STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1961 No. 814

FIRE SERVICES

The Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1961

Made - - - -	*25th April*, 1961
Laid before Parliament	*2nd May*, 1961
Coming into Operation	*16th May*, 1961

In pursuance of the powers conferred on me by subsection (1) of section eighteen of the Fire Services Act, 1947(a), as amended by the Fire Services Act, 1959(b), I hereby, after consultation with the Central Fire Brigades Advisory Council, make the following Regulations:—

1. A fire authority, before appointing any person to be the chief officer of the brigade, shall obtain the approval of the Secretary of State to the appointment of that person.

2.—(1) Subject as provided in paragraph (2) of this Regulation, the qualifications for appointment to a brigade in the case of a male person who is to be appointed thereto as a whole-time member thereof holding the rank of fireman on terms under which he is or may be required to engage in fire-fighting shall be as follows, that is to say, such person at the time of his appointment—

(*a*) shall be a British subject or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland;

(*b*) shall be of good character;

(*c*) shall have attained the age of eighteen years and shall not have attained the age of thirty-one years, or, in the case of a person who, having undertaken a fixed period of voluntary service in the regular armed forces of the Crown or of any part of the Commonwealth or of the Republic of Ireland has completed that period of service, thirty-five years;

(*d*) shall be not less than five feet seven inches in height and have a chest measurement of not less than thirty-six inches when unexpanded with an expansion of not less than two inches;

(*e*) shall have satisfied a duly qualified medical practitioner selected by the fire authority maintaining the brigade that he is fit to undertake fire-fighting duties and that he has not any physical abnormality, and is not suffering from any disease, which in either case would be likely to incapacitate him temporarily or permanently for the performance of the said duties;

(*f*) shall have satisfied the chief officer of the brigade of his ability to pass the following test of strength, that is to say, a test of his ability to carry a man weighing between ten and twelve stone a distance of one hundred yards in a time not exceeding sixty seconds; and

(*g*) shall have passed such examination in educational subjects as the fire authority may require, being such an examination as necessitates a reasonable standard of proficiency in reading, writing and arithmetic

(a) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 41. (b) 7 & 8 Eliz. 2. c. 44.

and such other subjects, if any, as the said authority may require, or be, to the satisfaction of the said authority, of such educational standard that it is unnecessary for him to take any such examination.

(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) of this Regulation shall apply in relation to—

(*a*) the appointment of a person to a brigade who, at the time when it is decided to appoint him to the brigade, is serving as a whole-time member of another brigade or of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Scotland under the provisions of the Fire Services Act, 1947, or as a person employed whole-time by the Northern Ireland Fire Authority as a fire officer or fireman and is so serving on terms under which he is or may be required to engage in fire-fighting and whose engagement as such a member or person is not expressed to be temporary only; or

(*b*) the appointment of a person to a brigade who has previously served as a whole-time member of the same or another brigade or of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Scotland under the provisions of the Fire Services Act, 1947, or as a person employed whole-time by the Northern Ireland Fire Authority as a fire officer or fireman and was, immediately before he ceased so to serve, serving on terms under which he was or might be required to engage in fire-fighting and whose engagement as such a member or person was not expressed to be temporary only.

3.—(1) Nothing in this Regulation shall apply in relation to the promotion of any person who is an auxiliary fireman, or a part-time member of a brigade, or is serving in a brigade on terms under which he is solely engaged on control room duties, but save as aforesaid the following provisions of this Regulation shall apply in relation to the qualifications for promotion of any member of a brigade into the ranks therein specified:

Provided that a person may with the approval of the Secretary of State be promoted into a rank to perform in that rank particular duties for which special qualifications are required if he possesses those qualifications notwithstanding that he does not possess the qualifications required under, as the case may be, paragraph (2), (3), (4) or (8) of this Regulation for promotion into that rank.

