



National Health Service in Scotland
Management Executive

St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

FIRECODE IN SCOTLAND

Summary

1. Enclosed with this letter are the 2 outstanding Health Technical Memoranda which complete the current Firecode in Scotland documentation and which were referred to in MEL(1994)35 issued on 8 April 1994.

Action

2. Chief Executives and other action addressees should ensure that the principles underlying the guidance contained in these documents are applied in NHS premises.

Further Information

3. "Firecode Health Technical Memorandum 85 Fire Precautions in Existing Hospitals" (ISBN 0-11-321733-1), technically updates the "Draft Guide to Fire Precautions in Hospitals" issued jointly by the Home Office and Scottish Home and Health Department in 1982. The new HTM should be used from 1 May 1994 for guidance on fire safety in NHS hospitals. It applies to the upgrading and minor alterations of fire precautions which fall outside the scope of "Fire Safety: New Health Buildings in Scotland" issued by the Scottish Home and Health Department in 1987 under cover of DGM(1987)33.

4. "Firecode Health Technical Memorandum 86 Fire Risk Assessment in Hospitals" (ISBN 0-11-321734-X), replaces the HTM of the same number published in 1987 under the title "Assessing Fire Risk in Existing Hospital Wards". The new HTM provides a fire engineering approach to risk assessment based on the balancing of life risk, fire hazards and existing fire precautions. Using such an approach it is possible to determine what, if any, additional fire safety precautions are necessary. This guidance should be used from 1 May 1994.

27 April 1994

Addressees

For action:
Chief Executives, NHS
Trusts

General Managers,
Health Boards

General Manager, State
Hospital

General Manager,
Common Services Agency

For information:
(without enclosures)

Unit General Managers

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5. Both documents are essential elements of Firecode in Scotland and they should be used by all those with a responsibility for fire safety in NHS premises.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H R McCallum', written in a cursive style.

H R McCALLUM
Director of Estates