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SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Her Majesty's
Inspector of Fire Services
for Scotland
Report for 1973

*Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Scotland
by Command of Her Majesty
November 1974*

EDINBURGH
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
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Report 1973

of JOHN JACKSON, Esq., O.B.E., F.I.FireE.,
Her Majesty's Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE WILLIAM ROSS, M.B.E., M.P.,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Scotland.

SIR,

1. I have the honour to submit my report on the Fire Services in Scotland for the year ended 31st December, 1973. My staff and I have carried out the inspection of the Brigades; I am pleased to report that in general the high standard of efficiency is being maintained.

2. The main events of the year are reviewed in the following chapters. I wish here to draw attention to the salient features.

3. The figures for fire loss in Great Britain for 1973 again surpassed the previous year's total. It increased by £70.8 million; to a total of £179.3 million (including £25.8 million for Scotland); add to this the Northern Ireland estimate of £14.6 million and the sum total for the United Kingdom is a staggering £193,900,000. In 1969 the Great Britain loss figure was the highest ever recorded; the following two years showed a consecutive decrease followed by a rise in 1972. Since then the loss has escalated to its present all time high. The loss is not just of property; it is a social loss as well. Jobs are lost, earnings reduced; sometimes people have to move to other areas to find comparable work; some permanently lose their livelihood.

4. Even worse has been the cost of fire in terms of human life. In Scotland in 1973 a shattering total of 158 persons died from fire. This is 20 more than the figure for 1972 (itself a record year for fatalities) and almost twice the number in 1971 and a rise of epidemic proportion. This is one record to be viewed with alarm not only by the fire service, who regard the loss of one life as catastrophic, but by the country as a whole. It is an indictment on all of us that the death toll can increase despite the barrage of publicity aimed at industry, commerce and public alike on the dangers associated with fire.

5. The majority of fire deaths are in the higher and lower age groups and most victims die in their homes. Perhaps fires in dwellings are too commonplace to have any impact on those fortunate enough to escape the tragic consequences of such an event. However, the horror of death by fire is all too familiar to members of the fire service who will continue to strive towards greater safety both within the home and places of work.

6. The worst single tragedy of the year occurred in a fire in the Esplanade Hotel in Oban in which 10 visitors from the West of England lost their lives. The fatal accident inquiry found that no one was to blame. The incident again emphasises the importance of bringing fire precautions in hotels up to the standards required under the Fire Precautions Act with the utmost possible

speed. It also emphasises the need to take commonsense precautions in the matter of good day-to-day management both as an interim measure until such time as all preventive work has been carried out and as a permanent regime without which even the best designed buildings cannot be wholly safe.

7. The Fire Services are taking counter-measures against the rising tide of loss and casualty. Fire prevention inspections under the umbrella of the Fire Precautions Act 1971 in relation to designated hotels and boarding houses are now well under way. Many premises coming within the scope of the first Designating Order have had at least preliminary inspection and over 1,600 premises have been inspected for the purposes of certification, and requirements served on the relevant persons responsible for implementation.

X 8. The work under the relatively new Fire Precautions Act 1971 tends to overshadow the considerably increased volume of work which is being carried out under earlier legislation. Inspections to which the Factories Act of 1961 applies resulted in 1,568 premises being inspected at the request of the Factory Inspectorate. Co-operation between the Factory Inspectorate and the Fire Brigades continues to be extremely good and it is also encouraging to see the use made by industrial and business undertakings of the advice readily given by the Service on request, even from owners of premises who are not obliged to consult the fire authorities. This goodwill liaison is as important as the legislative co-operation in protecting employer and employee alike from the hazard of fire within their respective workplaces. There is also increased work under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 under which over 12,000 inspections have been carried out. There has also been increased co-operation with architects and planning authorities regarding new and modernised buildings.

9. The output produced by Fire Brigades over the total field of fire prevention has thus risen above that of previous years; the continuing use of personnel of all ranks is the main contribution to this increase. There has been an increase in the number of fire prevention officers in post and in the number of brigade personnel who have received some degree of fire prevention training. This greater involvement of all ranks of the fire brigade in fire prevention is of utmost importance both from the point of view of adding to the attractiveness of the fire services as a career by improving the nature of the work and as a central part of the strategy for protecting the public against fire.

10. It must also reinforce demands for achieving the full establishment of brigades.

11. During 1973 recruitment figures showed a drop and there was an increase in the number of personnel leaving the service for various reasons. With the advent of the 48 hour week in late 1974 plans were formed at the end of the year to launch a recruiting drive to make up the deficiency of manpower and to cater for the additional personnel required for the full implementation of the new system of duty. It was also necessary to make the first preparations for the training of these additional recruits. In this the Scottish Fire Service Training School at Gullane has a key role to play though it seemed probable at the end of the year that increased facilities would be necessary in brigades under the aegis of the school to cope with the very large increase in the level of recruitment over what had been experienced in recent years.