(2) For promotion into the rank of leading fireman the qualifications of a member of a brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall—

(*a*) have passed the educational examination specified in Part I of the First Schedule to these Regulations, or be, to the satisfaction of the fire authority maintaining the brigade, of an educational standard at least as high as that required to pass the said examination; and

(*b*) after having had two years' operational service, have passed the test of technical attainments specified in Part II of the said Schedule.

(3) For promotion into the rank of sub-officer the qualifications of a member of a brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall have had not less than four years' operational service, and shall—

(*a*) unless he is already a leading fireman, have passed the test of technical attainments specified in Part II of the First Schedule to these Regulations;

(*b*) unless he is or has been a graduate of the Institution of Fire Engineers, have passed the written examination specified in Part I of the Second Schedule to these Regulations; and

(*c*) have passed, to the satisfaction of the fire authority maintaining the brigade, the practical examination specified in Part II of the said Second Schedule.

(4) For promotion into the rank of station officer the qualifications of a member of a brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall—

(*a*) have had not less than five years' operational service ; and

(*b*) have passed a written technical examination on a syllabus of study prepared by the central examination board.

(5) A member of a brigade shall be deemed to have passed so much of the test specified in Part II of the First Schedule to these Regulations as relates to knowledge of first aid if at the time he takes the remainder of the test he is the holder of a certificate in first aid issued in the immediately preceding period of three years by the St. John Ambulance Association or the British Red Cross Society.

(6) A member of a brigade shall not be eligible—

(*a*) to enter for the examination specified in Part I of the Second Schedule to these Regulations unless he has passed, or is exempted from having to pass, the educational examination and the test of technical attainments specified in Part I and Part II of the First Schedule to these Regulations ;

(*b*) to enter for the examination specified in Part II of the said Second Schedule unless he has passed, or is exempted from having to pass, the examination specified in Part I of the said Second Schedule.

(7) A member of a brigade shall not be eligible to enter for the written technical examination referred to in sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (4) of this Regulation unless he has passed, or is exempted from having to pass, the examinations specified in Part I and Part II of the Second Schedule to these Regulations.

(8) For promotion into a rank higher than that of station officer the qualifications of a member of a brigade shall be that he is of a rank not lower than that of station officer.

4.—(1) The qualifications for appointment to any rank in a brigade of a male person who is not a member of the brigade and is to serve therein as a whole-time member thereof on terms under which he will not be solely engaged on control room duties, shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall, at the time when it is decided to appoint him to the said rank, be—

(*a*) a whole-time member of another brigade either holding a rank not lower than the rank to which he is to be appointed or possessing such qualifications as would be required under Regulation 3 of these Regulations for promotion into that rank in such other brigade ; or

(*b*) a person who has previously served in a brigade and to whom sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (2) of Regulation 2 of these Regulations applies and who immediately before he ceased so to serve either held a rank not lower than the rank to which he is to be appointed or possessed such qualifications as would be required under Regulation 3 of these Regulations for promotion into that rank :

Provided that a person may with the approval of the Secretary of State be appointed to a rank in a brigade to perform in that rank particular duties for which special qualifications are required if he possesses those qualifications notwithstanding that he does not possess the qualification specified in this Regulation for appointment to that rank.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation membership of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Scotland under the provisions of the Fire Services Act, 1947, shall be deemed to be membership of a brigade and any person possessing such qualifications as may be required, under any regulations made under subsection (1) of section eighteen of the said Act, for promotion into any rank in such a fire brigade shall be deemed to possess the qualifications required under Regulation 3 of these Regulations for promotion into that rank in a brigade.

(3) For the purposes of this Regulation employment by the Northern Ireland Fire Authority as a fire officer or fireman shall be deemed to be membership of a brigade and any person possessing such qualifications as may be required for promotion into a rank set out in column 1 of the under-mentioned Table shall be deemed to possess the qualifications required under Regulation 3 of these Regulations for promotion into the rank set opposite thereto in column 2 of the said Table.

