

2003 No. 207

FIRE SERVICES

**Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Amendment)
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003**

Made - - - - - *1st April 2003*

Coming into operation *25th April 2003*

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety(a), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 9(5) and 52(1) of the Fire Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1984(b), and now vested in it(c), and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 and shall come into operation on 25th April 2003.

Amendment of the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979

2.—(1) Regulation 4 of the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(d) shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) For paragraph (1) there shall be substituted the following paragraph –

“(1) A person shall not be appointed to be chief fire officer unless –

(a) he has –

(i) served in the rank of Divisional Officer (Grade 1), or in a higher rank, as a member of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Great Britain under the 1947 Act or by the Authority, and

(ii) completed the Senior Officers’ Course, the Senior Command Course or the Brigade Command Course at a training institution established and maintained by the Secretary of State under section 23(1)(a) of the 1947 Act; or

(b) he has acquired experience and qualifications equivalent to those specified in heads (i) and (ii) of sub-paragraph (a).”.

(3) After paragraph (2) there shall be inserted the following paragraph –

“(2A) The Authority may delegate any function relating to the appointment of a chief fire officer to such committee of the Authority as may be determined by it.”.

(a) See Article 3(6) of S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1)

(b) S.I. 1984/1821 (N.I. 11); as amended by S.I. 1998/1549 (N.I. 11)

(c) See Article 6(c) of, and Part III of Schedule 4 to, S.R. 1999 No. 481

(d) S.R. 1979 No. 167; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 1981 No. 291 and S.R. 1989 No. 233

Revocation

3. The Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002^(a) are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on 1st April 2003.

(L.S.)

Bill Smith

Senior Officer of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

^(a) S.R. 2002 No. 283

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979 by substituting provisions relating to eligibility for appointment of the Chief Fire Officer.

The minimum level of rank in which previous service is required remains at Divisional Officer (Grade 1). Completion of the Fire Service College's Senior Officers' Course or the Senior Command Course remains a qualification for such appointment as an alternative to the existing requirement of completion of the Brigade Command Course. Provision is now made for the eligibility of officers with equivalent experience and qualifications. The Regulations also provide that any function relating to the appointment of a chief fire officer may be delegated to a committee of the Fire Authority.

These Regulations revoke and replace the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 which were annulled by Resolution of the Northern Ireland Assembly on 7th October 2002.

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