12. The temporary fall in recruitment in 1972 and 1973 had made it possible for the school to provide a variety of courses to develop the technical knowledge and practical ability of firemen. The resources of the school were also utilised by industrial and commercial interests for whom the Commandant designed special courses to suit the special need. These courses have proved very helpful in that the student's confidence and ability have been greatly enhanced whilst the co-operation between the brigades and companies involved becomes more firmly established. In 1974 the resources of the school will be fully stretched in maintaining recruit training. The role for the school in future is at present under review but it seems desirable that the capacity of the school should be such that it will be able to handle recruit training after the present bulge is passed and reintroduce these other courses which serve a valuable purpose both in broadening the interests of the school and cementing relationships between industry, the public and the fire service.

13. There was also during 1973 continued improvement in equipment; in particular new developments in communications technology are offering facilities which could aid mobilisation, control of appliances and more flexible retention of contact with officers in the field. There is a major experiment in Glasgow designed to convey to crews on their way to the fire full information about the premises to which they have been called and the hazards they are likely to meet therein.

14. These improvements in manpower, training and equipment together with increased knowledge about fire prevention techniques and application of fire prevention legislation should enable Brigades to give greater protection to the public from fire than they have ever had before. Regrettably this is not the whole solution to achieve a reduction in the number of deaths and property losses, and experience shows that in a modern industrial society only where there is public concern at the danger of fire, and public participation in its prevention, can this be achieved.

15. I would wish to conclude this Report by paying tribute to the members of the Fire Service and the public bodies who have assisted me in the past year. There have been in Brigades during this period many fine examples of devotion to duty and dedication in the fight against fire by both whole-time and part-time personnel; for this I, on behalf of the whole community, would wish to thank them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

JOHN JACKSON,

H.M. Inspector of Fire Services for Scotland.

July, 1974.

CHAPTER I

Operational

Fires and other occurrences

1. The total number of fire calls again shows an increase over the previous year's figure (see table 3). Incidents of fire (excluding chimney fires) rose by 4,553 to a total of 38,225. The largest portion of the increase occurred in the 1 pump fire category where the number of calls increased by 4,474. Of the false alarm calls received almost 40% were malicious and the only improvement is the drop in the number of chimney fires which fell from 5,823 in 1972 to 5,342 in 1973.

2. Special service calls were down on last year's figures, being 4,629 for 1973 and this includes 1,121 attendances at road accidents. The casualty figures for road accidents attended by fire brigades resulted in 526 persons suffering injury and 109 incidents where one or more fatalities occurred. Comparative figures for the previous year are 437 injured and 107 fatal incidents. It may be of interest to note that of the 1,121 accidents attended, vehicles were involved in fire on only 31 occasions. The increasing demand and the ever-widening scope of special service work demands the closest liaison between all emergency services.

3. The death toll due to fire continued to rise from 88 in 1971 to 138 in 1972 to 158 in 1973. Of the 158 fatalities 134 died or received injuries resulting in deaths before the arrival of the brigade. This compares with the 1972 figures of 138 and 98 respectively. Of any single incident the Oban Hotel fire claimed the most lives when 9 persons died in the fire and one person died later in hospital as a result of the injuries received at the fire. At the fatal accident inquiry held at Oban in October, 1973 the jury's findings included comment to the effect that:

Fire Service escape ladder test procedures should be reviewed; all fire appliances in the County of Argyll should be equipped with radio and discussions should be held between those responsible for the organisation of the emergency services to review the methods of dealing with emergency calls.

4. Action is being taken on all these recommendations. In particular a review of the call out arrangements is in hand and the fire authority have under consideration schemes for up-grading and extending the communications system throughout the Western fire area.

5. Estimated fire losses in Great Britain (excluding Northern Ireland) reached an all time high level of £179.3 million for the year ending the 31st December, 1973. This includes Scottish losses of £25.8 million. The total for the whole of the United Kingdom is £193.9 million which includes losses in Northern Ireland amounting to £14.6 million. The figures below show the estimated losses since 1969 for Great Britain:

1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
£117.3m	£106.6m	£106.1m	£108.5m	£179.3m

6. Part of the explanation must lie in increased values of property but this cannot account for the whole rise of £70.8 million between 1972 and 1973; in the same period the Scottish total rose from £14.7 million to £25.8 million; the figures in Scotland thus show an increase which is in line with those for the country as a whole and it must be presumed that the same factors are operating here as elsewhere.

7. The table below lists some of the major fires which occurred in Scotland during 1973.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Building</i>	<i>Estimated Loss</i>
Western	Tannery	£315,000
South Eastern	Mansion House	233,000
Glasgow	Refuse Disposal Plant	650,000
Lanarkshire	Telecommunications	1,615,000
Western	School	600,000
Central	School	150,000
South Western	Hotel	191,000
North Eastern	Distillery (Vacant)	105,000
South Western	Chemical Manuf.	600,000
Perth & Kinross	Metal Treatment Wks.	250,000
Glasgow	Textile Manuf.	600,000
Angus	Jute Works	300,000
North Eastern	Restaurant	470,000
Glasgow	School	121,000
South Eastern	Laundry	128,000
Angus	Paper Manuf.	120,000
Lanarkshire	Distillery	100,000
Glasgow	Timber Yard	500,000
Central	Tar/Chemical Works	2,500,000
Glasgow	School	100,000
Glasgow	Textile Machine Manuf.	750,000
Glasgow	Furniture Store	316,000
Fife	Teachers' College	138,000
		£10,852,000

Fire Prevention

8. Inspections of places to which the Factories Act, 1961, applies resulted in 363 new certificates being issued under Section 40 and 299 certificates being revised; during the same period 1,568 premises were inspected under Section 148(1)(b) at the request of the Factory Inspectorate.