TABLE

1.—Northern Ireland Ranks	2.—English Ranks
Fireman	Fireman
Leading Fireman	Leading Fireman
Section Leader	Sub-Officer
Company Officer	Station Officer or any higher rank

5.—(1) Every fire authority maintaining a brigade shall—

(*a*) either itself conduct each examination and test specified in the First and Second Schedules to these Regulations or secure that there are in force arrangements made between that authority and one or more other such authorities for the joint conduct of that examination or test for and on behalf of each of the authorities participating in the arrangements ; and

(*b*) secure that each such said examination and test is conducted as aforesaid for members of the brigade maintained by it desiring and eligible to enter therefor at least once in every year unless no such member has made application to enter by such time before the examination or test would otherwise be held as may be determined by the authority or under such arrangements as aforesaid.

(2) The written technical examination referred to in sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (4) of Regulation 3 of these Regulations shall be conducted at least once in each year by the central examination board and every fire authority maintaining a brigade shall, in the manner and subject to the conditions specified by the said board, make arrangements for members of the brigade desiring and eligible to take the examination so to do.

(3) After the papers of each member of a brigade taking such a written technical examination have been marked by the central examination board, the fire authority maintaining the brigade of which he is a member shall be notified whether or not he has passed the examination to the satisfaction of the said board and of the marks awarded in his case.

6.—(1) The central examination board shall in each year submit to the Secretary of State a report containing such particulars as he may require concerning the written technical examinations referred to in sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (4) of Regulation 3 of these Regulations which were held during

the previous year and an account of the expenses incurred during the previous year by the board.

(2) The central examination board shall arrange with the Local Government Examinations Board for the latter board to carry out on their behalf and subject to their general supervision any of their functions under paragraphs (2) and (3) of Regulation 5 of these Regulations which the former board may delegate to the latter board with their consent.

7. In these Regulations—

(*a*) the expression "auxiliary fireman" means a member of a fire brigade who is enrolled for service therein which is restricted except in a war emergency to such duties as are desirable for training;

(*b*) the expression "brigade" means a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in England or Wales under the provisions of the Fire Services Act, 1947;

(*c*) the expression "central examination board" means a body of persons appointed for the purposes specified in these Regulations in connection with the written technical examination referred to in sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (4) of Regulation 3 thereof and consisting of a chairman appointed by the Secretary of State and twenty other members appointed as follows, namely:—

(i) three members appointed by the County Councils Association,

(ii) three members appointed by the Association of Municipal Corporations,

(iii) one member appointed by the London County Council, and

(iv) thirteen members appointed by the Secretary of State, including seven appointed to represent the interests of members of fire brigades;

(*d*) the expression "control room duties" means duties in connection with the reception, transmission and recording of calls for the assistance of a brigade, and with the transmission of instructions regarding the provision of such assistance by a brigade as may be required in any case;

(*e*) the expression "the Institution of Fire Engineers" means the limited company incorporated by that name on the twenty-fifth day of July, 1924, and the expression "graduate of the Institution of Fire Engineers" means a person who, under the Articles of Association of the said company and the byelaws set out in the Schedule to those Articles, has been duly elected a graduate thereof;

(*f*) the expression "operational service", in relation to any person, means whole-time service as a member of a brigade or of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Scotland under the provisions of the Fire Services Act, 1947, during any period in which that person in the course of his duty as a member of a brigade or of such said fire brigade was under an obligation to attend at fires;

(*g*) the expression "promotion" does not include promotion which is expressed to be temporary only;

(*h*) the expression "rank", unless the context otherwise requires, means any of the following ranks, that is to say, assistant chief officer, divisional officer (Grade I), divisional officer (Grade II), divisional officer (Grade III), assistant divisional officer, station officer, sub-officer and leading fireman.

