received recognition in the Queen's Honours Lists:

Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)  
Member (M.B.E.) John H. Harley, Senior Administration Officer,  
Central Region Fire Brigade.

British Empire Medal (Civil Division)  
John A. C. Corbett, Fireman, Grampian Fire Brigade.  
William B. Mason, Leading Fireman, Lothian and Borders Fire  
Brigade.

Queen's Fire Service Medal (Q.F.S.M.)  
Fraser Ballantyne, M.I.FireE., Firemaster, Fife Fire Brigade.

16. The Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was awarded to 204 members of Scottish Fire Brigades.

### **Liaison with Home Office Fire Inspectorate**

17. Through attendances at meetings in concert with Home Office based colleagues, a fairly close contact is maintained, and matters affecting the service on a UK basis are discussed.

18. Meetings of Home Office and Scottish fire service Inspectorate staff are convened at regular intervals, and where time and opportunity permits, I am able to attend such meetings to discuss more fully the role of the Inspectorate, the areas in which particular problems may develop and the manner of approach to such problems, and to learn of the difficulties arising in England and Wales.

### **Legislation**

19. The Fireman's Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order 1982, which came into operation on 8 March 1982, modifies Article 55 of the Firemen's Pension Scheme 1973 in its application to firemen serving in the period after 30 June 1979 and before 1 January 1980. During this period, as a result of financial constraints on fire authorities, full implementation of pay increases to Chief Fire Officers/Firemasters and Assistant Chief Fire Officers/Firemasters was delayed. The Order ensures that this delay does not affect the pensions of those officers. It also makes special provision for those Assistant Chief Fire Officers/Firemasters who remained on guaranteed minimum rates of pay during the relevant period. Retrospective effect is authorised by Sections 12 and 16 of the Superannuation Act 1972.

20. The Northern Combined Fire Area Administration (Amendment) Scheme Order 1982, which came into operation on 1 April 1982, amends the method of apportioning the annual expenditure incurred by the Northern Fire Board in administering and maintaining a combined fire brigade. Under the new arrangements this expenditure will be apportioned among the Board's constituent fire authorities (i.e., Highland Regional Council and the Islands Councils of Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles) in proportion to their respective shares of the total population of the Combined Fire Area.

21. The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, which received Royal Assent during the year, will be of significant interest to fire authorities. It gives local authorities power to issue licences for specific activities, such as the organising of public entertainments. In cases where such an activity is wholly or mainly to be carried on in premises, the fire authorities will be given a copy of the licence application and may make any written objection or representation concerning the application as they think necessary.

22. The Act also makes it an offence for any person to lay or light a fire in a public place where it might endanger or annoy other persons (expanding an earlier provision relating to bonfires which was contained in the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act 1892) (Sec. 56); requires the occupiers of premises containing common stairs or passages to keep them free of combustible substances and anything which might obstruct egress from the property in the event of fire (Sec. 93); and empowers the Secretary of State to make regulations to ensure the safe operation of electrical luminous tube signs, particularly with regard to the safety of firemen during firefighting operations in the event of fire (Sec. 98).



## SECTION B

### *Personnel and Administration*

#### **Establishments**

23. The establishments and actual strengths of brigades are shown in detail in Table 1.

#### **Wholetime Personnel**

24. During the last 3 years there has been a minor increase in the overall establishments total for Scottish brigades but the shortfall in actual strength figures has also increased as the following comparisons show:

	<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Actual Strength</i>	<i>Shortfall</i>
1980	4,359	4,300	59
1981	4,365	4,288	77
1982	4,373	4,279	94

25. The shortages are attributable, in the main, to a few brigades and the position in the last 3 years is shown in the following Table.

<i>Brigade</i>	<i>Shortfall</i>		
	1980	1981	1982
Fife	7	5	3
Lothian and Borders	—	1	7
Strathclyde	21	42	59
Tayside	26	19	17
Others	6	10	8

26. It will be seen from the foregoing table that although two brigades are reducing their shortfalls in manning levels this is not the case with Strathclyde and Lothian and Borders, the two largest brigades in Scotland, where the deficiencies in numbers have increased. A significant factor is, of course, the time-lag that inevitably occurs between retirements and consequential recruitments.

27. During 1982 a total of 80 recruits entered the fire service in Scotland, 10 fewer than in the previous year. Every brigade has a waiting list of applicants.

28. A total of 90 operational personnel left the service during the year, 10 more than the number recruited and 17 fewer than the number who left in 1981.

#### **Retained and Volunteer Personnel**

29. The part-time retained and volunteer establishments and strengths are as follows:

	<i>Establishment</i>		<i>Actual Strength</i>	
	1981	1982	1981	1982
Retained	2,636	2,548	2,423	2,353
Volunteer	1,438	1,450	1,258	1,276

30. The reduction of the establishment figure for retained personnel by 88 is accounted for by one brigade dispensing with retained personnel attached to wholetime stations and another brigade replacing retained units with wholetime personnel.

31. The numbers and categories of fire stations in Scotland at the end of the year were: Wholetime 176; Retained 174; Volunteer 134.