9. Under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, a total of 11,096 inspections were carried out under Section 28 of the Act, 735 fire certificates were issued under Section 29 and 327 premises were issued with a revised certificate.

10. Discussions with architects and planning bodies regarding new and modernised buildings combined with site visits and advice to contractors occupies more and more of the fire prevention departments' time and effort. A

X variety of premises were visited for a variety of reasons on no less than 54,418 occasions, compared to 45,083 visits last year.

11. The number of fire prevention officers in post at the end of 1973 rose to 155 as compared to 138 in 1972. X An additional 1,912 members of brigades have received training in some degree of fire prevention and carry out specific duties in this field.

Mutual Assistance

12. Under sections 2 and 12 of the Fire Services Act, 1947 provision is made for mutual assistance between brigades. During the year under review assistance with first attendance appliance(s) was given to other brigades on 1,341 occasions and reinforcements only were supplied on 41 occasions.

Communications

13. Technology in the communications field continues to develop so that line and radio techniques now offer much improved facilities which are being exploited in the fire service to provide better communication within brigades and improved mobilisation of retained stations.

14. There are now available new radio and line call-out systems which are coming into increasing use and will enable the larger regional brigades to exercise better control. Improved mobilising systems using pocket radio "alerters" are giving better turnout times for part-time personnel. As a side benefit the number of sirens in use is being reduced—a matter of considerable public interest.

15. Paging systems are available which make it possible for brigade headquarters to remain in touch with officers in the field thereby releasing more senior personnel from their respective stations without impairing the operational efficiency of the brigade.

16. Tests are being carried out with Glasgow Fire Brigade's fire fighting computer system whereby information is transmitted from the data bank at headquarters to small facsimile recorders fitted in operational appliances. With details of over 800 premises on record at present it is hoped to extend the system to cover 10,000 properties as well as listing information regarding the location of public call boxes in the city. The computer retrieval system has also been designed to pass information as requested in relation to over 1,000 hazardous substances ranging from petrol to explosives.

17. The transmission of information between headquarters and appliances is via a combination of post office land line and the existing V.H.F. radio frequency.

18. After the evaluation exercise has been carried out it is expected that the system will be fully operational in the early part of 1975.

19. There were 606 mobile transmitter/receivers installed in fire service vehicles, staff cars, etc. in Scotland by the end of 1973.

Appliances and Equipment

20. The total purchases of fire appliances and other vehicles in Scotland during 1973 are listed hereunder:

Water Tender Ladder (35 feet)	18
Water Tender Ladder (45 feet)	12
Pump Escape	1
Scoosher	6
Emergency Tender Type "B"	1
Land Rover B A Vehicle	1
Road Accident Vehicle	1
Other vehicles and appliances	23

21. Brigades continue to work to a programme of replacement for first line appliances and also adhere to a strict maintenance schedule. Due to the difficulties which have been experienced by brigades in obtaining spare parts for the older appliances a reappraisal of vehicle life has been done, as a result of which the vehicle life span has in some brigades been reduced from approximately 20 years to 15 years. Even now the new target is not met without some difficulty and the problems are often solved only by the resourcefulness of brigade transport officers and staff.

Water Supplies

22. The total number of fire authority hydrants in the country at the end of the year was 120,884 of which 84% were fully standard. All brigades are anxious that the work of replacing non-standard hydrants should be completed as soon as possible. Whilst the Regional Water Boards may have many other problems the brigades concerned are constantly pressing Boards to complete their programme and to arrange discussions regarding the larger conversion schemes.

Research

23. Further to the fire service orientated research carried out at the Building Research Establishment at Boreham Wood, the Home Office intend to inaugurate a research branch within the scientific and advisory branch of the department. Fire brigades throughout the country have been notified regarding this development and among the projects to be studied are the following:

An infra-red device to enable firemen to 'see through' smoke.

Appliances & Equipment—standards of stowage and equipment carried.

Charging of B A Cylinders—best methods to be adopted by large brigades.

Tactics study—a study into fireground tactics.

Standards of fire cover.

Withdrawal of Labour

24. After a period of restricted duties, Glasgow firemen withdrew their labour from 26th October to 5th November, 1973. Fire cover was provided by members of H.M. Forces under the direction of officers of the Glasgow Fire

Service. The Secretary of State wrote to the Lord Provost expressing appreciation of the outstanding contribution by the Firemaster and his officers in maintaining fire protection.

Queen's Commendations

Kilbirnie Street.

25. At the fatal accident inquiry into the fire at Kilbirnie Street, Glasgow, in 1972, the jury recommended that failure to comply with fire safety requirements within a specified time should incur some form of penalty. The jury's statement also said that no words could express appreciation of the valiant and untiring efforts of the firemen to protect life and property.

26. It was subsequently announced that the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct had been awarded to six members of the Service who lost their lives (D.O. Quinn, Leading Fireman Crofts and Firemen Bermingham, Finlay, Hooper and McMillan) and to Fireman Brian Murray.

