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Health and Safety Executive		Sector Information Minute	
Public Services		SIM 07/2002/41	
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Target Audience:
FOD Inspectors

ENFORCEMENT IN FIRE SERVICES – AN UPDATE

This SIM is a summary of enforcement action taken against Fire Service employers in the past five years for Notices. All prosecutions are shown. It replaces NIGM 7A/1998/05 and NIGM 7B/1998/09

1 Table 1 - Notices

Employer	Enforcement Action	Issue Date	Result	Comments
Royal Berkshire County Council	IN MHSWR 4	1/97	Complied	IN first to be served following a management inspection, concerned with planning.
Lothian and Borders Joint Fire Board	IN MHSWR 3	5/97	Complied	IN followed investigation into training accident
Highlands and Islands Fire Board	IN MHSWR 3	6/97	Complied	IN followed brigade inspection, failure to RA operational activities
Cardiff International Airport plc	IN HSW S2 & MHSWR 4 & 11	4/97	Complied	IN followed airport inspection – particular concern provision of training to firefighters
Surrey Fire and Rescue	IN MHSWR 3	8/98	Complied	INs followed management inspection
Surrey Fire and Rescue	IN MHOR 4(1)	08/98	Complied	
Greater Manchester Fire Authority	IN HSW S2	10/99	Complied	IN requiring safe system of work in water following a

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				fatality.
Bedfordshire and Luton Fire Authority	IN HSW SS2 & 3, MHSWR 5 & 10	01/01	Complied	IN followed management inspection – concerned control of contractors
London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority	IN MHOR 4(1)	03/01	Complied	RA for manual handling
Northamptonshire Fire Authority	2 INs WTR 9 & 7(1)	12/01	Still in effect	INs followed complaints
Northamptonshire Fire Authority	IN MHSWR 3,4 & 5	10/01	Complied	INs followed management inspection. Post Op-debrief failures
Northamptonshire Fire Authority	IN MHSWR 3,4 & 5 and MHOR 4	10/01	Complied	Organisation and review of manual handling assessments
Northamptonshire Fire Authority	IN PPE 7(1) & 9(1)	10/01	Complied	Covers maintenance of Fire Kit and instruction, training in use
Grampian	IN HSW S2	03/02	Complied	IN followed mineral oil injection injury

2 Table 2 – Prosecutions

Employer	Breaches	Date	Result	Comments
Cleveland County Council	HSW S2(1)	3/93	£10000 fine	Non-operational incident following accident lifting fireboat in and out of dock
Grampian Fire Board	HSW S2(1)	8/94	£2000 fine	Operational incident where Leading Firefighter lost part of leg to auger in a grain drier
Tayside Fire Board	HSW S2(1)	4/95	£5000 fine	Operational incident where firefighter drowned in soda ash while attempting silo rescue
Staffordshire County Council	COSHH 6 & 7	5/96	£3000 fine each charge	Non operational incident involving exposure to 1,1,1 trichloroethylene
Leicestershire Fire Authority	PPE 4(1)	01/01	£1500 fine £3500 costs	Operational incident when Firefighter suffered burns to hands during firefighting . Unsuitable gloves provided

ACTION BY INSPECTORS

3 HSE inspectors considering enforcement action against fire services, which may have operational implications are strongly advised to make early contact with the

relevant territorial Fire Service Inspector (HMI) via the DFP Unit. They may already be conducting their own investigation and will be able to advise on operational aspects, and ensure that due account can be taken of the requirements of the Fire Services Act. In particular, HSE inspectors should advise HMFSI of their involvement in investigations of fatalities or where there are national implications for operations, training or equipment.

CANCELLATION OF INSTRUCTIONS

4 NIGMs 7A/1998/05 and 7B/1998/09 – **cancel** and **destroy**.

Date first issued: 15 November 2002

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