#### **Control Room (Non-Operational Staff)**

32. At the end of the year the Control Room staffing levels were 15 below the establishment total.

#### **Discipline**

33. Forty-three cases of breach of discipline, under the Fire Services (Discipline) (Scotland) Regulations 1953, were heard during the year and 28 punishments were awarded. The figures for 1981 were 26 and 25 respectively.

34. Whilst the 65% increase in the number of charges brought is a source of concern, there is consolation in the fact that the charges were for minor offences.

#### **Health**

35. The total number of working days lost due to sickness averaged 5.13% for Scottish brigades throughout the year. This average has remained fairly static over the past few years and is roughly equivalent to the percentage element allowed in calculating brigade establishment levels.

## SECTION C

### *Operational*

#### **Fires and Other Emergencies**

36. Table 3 has been altered from previous years to show, as a separate entry, those fires not affecting occupied property, i.e. secondary fires.

37. The increase in calls to fire brigades is shown by the following Table which compares the 1962 workload with present day demands.

	1962	1982	Increase	Decrease
Fires	13,508	17,628	4,120	
Chimney Fires	8,874	6,414		2,460
False Alarms—Good Intent	4,515	15,017	10,502	
False Alarms—Malicious	1,877	8,082	6,205	
		<i>TOTAL</i>	20,827	2,460

38. The reduction in the number of chimney fires is no doubt due to the increasing use of central heating systems within domestic premises resulting in fewer open fires.

39. The number of calls to fire brigades to attend special service incidents has also increased dramatically in the past 20 years; the total for 1962 was 1,442 as against 4,797 in 1982.

40. The increase in the number of malicious false alarm calls made to fire brigades is most disconcerting. The developing pattern over a 20 year period shows that fire brigade resources were wasted on 1,877, 5,194 and 8,082 occasions in 1962, 1972 and 1982 respectively. These totals represent 6.21%, 9.06% and 11.16% of the total calls to brigades for those years. The fact that the maximum penalty for anyone convicted of making a malicious false alarm call to the fire brigade has risen from £25.00 to £500.00 maximum over the same period does not seem to have acted as a suitable deterrent.

#### **Fatalities**

41. I am pleased to report a reduction in the number of persons who died in fires, or who subsequently died as a result of injuries sustained in fires. The total attributable deaths in 1982 was 142 which is 3 less than that in 1981. Although this reduction is very small, it is an encouraging sign that the trend is downward. I do not regard fatality totals as mere statistics. I am well aware that the figures relate to people who have died at fires. In many instances I am sure such deaths could have been avoided and the fires themselves could have been avoided if more care had been exercised by those who caused the fire.

42. Whilst members of the public may claim it is their constitutional right to regulate their lives within their homes even if it puts them at risk, they have no

right, constitutionally or otherwise, to risk the lives of others. Of the 142 persons whose deaths were attributed to fires in 1982, 13 of them were children under the age of 10. A further worrying statistic can be seen in Table 4 of this Report which shows that 69 persons over the age of 60 years also died in fires. This is an increase of 3 over the 1981 total for this age group.

43. Modern science may be playing a large part in extending the expected lifespan of mankind but modern combustible materials in homes, because of their fierce burning and smoke producing characteristics, can destroy that life very rapidly. Vigilance on everyones part is necessary in order to protect life from the danger of fire and when in danger no one should hesitate to call for the assistance of the fire service.

### **Rescues**

44. Fire brigade personnel were responsible for rescuing 477 persons from fires during the year and a further 559 persons were assisted from situations other than fires. The rescue of persons from dangerous situations is developing in a way that requires firemen to exercise special skill and considerable ingenuity. Fire brigades are closely involved in researching a variety of pieces of equipment which assist in freeing trapped persons and as new techniques are developed and practised, so the demands for assistance increase. It is a tribute to the personnel of the service that the occasions when their combined talents cannot overcome the predicament are very rare. The rescue role of the fireman is often overlooked in favour of his firefighting role but rescue from dangerous and precarious situations is a regular feature of the fireman's job and one for which he deserves commendation.

### **Road Accidents**

45. Fire brigades' attendance was requested at 1,082 road accidents last year, 7 fewer than the previous year. At those incidents a total of 427 persons were rescued from crashed vehicles.

46. As with other forms of rescue, the fire service experience in dealing with trapped victims in vehicle accidents continues to grow and its techniques to develop. It is not only the removal of the occupants which taxes the skills of the fireman however. There is also a need to attend to the injuries of those involved, consequently basic first aid and casualty handling are items of great importance in the fireman's training schedule.

47. Although no specific mention has been made of this in previous reports, it should be noted that fire service personnel undergo training which will assist them to cope with railway incidents. As these could well be serious in scale, all brigades have prepared a "Major Incident Procedure" plan for railway accidents, which would be put into effect in co-operation with other emergency services should a need arise.

### **Fire Damage**

48. Figures obtained from the British Insurance Association indicate the estimated monetary fire loss for the United Kingdom to be £390.7 million, an increase of 9% over the corresponding figure for 1981. Losses in Scotland are estimated to be £50.3 million as compared with £50 million in 1981.

49. Many large fires occurred in school premises during the year, often as a consequence of wilful fire raising. Improved security after school hours could do much to reduce the number of such incidents.