Maryhill Road.

27. The Queen's Commendation was also awarded to Sub-Officer McGill who died while carrying out rescue operations in a fire at Maryhill Road, Glasgow.

CHAPTER II

Administration

Honours and Awards

28. The following received recognition in the Queen's Honours Lists:

Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)—Officer (O.B.E.)

Firemaster S. H. Park, Q.F.S.M., G.I.FireE.—Central Area Fire Brigade.

British Empire Medal (B.E.M.)

Control Officer Miss M. Moran—South Eastern Area Fire Brigade.

29. 100 members of Scottish brigades were awarded the Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Promotions

30. The following promotions up to the rank of Divisional Officer were made during this year:

11 Divisional Officers (5 Grade I, 1 Grade II, 5 Grade III) (including

2 temporary Grade I and 4 temporary Grade III)

9 Assistant Divisional Officers (including 5 temporary)

36 Station Officers (including 10 temporary)

65 Sub Officers (including 21 temporary)

86 Leading Firemen (including 27 temporary).

Uniformed Personnel: Operational

31. The total wholetime male establishment of brigades in Scotland as at 31st December, 1972 was 3,353, an increase of 125 over the 1972 figure (see table 1).

32. The actual strength of wholetime male members dropped by 21 from the 1972 figure to 2,965, this being a deficiency of 388 on the authorised establishment. The reduction in strength is due mainly to a drop in recruitment coupled with a higher number of persons leaving the service (see para. 33). An authorised establishment of 20 places exists for junior firemen although no junior firemen are on strength at the moment.

33. Recruitment of wholetime men dropped by 80 in 1973 to 242. A total of 260 men left the service, including 123 who had less than 10 years service and 82 who retired on pension or medical grounds.

34. Recruitment campaigns are being undertaken by Brigades to provide the additional personnel required for the introduction of the 48 hours week in late 1974.

35. A total of 49 women left the service and 28 were recruited; the actual strength is now 8 under the authorised establishment of 141.

36. The part-time, retained and volunteer strengths have risen by 23 and 106 respectively, although both sections of the service are underestablished. The following table lists the 1972 and 1973 figures:

	<i>Establishment</i>		<i>Actual Strength</i>	
	1972	1973	1972	1973
Retained	2,525	2,541	2,133	2,156
Volunteer	1,112	1,172	823	929

Uniformed Personnel: Control-room

37. A total of 174 personnel (men and women) were employed on control-room/watchroom duties at the end of the year, this being 25 less than the 1972 figure.

Non-Uniformed Staff

38. The number of non-uniformed staff employed by fire authorities in 1973 was 365 (349) comprising 145 men (142) and 220 women (207). The 1972 figures are shown in brackets.

Premises

39. By the end of 1973 the building programme had reached the following stage:

<i>Fire Stations</i>	<i>Wholetime</i>	<i>Retained</i>
Built since 1948	46	121
Under construction	5	8
Major adaptations to existing premises	16	19
Properties purchased and adapted	2	14
Building expected to start in 1974	5	7
 <i>Drill Towers</i>		
Built	27	30
Under construction	4	6

40. The total number of fire stations in Scotland at the end of 1973 was:

wholetime—71, retained—174, volunteer—110. The number of retained fire stations is 2 less than for 1972; in both instances the retained unit was superseded by a wholetime fire station.

41. The number of houses owned by fire authorities at the end of 1973 totalled 621. No new houses were provided or are under construction.

Discipline

42. The number of charges brought under the Fire Services (Discipline) (Scotland) Regulations, 1953 was almost 50% less than in the preceding year.

A total of 23 charges were instituted, as against last year's 43, resulting in the following punishments being awarded:

Dismissal from the service	1
Reduction in rank	2
Stoppage of pay	12
Reprimand	1
Caution	1

The remaining 6 cases were dismissed.

Health

43. Absences from duty due to sickness were slightly higher than in the previous year, representing 4.2% of the total available working days. In the women's branch of the service the figure was 4.45% days lost as opposed to 4.03% for 1972.

CHAPTER III

Training

Scottish Fire Service Training School

44. During 1973 the following numbers attended at the Scottish Fire Service Training School:

<i>Course</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Completed</i>
Recruits	290	269
B.A. operators	10	10
Fire prevention	87	87
Retained officers	8	8
Retained men	10	10
Retained men's B.A.	37	37
Industrial courses	87	84
	<hr/> 529	<hr/> 505

45. The extension to the fire training building was completed during the year under review and further plans have been approved regarding extensions to the drillyard. Hard standing comprising reinforced concrete was provided over the tanks in the drillyard, capable of taking a load of 12 tons.

46. With the advent of the 48 hour week late in 1974 a revised recruit course programme is envisaged, maintaining the same syllabus content. The matter was under consideration in the Organisation and Training Committee.

Fire Service Colleges

47. A total of 200 members of Scottish brigades attended courses at the Fire Service Staff College, Dorking and the Fire Service Technical College, Moreton-in-Marsh. These courses included fire prevention, road accident procedures, specialist and instructor qualification. In addition a further 12 students attended 4 courses organised by outside bodies but open to fire service personnel.

