



FIRE SERVICES EXAMINATIONS BOARD

DANGEROUS PRACTICES IDENTIFIED IN EXAMINATION SCRIPTS

PROCEDURE

The recently approved changes to the written examination system includes the provision of scenario type questions wherever possible. In the past it has been noted that some responses provided by candidates to such questions, if applied in the real world, would have resulted in the lives of firefighters and/or the general public being placed at serious and unacceptable risk.

When it is considered that such an answer is discovered during the marking session of the examination, the following procedure is to be applied:

1. The examiner must seriously consider that the answer provided, if applied, establishes a practice which would place in danger the life of a firefighter and/or a member of the public. In this case, the examiner will bring the answer to the attention of the Assessor of the Paper.
2. If the Assessor agrees with the examiner's opinion, detail of the candidate's number, examination paper and appropriate question number, and the reporting examiner will be recorded and passed to the Lead Assessor.
3. Following the receipt of the Assessor's report, the Lead Assessor will review the candidate's answer with the Assessor and the National Assessor (Scotland).
4. If it is agreed that the candidate's answer meets the criteria, The Lead Assessor will write to the candidate's Chief Fire Officer/Firemaster with details of the dangerous practice with a recommendation that the candidate receives counselling guidance and appropriate training. It will also be recommended that the Chief Fire Officer/Firemaster might wish to ensure that the practice identified by the candidate does not identify a shortfall in brigade training on a wider basis. The candidate will be advised in writing that this communication has been sent.