## SECTION D

### *Supplies and Services*

#### **Transport**

50. Replacement programmes for fire service vehicles are subject to financial pressure and brigades seek to maintain a viable useful life span for vehicles by a preventative maintenance programme arranged on a regular pattern. Each brigade replaces part of its fleet of vehicles each year over a pre-planned period and, despite the financial difficulties, each programme of replacement is on target. The present total of first line appliances available in Scotland is 577 of which only some 10% are over 15 years old.

#### **Equipment**

51. Despite the increasing costs of purchasing fire appliances and the equipment carried thereon, fire brigades are making good progress in their attempts to improve the service provided for the public at large. It would be remiss of me not to state my appreciation of the assistance given to Firemasters by their fire authorities in this matter.

52. Areas worthy of specific mention are the progress being made towards providing a satisfactory number of breathing apparatus sets on each appliance, the increasing number of positive pressure breathing apparatus sets in use in brigades and also the increasing number of protective clothing suits being made available for firemen involved in chemical incidents.

53. The above equipment, as well as providing better protection for the fire-fighter, also allows him to gain access to contaminated areas where life may be at risk. At many incidents brigade personnel are able to supply a casualty with an air supply coupled to the fireman's personal breathing apparatus set during the time that the casualty is being removed from the risk area. As new items of equipment are developed and made available for fire brigade use, it follows that training in the handling and techniques and scope of use of such equipment must be given to personnel. It is evident from demonstrations witnessed that such training is being given at regular intervals and that fire service personnel are well versed in the various uses of the new equipment.

54. Equipment for the purpose of decontaminating firemen attending chemical spillage incidents is now available in all brigades and training in the use of this equipment has been incorporated into brigade training programmes.

#### **Uniform and Personal Equipment**

55. Discussions and trials are continuing on the subject of a suitable rubber boot for use by operational personnel. Since this type of footwear has to be worn for long periods, comfort is essential. Against that the protection of the lower limb requires the incorporation of steel plates in the design. To marry the need for both comfort and strength is proving difficult but trials of specimen boots are continuing.

56. A similar problem exists in the manufacture of the firemen's firefighting tunic and overtrousers. The materials involved should be as waterproof as possible; it is also essential to ensure that air circulation is not impaired and consequently some form of venting must be provided. In the case of the overtrousers, however, it has been found that an outer layer which repels water is not necessarily the best defence against the heat of a fire. Trials and tests are being carried out to find the most suitable compromise.

### **Water Supplies**

57. At the end of the year there were 128,614 local authority fire hydrants in Scotland, an increase of 1,868 over the 1981 total. Water is still the principal weapon for use in firefighting and the supply of hydrants is vital to success on the fireground.

58. Hydrant cleaning, testing and maintenance is carried out on a regular basis, normally by station personnel dealing with those hydrants within their own turnout area. Apart from ensuring that the hydrants themselves are readily available for use in emergencies, personnel who undertake the maintenance duties become more acquainted with the topography of their areas and the location and capability of the water supplies.

### **Premises**

59. Fire brigade premises are, in general, in 2 categories, fire stations and Headquarters buildings. Some fire stations incorporate either a brigade or divisional headquarters but most are separate entities. The replacement of wholtime fire stations has progressed satisfactorily and in only 2 brigade areas is there an urgent need for replacement stations. There has also been good progress on the replacement of retained stations and only 5 such stations are in urgent need of replacement.

60. The provision of HQ and Divisional HQ premises is generally satisfactory but 3 of the 8 brigades require new headquarters.

61. The majority of brigades have complete management of the maintenance programme and achieve a high standard of maintenance. But in one large brigade the Firemaster does not have complete management of the maintenance programme and the standards are less than satisfactory.

### **Communications**

62. The Co-ordinating Committee set up to discuss the implications of the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) Report on the Radio Frequency changes which would affect the fire service have had worthwhile meetings during the year. Several small working parties have been formed with remits on particular problems and the results of their deliberations will be fed into the main consultative body.

63. One of the main proposals from the Co-ordinating Committee that has been accepted on behalf of the fire service was to move the main scheme radio band to a higher order frequency.



64. The Directorate of Telecommunications have now completed hilltop surveys, carried out in the Central, Fife and Tayside fire authorities' areas, to establish the coverage expected from the new frequency bands. Preliminary discussions have also been held between the Directorate and other fire authorities on the requirements of their particular areas. Any alterations or amendments to existing schemes and systems will be monitored by the Directorate through the medium of the Co-ordination Committee.

65. Although brigades cannot yet make definite plans for their new radio schemes, Firemasters are using the present interval to evaluate the equipment available on the market. In making their assessments they have had considerable assistance from the staff of the Directorate of Telecommunications.

66. Strathclyde Fire Brigade have now completed their planning for a unified Control Room which will be based at Johnstone. The provision of one central control for a brigade the size of Strathclyde is a major undertaking and their special project team have worked very hard to prepare the way for the change-over.

67. Further discussions have taken place between Firemasters and the Directorate of Telecommunications staff regarding the provision, and adequacy, of portable radio sets for use on the fireground. Existing equipment is being evaluated and improvements, where applicable, will be built into future specifications.

68. In the years to come we will see considerable changes in the communications field as applicable to the fire service. With the development of technology and the rapid advances in this sphere, the further improvements which will inevitably be required should be viewed as a challenge to the service rather than a hindrance.