Fire Services (Scotland) Central Examinations Board

48. The statutory educational and technical written examinations arranged by the Examinations Board were held at centres in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen during the month of February 1973. The results are shown here-under (1972 figures in brackets).

	<i>Presentations</i>	<i>Passes</i>
Station Officer Examination	153 (149)	39 (31)
Sub-Officer Examination	173 (133)	81 (41)
Leading Fireman Examination:		
Educational subjects	402 (265)	149 (98)
Technical subjects	230 (169)	51 (102)

49. The presentation of prizes to those candidates having the highest marks in each grading took place in the City Chambers, Dundee on the 21st June, 1973 when hospitality was provided by the Angus Fire Area Joint Board. Prizes were awarded as follows:

- Station Officer Examination —Leading Fireman R. F. Opie (Glasgow Fire Brigade)
Sub-Officer Examination —Fireman G. T. Gay (South Eastern Area Fire Brigade)
Leading Fireman Examination—Fireman S. Kirk (South Western Area Fire Brigade).

50. The statutory practical examinations for sub-officer and leading fireman candidates were as usual conducted by the Board and fire authorities respectively and the results are listed hereunder:

	<i>No. of Candidates</i>	<i>Passes</i>
Sub-Officer	94 (51)	62 (36)
Leading Fireman	69 (95)	56 (80)

(The 1972 figures are shown in brackets)

Programmed Learning

51. The programmed learning aids provided by the Home Office Unit for Educational Methods at the Fire Service Technical College are in use by all brigades. As metrication is to be introduced into the statutory examinations for promotion, prospective candidates find the programmes on this subject of particular benefit.

Fire Services Sports and Athletics Association

52. The Association continues to promote and encourage the sporting activities of the service and the subsequent social benefits gained from such intermingling of brigade representatives. Glasgow again won the National Road Race Championships; South Eastern area retained the seven-a-side rugby trophy but the football international held at Inverness resulted in a 4-0 win for England. The first ever rugby international between Scotland and Wales at Murrayfield, Edinburgh, resulted in Scotland winning by 34 points to nil. Credit must go to the sports organisers of all brigades for the time and energy spent on these various pursuits and to the fire authorities for their encouragement.

CHAPTER IV

General

Scottish Central Fire Brigades Advisory Council

53. The Council received and considered the reports of working parties set up to examine particular recommendations of the Cunningham Report. On rank structure it was recommended that all the existing operational ranks be retained except that of deputy assistant firemaster, which could be phased out with the creation of the new rank of senior divisional officer (broadly equivalent to the chief divisional officer rank recommended by Cunningham). Progress towards the implementation of the recommendations on rank structure is governed by current financial and manpower restraints but the Secretary of State has recommended to fire authorities that the new rank structure should be adopted for local government reorganisation.

54. Training and the progressive acquisition of additional skills were covered in reports dealing with higher training and training modules for qualified firemen. Revised courses of central training have been introduced and at the Fire Service Technical College a new and integrated scheme for training has been adopted for leading firemen to station officers and above. The programme has been designed to streamline the present courses, eliminate overlapping of instruction and to avoid repetition of certain training matters. The training syllabus for recruits has also been revised and up-dated.

55. Progress reports were received from the various Joint Standing Committees dealing with Pensions, Training, Uniform and Personal Equipment, Design and Development of Appliances, Communications and Fire Prevention. Following the publication in 1972 of the Fire Prevention Guides on fire precautions in town centre redevelopment, the second of the Guides in this new series, that dealing with fire precautions in the new single storey spirit storages and associated buildings, was published by H.M.S.O.

56. The Council were informed of the 1973 review of public service pensions in the light of the movement of the cost of living index. The standard rate of increase was fixed at 9.3 per cent and pensions increases came into effect on 1st December, 1973. Flat-rate pensions under the Firemen's Pension Scheme which are not increased directly under the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1971 were increased by amendment order. A new booklet on the Firemen's Pension Scheme "Guide to Benefits for Widows and Children" was issued to firemen on a personal basis. In addition to explaining the ordinary benefits, the booklet also described the options which members of the scheme may now exercise.

Legislation

57. The Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973 provides for the reorganisation of local government in Scotland with effect from 16th May 1975. Under the Act, each of the 9 new regional councils and the 3 islands councils are designated as the fire authority for the purposes of the Fire Services Acts, 1947 to 1959.

The Borders and Lothian areas and the Highland and Islands areas are combined to provide fire cover in the South-Eastern and Northern areas respectively. These changes will result in 8 fire areas, each with its own brigade, replacing the 11 fire areas under the existing legislation. The new fire authorities are required to submit establishment schemes for their area or combined area to the Secretary of State for approval by 1st January, 1975; and the combined fire areas are to submit administration schemes for approval by the same date. Consultative committees of existing fire authorities have been established in the new fire areas and progress has been made in the preparation of reports on structure, organisation etc. for the information of the new regional/islands authorities and the Firemasters.