8.—(1) The Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1950(**a**), the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1952(**b**), the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1954(**c**), the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1955(**d**), the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1956(**e**), the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1958(**f**), and the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1960(**g**), are hereby revoked.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(**h**), shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to an Act of Parliament, and as if these Regulations and the Regulations hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

(3) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this Regulation—

(*a*) a member of a brigade who has passed, or is deemed to have passed, any examination or test under or by virtue of any Regulations revoked by these Regulations shall be deemed to have passed the corresponding examination or test for the purposes of these Regulations;

(*b*) in so far as any approval given under any Regulations revoked by these Regulations could have been given under a corresponding provision of these Regulations, it shall not be invalidated by the revocation, but shall have effect as if given under that corresponding provision.

9. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations, 1961, and shall come into operation on the sixteenth day of May, 1961.

R. A. Butler,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
25th April, 1961.

Regulations 3 and 5 FIRST SCHEDULE

EXAMINATIONS FOR PROMOTION TO LEADING FIREMAN

PART I

Educational examination

A written examination in the following subjects, that is to say:—

(*a*) arithmetic, comprising the first four rules, simple and compound, Imperial weights and measures and simple fractions;

(*b*) English, comprising dictation and a short essay designed to test handwriting, spelling, punctuation and understanding of, and ability to use, English; and

(*c*) general knowledge and intelligence.

(**a**) S.I. 1950/619 (1950 I, p. 691).
(**b**) S.I. 1952/1422 (1952 I, p. 1067).
(**c**) S.I. 1954/1630 (1954 I, p. 839).
(**d**) S.I. 1955/1460 (1955 I, p. 878).
(**e**) S.I. 1956/866 (1956 I, p. 936).
(**f**) S.I. 1958/1286 (1958 I, p. 1135).
(**g**) S.I. 1960/130 (1960 II, p. 1469).
(**h**) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

PART II

Test of technical attainments

An oral and practical test of knowledge of—

(*a*) standard appliances and equipment;

(*b*) watch room work;

(*c*) standard drills;

(*d*) first aid; and

(*e*) the topography of the fire ground area of the station where the candidate is stationed.

SECOND SCHEDULE Regulations 3 and 5

EXAMINATIONS FOR PROMOTION TO SUB-OFFICER

PART I

Written examination

A written examination in the following subjects, that is to say:—

(*a*) general technical knowledge of appliances and equipment;

(*b*) fire ground procedure;

(*c*) elementary fire prevention; and

(*d*) elementary hydraulics.

PART II

Practical examination

1. A practical test of ability to conduct the following drills, that is to say:—

(*a*) pump drill;

(*b*) ladder drill;

(*c*) knots and lines;

(*d*) standard tests;

(*e*) pump operation; and

(*f*) breathing apparatus.

2. An oral test of knowledge of—

(*a*) the topography of the fire ground area of the station where the candidate is stationed; and

(*b*) station administration and management.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.*)

These Regulations consolidate with minor amendments the existing provisions relating to the appointment and promotion of members of fire brigades in England and Wales. The main amendments are as follows:— The requirements as to the procedure for appointing a chief officer have been limited to obtaining the prior approval of the Secretary of State to the appointment (Regulation 1); citizens of the Republic of Ireland, as well as British subjects, may be appointed to be whole-time firemen engaged

in fire-fighting and the minimum age for such appointment has been lowered from nineteen to eighteen (Regulation 2); the qualifications for promotion up to station officer have been varied by exempting a member of a fire brigade who is the holder of a first aid certificate from having to pass the first aid test contained in the test of technical attainments (Regulation 3 (5)), and by prohibiting a member from taking the examinations for promotion to the rank of sub-officer or station officer until he has passed, or is exempted from having to pass, the examinations for promotion to the rank next below (Regulation 3 (6) and (7)); furthermore a member of a brigade must pass the written examination for promotion to sub-officer before he can enter for the practical test (Regulation 3 (6) (*b*)).