## SECTION E

### *Fire Prevention*

#### **Summary**

69. The number of premises visited for fire prevention purposes was 67,462, this number being 2,166 fewer than in the previous year. The number of plans submitted to fire prevention departments for comment also showed a reduction, the total being 8,583 as compared with 9,694 in 1981.

70. Developers are prone to criticise fire brigades for applying different safety standards to the same basic building design in different parts of the country. In practice the differences in brigade requirements tend to be minor. Nevertheless the Inspectorate staff hold regular meetings with appropriate officers in the brigades to ensure that, insofar as is practicable, a common approach is applied to buildings of similar type and construction.

#### **Education and Publicity**

71. Fire prevention films were shown on the commercial television networks during November and between Christmas and New Year and there were Press Releases concerning fire safety issued in Scotland at the start of Fire Prevention Week (25-30 October) and prior to 5 November 1982.

72. A booklet for primary school children entitled "Jim and Jane meet the Fire Service" was published during the year for issue by fire brigades to schools within their respective areas.

#### **Inspection and Certification of Premises**

73. The number of fire certificates issued under the Fire Precautions Act 1971 during the year was:

Factories	262 (314)
Offices and Shops etc.	916 (1,038)
Hotels and Boarding Houses	127 (197)

From the 1981 figures, shown in brackets, it will be seen that there is a slight reduction in all categories.

74. In addition to the issue of new fire certificates, brigades issued the following revised certificates:

Factories	200 (196)
Offices and Shops etc.	383 (378)
Hotels and Boarding Houses	481 (380)

In this category there was an increase in workload.

### **Joint Fire Prevention Committee**

75. A draft guide to Fire Precautions in Hospitals was issued in October, setting out the standards to be applied to existing NHS buildings and to private hospitals. Copies of the guide were issued to fire authorities, fire brigades, health boards and bodies responsible for the management of private hospitals and nursing homes.

76. A draft guide on Fire Precautions in Residential Care Premises and a similar guide on Means of Escape and other safety matters relating to houses of multiple occupation were under consideration by the Committee.

77. A circular was issued to fire authorities in June describing a pilot study, carried out by Leicestershire Fire Brigade, into the feasibility of providing fire prevention advice to the elderly in their homes and asking authorities to consider the establishment of a similar visiting scheme in their areas.

78. Early in the year a working group was formed to consider the criteria for a Firemans' Lift (a lift within a building for the sole use of fire service personnel in the event of a fire) and also for other lifts used as a means of escape from fire. The group is expected to report to the main committee during 1983.

79. During the year the Planning/Legislation Sub-Committee continued its review of the Fire Precautions Act 1971. Consideration of the responses to the questionnaire on enclosed shopping centres was in progress.

80. In addition, the Sub-Committee considered what action might be taken to deal with the problems concerning the separation of the furniture display area and/or the installation of sprinkler systems in certain shop categories.

### **Health and Safety Executive**

81. The very useful liaison between the Health and Safety Executive and the Inspectorate staff was maintained throughout the year, largely through joint discussions. The link has been strengthened by the inclusion of an HSE representative at particular GB Advisory Committee meetings where the operational requirements and practices of the fire service are under discussion.

82. A member of the Inspectorate continues to serve on the HSE convened Advisory Committee on Dangerous Substances.

### **Building Regulations**

83. The Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations 1981, which came into operation on 17 March 1982, incorporated major revisions of Parts D and E of the previous Regulations. Fire prevention officers from all Scottish brigades attended a seminar at the Scottish Fire Service Training School, Gullane, to discuss the implications of the amendments.

## SECTION F

### *Training*

#### **Scottish Fire Service Training School**

84. Major developments affecting the buildings at the School are almost complete, and during the year Henderson House was re-equipped, the Fire House was refurbished and the Fire Burning area was completed. A number of alterations will be carried out in the near future in the Breathing Apparatus training block.

85. A total of 84 recruits completed their training at the School during the year and courses were also provided for the following groups: Retained Firemen (63), Retained Leading Firemen/Sub-Officers (25), Retained Sub-Officers/Station Officers (13), Wholetime Leading Firemen (38), Breathing Apparatus Instructors (19). A total of 24 members of brigades' transport/engineering departments attended a series of instructional courses on ladder maintenance.

86. In addition to the fire service courses the School also arranged instruction for the following groups: Hospital Fire Safety (46), British Airports Authority (7), and Industrial Fire Brigades (88). The numbers in brackets relate to the total number of personnel attending the courses.

87. Courses for non-fire service related personnel were also run at the School as follows: Police Staff Officers' Seminar (21), Local Government Careers Officers' Training Course (13), Social Work Advisors' Seminar/Training Course (31) and Industrial Relations Study for senior Scottish Office staff (151).

#### **National Fire Service College**

88. Following the amalgamation of the Staff College and the Technical College, the quality of teaching and instruction has been maintained at the high level expected of this establishment.

89. Rapid progress is being made by the College in producing a syllabus for each course couched in 'objective terms' in order that students may gain a better perspective and understanding of the purpose and relevance of each course. The Joint Training Committee is asked to approve each revised syllabus and, following approval of the Advisory Councils for England, Wales and Scotland, the syllabus is then issued to fire brigades. Ten such revisions have been issued to date.

