



NHS Management Executive
St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG
22 March 1996

Dear Colleague

**FIRECODE IN SCOTLAND
FIRE PRACTICE NOTES**

Summary

1. Enclosed with this letter are two further publications in the Firecode series, namely Fire Practice Notes (FPN's) 7 and 8.

Action

2. Chief Executives and General Managers are asked to bring these guidance Notes to the attention of the nominated executive director and to ensure that the principles set out in the guidance are applied to their premises.

Further Information

3. FPN7 - Fire Precautions in Patient Hotels

FPN7 provides guidance on the standards of fire precautions required in patient hotels providing accommodation for NHS patients. It supplements other published guidance on fire safety which may also be applicable to patient hotels. It is recommended that this Note is read in conjunction with:

Fire Precautions Act 1971 - "Guide to fire precautions in premises used as hotels and boarding houses which require a fire certificate" - published by the Home Office/Scottish Office, available from HMSO (ISBN 0-11-341005-0, price £7.50);

Fire Precautions Act 1971 - "Fire Safety Management in Hotels and Boarding Houses" - published by the Home Office/Scottish Office, available from HMSO (ISBN 0-11-304980-X, price £4.50).

Addressees

For action:
Chief Executives, NHS Trusts

General Managers, Island
Health Boards

General Manager,
Common Services Agency

General Manager,
State Hospitals Board
for Scotland

For Information:
General Managers,
Mainland Health Boards

General Manager,
Health Education Board
for Scotland

Executive Director,
SCPMDE

Enquiries to:

Mr H R McCallum
Directorate of Trusts
Estates Division
Room 351
St Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Tel: (0131)244 2079
Fax: (0131)244 2323

*Done 15/6/96 TF
3340*

COMMON SERVICES AGENCY	
RECEIVED	
25 MAR 1996	
FILE No	
REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN

4. FPN8 - Atria on Hospital Premises

FPN8 provides **interim** guidance on the additional fire precautions required when atria are incorporated within hospitals. Atria provide a route by which smoke and fire may spread from storey to storey much more rapidly than in the equivalent non-atrium buildings. FPN8 should be considered by all those with a responsibility for the design of atria or involved in the management of fire safety in NHS hospital premises which include atria. The status of FPN8 will be reviewed when BS5588: Part 7 "Incorporation of atria in buildings", which is currently being prepared by the British Standards Institute is published.

5. In both publications, where reference is made to "Approved Document B", published by the Department of the Environment such references are to the building regulations which apply in England and Wales. Appropriate Scottish requirements are contained in:

"The Technical Standards for compliance with the Buildings Standards (Scotland) Regulations 1990" - published by The Scottish Office, available from HMSO (ISBN 0-11-494105-X, price £60).

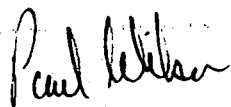
6. Additional copies of FPN 7 & 8 are available from HMSO (ISBN 0-11-321769-2 and 0-11-322191-6, price £20 each)

7. These FPNs should be filed in the Firecode in Scotland binder issued in April 1994 [MEL(1994)40].

8. Operational Guidance

Colleagues are already aware of the Management Executive's decision to cease providing estates related operational guidance with effect from 31 March 1996, and of the consequent decision of Chief Executives to continue to pursue collective action in respect of such guidance through their membership of the Estates Environment Forum. This arrangement includes the planning and operational requirements contained in Firecode in Scotland. Responsibility for fire safety policy matters and therefore Firecode in Scotland: Policy and Principles (1994) and any revision to it will remain with the Management Executive.

Yours sincerely



PAUL WILSON
Director of Trusts