58. The Fire Precautions (Loans) Act, 1973, which was enacted on 29th March, enables local authorities at their discretion to make loans to any persons who are obliged to incur expenditure on specified premises in order to meet the requirements of the Fire Precautions Act, 1971. The first order under the new Act (S.I. 1973 No. 1271) applied its provisions to those hotels and boarding houses designated under the Fire Precautions (Hotels and Boarding Houses) (Scotland) Order, 1972, other than premises in which sleeping accommodation is provided for more than 25 staff or guests.

59. Other orders and regulations made during the year and affecting the Fire Service were as follows:

(i) The Firemen's Pension Scheme Order, 1973 (S.I. 1973 No. 966) came into operation on 1st July, 1973 (with effect retrospectively to 1st April, 1972) and applied to all firemen whose last day of service was 31st March, 1972 or later. The Order revoked the Firemen's Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1973 (which made interim provision in respect of certain matters now covered by the new Order) and the Firemen's Pension Scheme Order, 1971, as amended, which continued to have effect in relation to various matters arising before 1st April, 1972. The Order introduced improvements in pension entitlements for firemen and their dependants which were recommended by the Working Party appointed by the Joint Pensions Committee of the Central Fire Brigades Advisory Councils to review the Firemen's Pension Scheme. A number of other improvements were also included;

(ii) The Increase of Pensions (Police and Fire Services) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1973 (S.I. 1973 No. 965) were made as a result of the changes in the basis of injury awards brought about by the Firemen's Pension Scheme Order, 1973. The new regulations exclude from the operation of Regulation 4 of the Increase of Pensions (Police and Fire Services) Regulations, 1971 pensions payable to firemen with service on or after 1st April, 1972. As a consequence of these provisions injury pensions awarded under the 1973 Scheme will attract pensions increases on the amounts actually in payment;

(iii) The Firemen's Pension Scheme (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1973 (S.I. 1973 No. 1814) amended the Firemen's Pension Schemes of 1973, 1971, 1966, 1964, 1956, 1952 and 1948 by increasing certain specified flat rates under these Schemes which did not qualify for increases under the Pensions (Increase) Act, 1971.

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTH OF FIRE BRIGADES
31st December, 1973

TABLE 1

Stations	BRIGADE														TOTALS									
	ANGUS		CENTRAL		FIRE		GLASGOW		LANARKSHIRE		NORTH-EASTERN		NORTHERN		PERTH AND KINROSS		SOUTH-EASTERN		SOUTH-WESTERN		WESTERN			
	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength	Establishment	Actual Strength		
Whole-time—Elsewhere than at Fire Stations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
MEN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Firemasters	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^c	1	2 ^c	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Assistant Firemasters	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Divisional Officers (Grade I) ...	1	1	1	1	1	1 ^c	1	2 ^c	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Divisional Officers (Grade II) ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
Divisional Officers (Grade III) ...	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Assistant Divisional Officers ...	3	3	2	2	4	7 ^c	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
Station Officers	10	9	6	5	5	5	11	18	7	4	4	4	4	4	8	7	12	11	15	14	10	9	9	
Sub-Officers/Sen. Con. Operator	5	4	7 ^a	7 ^a	—	—	14	9	8	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	11	12	2	2	1	2	2	
Leading Firemen/Lead. Con. Operator	3	1	1	1	—	1 ^d	—	—	—	8/	2 ^g	1	1	1	3	2 ^k	3 ^k	1 ^m	1 ^m	—	—	—	—	
Firemen & Control Operator	6	6	7 ^b	7 ^b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6 ^h	5 ^l	6 ^l	10 ^l	10 ^l	—	—	—	—	
Junior Firemen	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	44	30	28	26	20	20	43	47	31	30	27	20	18	27	26	44	50	32	29	32	19	32	19	32
At Fire Stations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Divisional Officers (Grade I) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Divisional Officers (Grade II) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Divisional Officers (Grade III) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assistant Divisional Officers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Station Officers/Sen. Con. Operator	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-Officers	10	11	6	6	12	11	35	36	14	11	4	4	1	4	4	12	20	15	15	14	14	12	13	
Leading Firemen	15	15	24	26	31	26	57	52	45	37	13	13	3	3	3	36	33	15	15	29	28	27	25	
Control Operators	15	19	27	27	36	31	103	66	39	22	11	6	6	6	6	39	34	21	15	14	14	14	14	
Firemen & Control Operators	147	138	210	181	150	151	725 ^m	539 ^p	172	182	115	112	30	29	43	333	295	153	147	184	180	184	180	226
Totals	187	183	270	242	229	219	920 ⁿ	693 ^p	275	257	144	141	40	30	56	55	434	384	204	192	243	238	300	264
Whole-time Grand Totals ...	231	231	298	268	249	239	963	740	306	287	174	168	60	83	81	478	74	236	221	275	257	335	296	

CHANGES IN WHOLE-TIME STRENGTH DURING YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973