90. In the overall training programme of the Fire Service College certain courses may be categorised as mandatory for specific groups of officers, while others are restricted to nominated or selected personnel. The mandatory courses are those highlighted in the progressive training scheme whereby newly

promoted junior officers are expected to attend the College for a series of instructional courses each linked to the other in a progressive manner.

91. Most brigades in Scotland are able to maintain this continuation training for their officers but in one or two brigades, mainly because of financial restrictions, there is a backlog of junior officers waiting to attend the first course on the progressive ladder.

92. Discussions have been held with the brigades concerned in order to attempt to ensure that junior officers are programmed into the training system at the correct point of their career in order that they may be given the opportunity to develop the necessary skills and management techniques applying at more senior officer levels.

93. Overall it has been found that Scottish brigades are well represented on all of the courses available at the Fire Service College and brigades are seen to benefit from the training received by their members.

#### **Fire Service Examinations Board (Scotland)**

94. The 1982 Written Promotion Examinations took place at various centres during the months of January, February and March. The results were as follows (the 1981 figures are shown in brackets):—

<i>Examination</i>	<i>No. of Candidates</i>	<i>No. of Passes</i>
Station Officer	272 (240)	72 (43)
Sub-Officer	396 (367)	142 (90)
Leading Fireman	527 (707)	142 (189)

95. At a ceremony held in Glasgow on 4 June 1982 prize certificates were awarded to the following candidates who obtained the highest marks in the written examinations:

Station Officer—Leading Fireman Donald Harvey (Strathclyde)

Sub-Officer—Fireman Brian Murray (Fife)

Leading Fireman—Fireman John Coffee (Strathclyde).

96. Practical examinations for Leading Fireman and Sub-Officer candidates were conducted by the fire authorities and the Board respectively during April and May with the following results (the 1981 figures are shown in brackets):—

<i>Examination</i>	<i>No. of Candidates</i>	<i>No. of Passes</i>
Sub-Officer	202 (151)	94 (92)
Leading Fireman	223 (281)	116 (197)

97. The method and standard of instruction given to prospective examination candidates by brigades varies considerably and consequently the numbers of personnel qualified for the next rank on the promotion ladder also varies between brigades.

98. Overall, Scotland maintains a healthy proportion of firemen and junior officers who are suitably qualified by examination for the next rank and although a large number of appointments are made from within a brigade's own resources, qualified personnel are encouraged to seek appointments elsewhere. By doing so, fresh ideas are brought in to the receiving brigade.

## SECTION G

### *Miscellaneous*

#### **Scottish Central Fire Brigades Advisory Council**

99. At the Council meetings held on 18 June and 12 November, the Chair was taken by Mr Allan Stewart, Scottish Office Minister for Home Affairs and the Environment, and by Mr A. L. Rennie, CB, Secretary of the Scottish Home and Health Department, respectively.

100. The Council considered reports from the Joint Communications Committee, the Joint Committees on Design and Development of Appliances and of Uniform and Personal Equipment, the Joint Committee on Fire Brigade Operations, the Joint Training Committee, the Joint Fire Prevention Committee, the Joint Pensions Committee and the Joint Committee on Fire Research.

101. A variety of papers emanating from the aforementioned Committees, having been discussed and agreed by the Council, were approved for circulation to fire authorities and Firemasters as appropriate.

#### **Research**

102. During the year the Joint Fire Research Committee continued to give consideration to various fire related projects in the programme of research carried out by the Research and Planning Unit of the Home Office and a number of outside agencies. These included projects concerned with the health and physical fitness of firemen, the provision of information on hazardous substances; learning at a distance in the fire service; a door-opening tool for fire brigade use; and assisting the vision of firemen in smoke.

#### **Fire Services National Benevolent Fund**

103. I am pleased to report that Scottish brigades raised a total of £79,935 as their contribution to this very worthwhile fund. Although all brigades topped the £7,000 mark, special mention must be made of the efforts by the Northern Fire Brigade personnel, whose contribution amounted to £11,200. The voluntary efforts of brigade personnel to produce such excellent results is worthy of commendation.

#### **Fire Services Sports and Athletics Association**

104. There was a notable change in the Committee structure of the Scottish section of the Fire Services Sports and Athletics Association during the year when Firemaster W. Shand relinquished the post of Chairman, a position he has held for the past 11 years. I would add my thanks to those of the Scottish District for the many hours Mr Shand has devoted to the furtherance of sports within the Scottish Fire Service.

105. Scottish fire brigades' personnel were well represented on the national and international scene during the year with mixed fortunes resulting from their efforts.

106. Three angling events were held in Scotland and representatives from the District attended competitions in Northern Ireland, Blackpool and Rugby.

107. The 8th International Road Race was held in Glasgow but Scottish athletes carried the flag abroad also and competed in events in Amsterdam and, for the first time, the New York Fire Department 5 Miles Road Race. In the latter event Jim Martin of Clydebank set a new record for the distance.

108. The Scottish select were soundly beaten in the Football International against England but Tayside Fire Brigade retained the British Cup by winning the final against a team from London.

