

Chief Officers



17 November 2009

Dear Chief Officer

**DEAR CHIEF OFFICER (SCOTLAND) LETTER 11/2009**

**FIRE SAFETY IN HEALTHCARE PREMISES**

1. This letter contains information on new and revised fire safety guidance for healthcare premises in Scotland. Please bring the content to the attention of personnel involved in fire safety and enforcement.
2. Fire safety guidance for NHS healthcare premises in Scotland is issued by Health Facilities Scotland, most notably the suite of NHS Scotland Firecode documents. Three Firecode documents have been issued as indicated below:

- SHTM 81: Part 1: Fire precautions in new healthcare premises (Version 4: July 2009)

This revised Scottish Health Technical Memorandum provides guidance on the design of fire precautions for new hospitals and patient care facilities or major extensions/refurbishments to existing hospitals and patient care facilities. It supersedes SHTM 81 version 3, dated April 2003.

- SHTM 81: Part 2: Guidance on the fire engineering of healthcare premises (Version 1: July 2009)

This is a new Scottish Health Technical Memorandum which provides guidance on the fire engineering of healthcare premises. It supports SHTM 81 Part 1.

- SHTM 87: Textiles and furniture (Version 3: August 2009)

This Scottish Health Technical Memorandum sets out revised recommendations and guidance for the procurement and use of furniture and textile products in healthcare premises in Scotland. It supersedes SHTM 87 version 2, dated December 1999.

3. Health Facilities Scotland has also issued a training needs analysis tool. (Version 1: April 2009). This is a software template to assist Health Boards in determining and recording the fire safety training frequency and content for specific groups of staff.
4. Health Facilities Scotland will be sending an electronic copy of each of the above Firecode documents, direct to each Fire and Rescue Service.
5. Any enquiries related to these or other NHSScotland Firecode guidance documents may be addressed to *Health Facilities Scotland*. *The contact details are as below*.

Health Facilities Scotland  
Empire House; 4th floor  
131 West Nile St  
Glasgow  
G1 2RX

Telephone enquiries      0141 332 3455

Yours faithfully



Graeme Fraser