

# Awareness Briefing



**SCOTTISH**  
**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**  
Working together for a safer Scotland

## Prevention and Protection Directorate

### FIRE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT

#### BUILDING STANDARDS TECHNICAL HANDBOOK - STANDARD 2.13 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE WATER SUPPLY

##### FOR THE ATTENTION OF:

Strategic Leadership Team (SLT)  
Local Senior Officers  
Local P&P Managers  
Legal Services  
FOA

Service Delivery Area P&P Leads  
Fire Safety Enforcement Officers  
Fire Safety Auditing Officers  
FBU  
Service Delivery Area R&R Co-ordinators

Concerns have been raised by developers and local authorities over water supplies for use by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) when carrying out firefighting and rescue operations in relation to rural housing. The concerns raised originate from the change to standard 2.13 that was introduced in October 2010. This removed the previous limitation that excluded domestic buildings.

The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 places responsibilities on the SFRS to secure an adequate supply of water for use in extinguishing fires and protecting life and property. This would normally be by use of a public water main. However, in rural and isolated areas, it could be a private supply or other suitable means.

In respect to single domestic property developments which are detached dwellings with a storey area not more than 200m<sup>2</sup> and are in a remote location, SFRS have agreed that the use of water carried on fire appliances will meet the above requirement.

All other properties whether domestic or commercial in excess of 200m<sup>2</sup> and in the absence of an existing water supply will require consultation with SFRS to establish what water supply, if any, should be provided in order to carry out statutory duties under the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, (as amended).

##### Further Management Actions:

Please bring this information to the attention of all personnel within your Area/Directorate. If you require further clarification, please contact SFRS Enforcement Centre on the following email address: - [SFRS.EnforcementCentre@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:SFRS.EnforcementCentre@firescotland.gov.uk).

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