TABLE 2

BRIGADE	LOSSES										GAINS								
	BY DEATH		BY RESIGNATION				BY RETIREMENT		BY TRANSFER TO OTHER BRIGADES		TOTALS		BY RECRUITMENT		BY TRANSFER FROM OTHER BRIGADES		TOTALS		
	Attributable to Service	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Angus ...	—	1	—	4	2	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	3
Central ...	—	—	—	9	—	4	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	—
Fife ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	26	1
Glasgow ...	—	—	—	33	13	31	8	17	10	1	36	3	3	—	—	—	—	73	6
Lanarkshire ...	—	1	—	6	2	6	1	1	7	—	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	40	4
North-Eastern ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	7
Northern ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Perth and Kinross	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	3	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	1
South-Eastern ...	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	1	9	—	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	21	1
South-Western ...	—	—	—	5	4	5	—	1	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	20	2
Western ...	—	—	—	4	2	6	2	1	3	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	2
Totals ...	—	2	—	69	29	61	17	23	1	20	82	1	3	9	1	—	—	270	49
																		260	28

**SUMMARY OF FIRES AND SPECIAL SERVICES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973**

TABLE 3

FIRE AREA	Fires requiring the attendance of										Total Fires	Chimney Fires	False Alarms			Total Fire Calls	Special Services	Total Calls 1973
	1 Pump	2 Pumps	3-4 Pumps	5 Pumps	6-8 Pumps	9-10 Pumps	11-20 Pumps	Malicious	With good intent	Total								
Angus ...	2,651	75	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2,732	275	261	450	711	3,718	972	4,690
Central ...	3,342	60	22	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3,427	387	710	677	1,387	5,201	269	5,470
Fife ...	2,532	64	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,611	490	589	410	999	4,100	281	4,381
Glasgow ...	9,397	—	11	13	8	1	4	—	—	—	9,434	469	1,423	3,590	5,013	14,916	1,066	15,982
Lanarkshire ...	4,525	86	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,624	312	895	953	1,848	6,784	385	7,169
North-Eastern ...	2,167	32	35	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2,236	840	210	417	627	3,703	213	3,916
Northern ...	914	27	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	951	408	153	105	258	1,617	180	1,797
Perth and Kinross	664	28	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	696	293	69	159	228	1,217	153	1,370
South-Eastern ...	5,759	441	59	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	6,269	859	1,018	1,366	2,384	9,512	703	10,215
South-Western ...	2,256	35	14	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	2,309	689	433	387	820	3,818	223	4,041
Western ...	2,898	26	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,936	320	462	1,021	1,483	4,739	184	4,923
Totals ...	37,105	874	196	26	18	1	5	—	—	—	38,225	5,342	6,223	9,535	15,758	59,325	4,629	63,954

**FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTION WORK UNDERTAKEN BY FIRE BRIGADES
DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1973**

TABLE 4

	FIRE AREA											Totals
	Angus	Central	Fife	Glasgow	Lanarkshire	North-Eastern	Northern	Perth & Kintross	South-Eastern	South-Western	Western	
(a) Industrial or Business premises or Undertakings subjected to: goodwill basis)	Survey	41	—	623	825	12	—	—	3,254	293	247	5,295
	Specific	200	996	2,444	967	1,266	444	—	1,523	1,586	2,259	12,335
	Routine	—	2,175	94	—	—	71	—	—	—	—	2,347
(b) Industrial or Business premises or Undertakings (Inspected on a goodwill basis)	Follow-Up	—	710	1,319	1,130	—	337	—	1,224	172	336	5,422
	Survey	—	26	57	40	—	13	305	737	24	58	524
	Specific	—	382	123	375	—	218	190	—	179	1,337	3,914
(c) Local Authority Premises or Undertakings other than schools, hospitals and homes	Routine	—	29	—	—	—	6	112	—	8	54	224
	Follow-Up	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	244
	Survey	155	7	122	19	1	12	2	6	8	4	325
(d) Schools	Specific	14	51	1,842	58	46	—	4	17	17	71	2,175
	Routine	—	3	3,780	—	—	—	—	—	—	103	3,908
	Follow-Up	10	7	684	—	—	1	1	—	3	7	713
(e) Hospitals and Homes	Survey	155	80	52	9	5	5	40	11	12	4	293
	Specific	53	39	73	67	19	46	20	91	112	112	857
	Routine	—	46	4	—	—	5	22	22	224	224	393
(f) Cinemas, theatres and other places of public entertainment or assembly	Follow-Up	6	—	—	—	—	—	13	2	—	16	96
	Survey	17	4	20	14	4	5	17	15	12	7	98
	Specific	25	38	22	47	168	45	5	58	19	115	588
(g) Miscellaneous premises	Routine	—	24	—	—	94	—	12	—	—	9	245
	Follow-Up	97	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	8	9	124
	Survey	52	23	17	267	5	31	—	18	13	5	431
(h) Plans Inspected	Specific	25	11	25	181	250	76	9	596	48	20	1,515
	Routine	25	182	146	1,023	67	11	2	—	20	42	1,788
	Follow-Up	24	25	6	—	—	—	—	1	6	3	76
Totals	Survey	54	10	25	33	14	7	276	2,626	30	18	3,093
	Specific	545	228	3,172	70	879	1,112	327	2,666	114	122	7,010
	Routine	—	5	—	—	4	—	223	—	—	6	309
Totals	Follow-Up	4	9	25	—	—	—	61	4	7	6	116
	Specific	887	545	703	986	2,326	740	856	1,184	672	1,423	13,463
	Routine	2,428	5,952	2,865	17,691	6,111	3,187	2,802	11,633	3,272	6,628	67,921