109. An International Golf competition was arranged against England and played over the famous Gleneagles Course. Our colleagues from south of the border were able, on this occasion, to prove their superiority with a convincing win. Scotland won their Rugby International against Wales but lost to an English select whose performance improves with every game.

110. To all those who have worked hard over the past year to encourage and develop sports and athletics throughout the fire service I would say congratulations on your endeavours and thank you for your time and effort.



TABLE 1

	CENTRAL			DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY			FIFE			GRAMPIAN		
	Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength	
		Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female
<b>WHOLETIME</b>												
<b>OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL</b>												
Firemaster ... ..	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Assistant Firemaster ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	—
Senior Divisional Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Divisional Officer Grade I ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Divisional Officer Grade II ... ..	2	2	—	1	1	—	3	3	—	4	5	—
Divisional Officer Grade III ... ..	2	3	—	4	4	—	—	1	—	2	2	—
Assistant Divisional Officer ... ..	5	5	—	5	5	—	10	10	—	11	11	—
Station Officer ... ..	15	15	—	10	10	—	38	37	—	22	22	—
Sub-Officer ... ..	23	22	—	7	6	—	27	28	—	29	25	—
Leading Fireman ... ..	28	28	—	8	8	—	58	58	—	38	42	—
Fireman ... ..	140	138	—	52	51	—	236	232	—	145	141	—
Totals ... ..	218	216	—	88	86	—	376	373	—	255	252	—
<b>CONTROL ROOM STAFF</b>												
Prin. F.C. Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Group F.C. Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fire Con. Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Sen. Fire Con. Operator ... ..	1	1	—	1	—	1	4	—	4	4	—	4
Lead. Fire Con. Operator ... ..	4	3	1	5	—	5	4	—	3	4	—	4
Fire Control Operator ... ..	8	1	7	5	1	4	8	—	9	6	—	5
Totals ... ..	13	5	8	11	1	10	17	—	17	15	—	14
<b>PART-TIME RETAINED</b>												
Station Officer ... ..	4	—	—	3	3	—	2	2	—	11	11	—
Sub-Officer ... ..	16	15	—	16	16	—	8	8	—	33	35	—
Leading Fireman ... ..	20	21	—	20	20	—	10	11	—	45	53	—
Fireman ... ..	160	128	—	157	144	—	92	77	—	361	331	—
Totals ... ..	200	164	—	196	183	—	112	98	—	450	430	—
<b>PART-TIME VOLUNTEER</b>												
Assistant Divisional Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-Officer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
Leading Fireman ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—
Fireman ... ..	21	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	20	4
Totals ... ..	24	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	27	4
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>												
WHOLETIME OPERATIONAL ... ..	218	216	—	88	86	—	376	373	—	255	252	—
WHOLETIME CONTROL ROOM ... ..	13	5	8	11	1	10	17	—	17	15	—	14
PART-TIME RETAINED ... ..	200	164	—	196	183	—	112	98	—	450	430	—
PART-TIME VOLUNTEER ... ..	24	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	27	4
Grand Totals ... ..	455	397	8	295	270	10	505	471	17	752	709	18



OF FIRE BRIGADES

31st December 1982

LOTHIAN AND BORDERS			NORTHERN			STRATHCLYDE			TAYSIDE			TOTALS		
Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength		Establishment	Actual Strength	
	Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female
1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	8	8	—
2	2	—	1	1	—	5	5	—	1	1	—	13	13	—
3	3	—	—	—	—	7	8	—	—	—	—	11	12	—
2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	5	5	—	12	12	—
6	5	—	4	4	—	13	14	—	1	—	—	34	34	—
7	7	—	1	1	—	17	18	—	8	9	—	41	45	—
13	14	—	9	9	—	33	33	—	14	12	—	100	99	—
31	32	—	10	9	—	177	175	—	37	36	—	340	336	—
70	72	—	7	7	—	233	229	—	36	38	—	432	427	—
94	100	—	13	13	—	272	262	—	44	43	—	555	554	—
429	413	—	48	48	—	1,514	1,468	—	263	248	—	2,827	2,739	—
658	651	—	94	93	—	2,274	2,215	—	410	393	—	4,373	4,279	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
4	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	6	—	—	—	11	—	9
4	2	2	1	—	1	15	2	13	4	—	4	34	5	29
4	4	—	1	—	1	20	2	18	4	—	4	46	9	36
12	3	9	9	—	9	78	8	58	10	4	6	136	17	107
24	10	13	11	—	11	120	13	96	18	4	14	230	32	183
5	4	—	13	13	—	8	7	—	7	7	—	53	47	—
25	24	—	27	27	—	55	55	—	18	20	—	198	200	—
30	30	—	54	53	—	65	64	—	35	41	—	279	293	—
215	202	—	284	260	—	511	479	—	238	192	—	2,018	1,813	—
275	260	—	378	353	—	639	605	—	298	260	—	2,548	2,353	—
—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
—	—	—	91	91	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	94	94	—
—	—	—	81	81	—	2	2	—	1	1	—	92	89	—
—	—	—	968	805	—	219	212	—	30	39	—	1,263	1,088	4
—	—	—	1,141	978	—	221	214	—	32	41	—	1,450	1,272	4
658	651	—	94	93	—	2,274	2,215	—	410	393	—	4,373	4,279	—
24	10	13	11	—	11	120	13	96	18	4	14	230	32	183
275	260	—	378	353	—	639	605	—	298	260	—	2,548	2,353	—
—	—	—	1,141	978	—	221	214	—	32	41	—	1,450	1,272	4
957	921	13	1,624	1,424	11	3,254	3,047	96	758	698	14	8,601	7,936	187

CHANGES IN STRENGTH AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1982

TABLE 2

	Central		Dumfries & Galloway		Fife		Grampian		Lothian & Borders		Northern		Strathclyde		Tayside		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<b>GAINS</b>																		
(i) By Recruitment ... ..	6	—	—	—	9	2	9	1	8	—	1	—	39	—	8	—	80	3
(ii) By Transfer from Other Brigades ...	1	—	—	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	16	—
<b>TOTAL GAINS</b> ... ..	7	—	—	—	15	2	15	1	8	—	1	—	41	—	9	—	96	3
<b>LOSSES</b>																		
(i) By Death—																		
Attributable to Service ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not Attributable to Service ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
(ii) By Resignation or Discharge—																		
(a) During 1st and 2nd year of service ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	4	2
(b) After 2nd but under 10 years of Service ... ..	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	17	6	2	—	26	7
(c) After 10 years Service ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(iii) By Retirement—																		
(a) On Pension ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	15	1	2	—	27	1
(b) On Medical Grounds ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	28	1
(c) On Medical Grounds as a result of Over-40 Medical ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
(iv) On Transfer to Other Brigades ...	3	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	15	—
<b>TOTAL LOSSES</b> ... ..	6	—	—	—	8	2	4	2	15	—	—	—	66	8	6	—	105	12

**SUMMARY OF FIRES AND SPECIAL SERVICES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1982**

TABLE 3

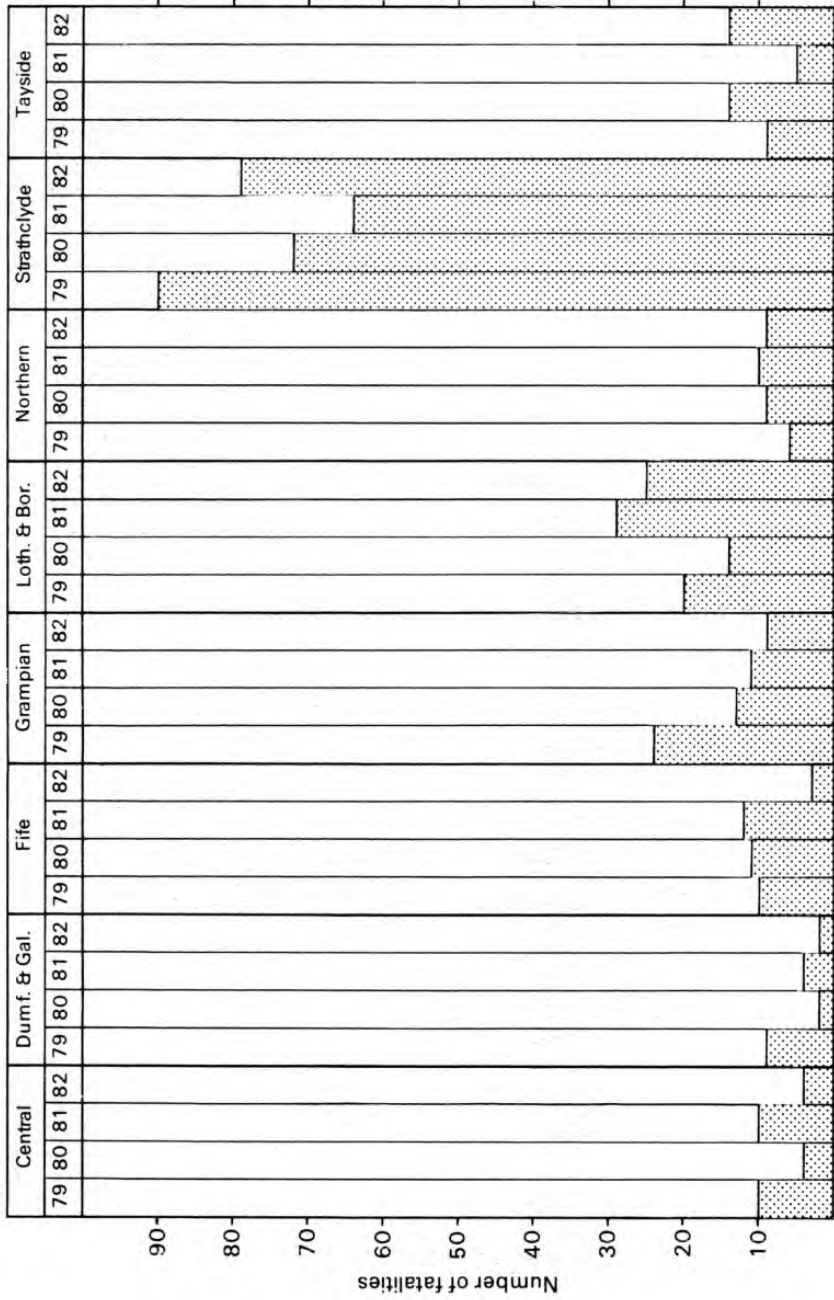
	Total Fires	Classification of fires by number of pumps used for firefighting purposes:						Chimney Fires	Secondary Fires	False Alarms			Special Service	Total
		(a) 1 pump	(b) 2 pumps	(c) 3/5 pumps	(d) 6/10 pumps	(e) 11/15 pumps	(f) Over 15			Good Incident	Apparatus Fault	Malicious		
Central ... ..	775	666	88	21	—	—	—	350	778	476	326	416	85	3,206
Dumfries and Galloway ...	477	324	132	21	—	—	—	309	229	224	103	150	255	1,747
Fife ... ..	1,029	990	35	4	—	—	—	577	1,151	485	418	496	344	4,500
Grampian ... ..	1,443	1,282	97	62	2	—	—	1,066	1,222	612	206	388	484	5,421
Lothian and Borders ...	3,594	2,876	542	168	8	—	—	740	3,994	1,702	769	1,854	709	13,362
Northern ... ..	720	625	88	7	—	—	—	1,142	551	230	108	125	270	3,146
Strathclyde ... ..	8,023	7,162	738	117	6	—	—	1,737	10,700	4,901	3,621	4,228	2,199	35,409
Tayside ... ..	1,567	1,510	52	5	—	—	—	493	1,815	592	244	425	451	5,587
Total ... ..	17,628	15,435	1,772	405	16	—	—	6,414	20,440	9,222	5,795	8,082	4,797	72,378