Factories Act, 1961

(a) Number of new Means of Escape Certificates issued:
 (b) Number of Means of Escape Certificates revised:

27	37	14	13	58	68	23	22	50	38	13	363
51	27	9	1	3	64	14	1	88	20	21	299

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

(a) Number of new Fire Certificates issued:
 (b) Number of Fire Certificates revised:
 (c) Number of Section 28 Premises Inspected and Means of Escape now satisfactory

99	29	32	86	126	91	11	40	128	63	30	735
64	20	19	19	115	115	7	7	177	11	7	327
2,885	2,670	1,124	3,924	3,646	3,863	579	972	8,745	1,928	4,045	34,381

Note:—For the purpose of this table the terms "Survey", "Specific", "Routine", and "Follow-Up" are used as follows:

Survey. A thorough and comprehensive examination of the premises and processes at risk as regards fire prevention arrangements which are in operation or require to be made, covering for instance, fire appliances and equipment, water supplies, means of escape, storage conditions and good housekeeping.

Specific. An examination of the premises and plant for the purposes indicated above but limited to one or more particular aspects of fire prevention.

Routine. An examination made as a rule periodically for the purpose of ascertaining whatever particular precautions which should be in operation are, in fact, being maintained.

Follow-Up. An inspection made following a survey or specific inspection to note progress or advise on detail.

FIRE SERVICES
Statement of Expenditure and Income for the Local Financial Year Ended May, 1973
REVENUE EXPENDITURE

TABLE 5

Fire Brigade Authority	Staff	Fire	Property	Clothing	Water	Communi-	Transport	Admini-	Revenue	Loan	Total	Income	Net
	Item 060 -Item 051	Service Pensions and Gratuities Item 051	Running Costs Item 120	and Personal Equip- ment Item 142	Supplies Item 147	cations Item 144 and 156	Costs Running Item 216	strative and other Expens- es Item 248, 249, 250 and 335	Contrib- utions to Capital Item 360	Charges on Capital Item 380	Gross Expendi- ture Item 440	Item 470	Expendi- ture Item 482
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Angus	530,389	56,651	44,184	8,535	2,470	4,603	13,192	29,952	3,046	79,587	772,609	58,090	714,519
Central	648,128	39,184	60,749	10,612	1,158	3,314	20,034	42,246	194,672	—	1,020,097	38,361	981,736
Fife	580,481	33,464	39,745	10,271	2,090	17,062	11,867	21,047	81,753	—	797,780	42,275	755,505
Glasgow	1,947,239	252,286	175,764	31,393	1,400	18,080	41,536	73,530	63,832	93,634	2,698,694	347,149	2,351,545
Lanarkshire	691,227	69,021	62,821	13,721	418	1,043	36,964	47,773	216,181	—	1,139,169	72,854	1,066,315
North-Eastern	545,984	47,616	59,297	7,900	6,706	12,129	15,354	28,110	62,114	84,539	869,749	29,248	840,501
Northern	231,054	19,341	16,320	4,607	523	3,613	13,239	16,869	2,093	50,237	357,896	14,038	343,858
Perth and Kinross	258,186	14,695	15,757	5,591	—	11,110	10,645	12,728	20,472	37,165	386,349	12,571	373,778
South-Eastern	1,100,310	109,816	72,426	15,723	6,269	6,534	24,557	39,214	200,839	—	1,575,688	149,219	1,426,469
South-Western	612,080	42,189	55,179	12,710	2,184	13,884	26,500	26,479	—	87,746	878,951	46,420	832,531
Western	664,253	44,547	70,100	11,600	4,400	4,503	27,079	28,046	26,640	110,900	992,068	46,957	945,111
Totals	7,809,331	728,810	672,342	132,663	27,618	95,875	240,967	365,994	871,642	543,808	11,489,050	857,182	10,631,868

These figures have been supplied by fire authorities to the Department and are subject to audit by the Auditor.

TABLE 6

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Fire Brigade Authority		Stations	Houses	Transport	Communications	Water Supply	Others	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Angus ...	...	36,287	—	20,573	—	4,882	—	61,742
Central ...	...	140,654	684	29,876	1,845	12,613	9,000	194,672
Fife ...	...	62,391	21	7,265	—	9,856	2,220	81,753
Glasgow ...	...	35,519	—	55,399	—	8,433	—	99,351
Lanarkshire ...	...	105,556	Cr. 6,920	53,302	3,564	11,239	49,440	216,181
North-Eastern ...	...	119,735	6,901	41,169	—	20,417	—	188,222
Northern ...	...	57,977	—	29,386	5,632	16,427	—	109,422
Perth and Kinross ...	...	20,980	—	13,260	—	7,212	—	41,452
South-Eastern ...	...	121,481	—	72,709	324	6,097	228	200,839
South-Western ...	...	30,523	—	22,416	906	11,869	—	65,714
Western ...	...	119,644	—	16,840	—	9,800	—	146,284
Totals ...		850,747	686	362,195	12,271	118,845	60,888	1,405,632

The figures of Capital Expenditure include Revenue Contributions to capital shown in the table of Revenue Expenditure.

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