\* Minus one month statistics due to industrial dispute.



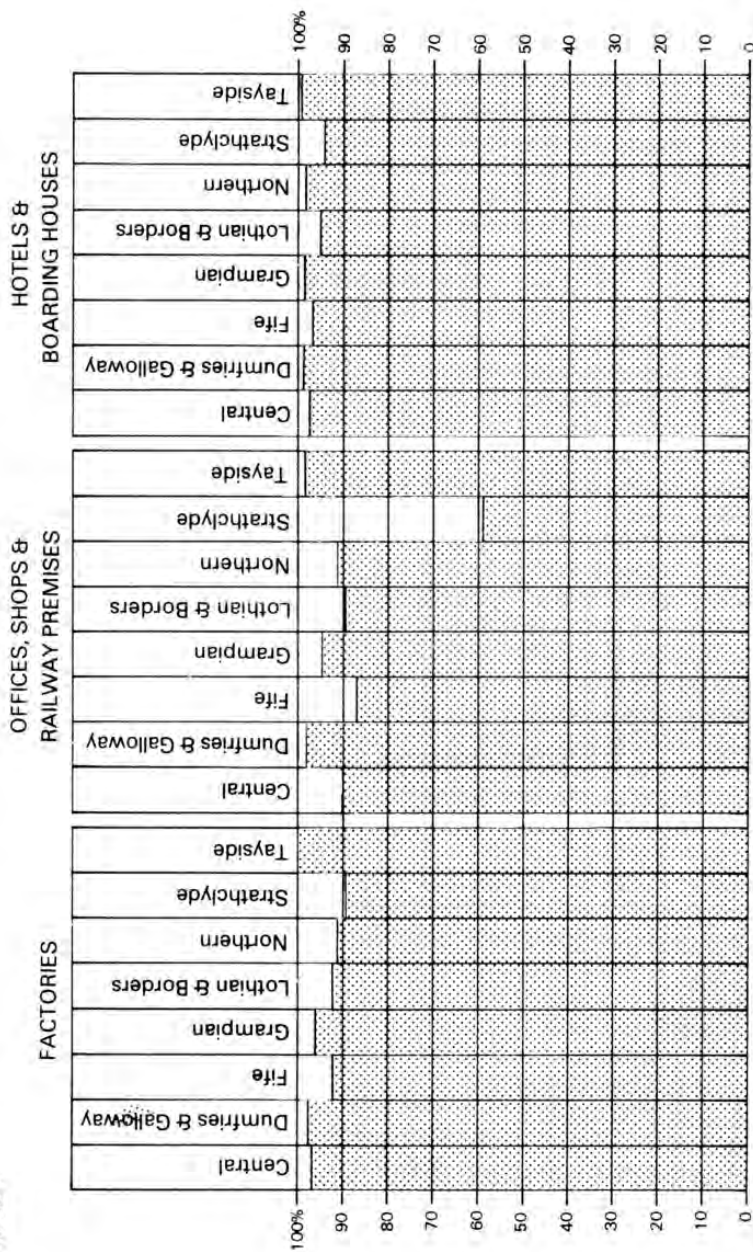
COMPARATIVE FATALITIES BY BRIGADE 1979-1982

TABLE 5



**FIRE PREVENTION: CERTIFICATION OF REGISTERED PREMISES (FIRE PRECAUTIONS ACT 1971)**

TABLE 6



Total number of Registered Premises in Scotland: Factories-6,052; Offices, Shops etc.-15,021; Hotels & Boarding Houses-4,525; The level indicates the percentage of Registered Premises issued with a Fire Certificate in relation to the number of Registered Premises in the Brigade requiring a Fire Certificate.



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