



Fire Services Examinations Board

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER AND THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS ON THE QUALIFYING
EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF STATION OFFICER
2006 – 2ND RE-SIT

1. The examination was set on the syllabus of study published in May 2004. This was the twenty first occasion on which the qualifying examination for promotion to the rank of Station Officer was conducted by the Board.
2. Assessors responsible for the setting of question papers, the preparation of notes for the guidance of examiners and for the co-ordination of marking were appointed as follows:

Lead Assessor: Mr H E Wright

General Assessor (Scotland): Mr A J Early

3. Examination centres at 14 locations were arranged by the local examination boards.
4. The examination was held on Tuesday and Wednesday 21 and 22 February 2006.
5. 23 candidates initially entered for the examination at the Board's closing date for entries (23 December). However, the final number of candidates entering the examination was 22 after late entries and withdrawals had both been accepted. 3 (13.6%) absented themselves from the examination. Thus, the number of candidates who attended the examination was 19.
6. A total of 3 officers attended the marking session together with the Lead Assessor.
7. The marking of scripts took place at Daventry from 12 to 14 March 2006.

Results

8. Of the 19 candidates who attempted the examination, 18 (94.7%) were awarded a pass. Appendix B shows the cumulative results for all candidates entered.
9. 3 candidates were absent for individual papers and no appeals were received under the Restriction of Entry Scheme.

General Comments

10. The qualifying examination for promotion to the rank of Station Officer, in which the level of knowledge and understanding of candidates on subjects considered of particular importance to those wishing to attain that rank (and amended to relate to the role of Station Manager) is assessed, was the twenty first and last to be held under the auspices of the Fire Services Examinations Board. As part of the transitional arrangements, this examination could only be entered by candidates already in this system who had achieved a pass in a minimum of one of the four Papers in accordance with the flexible system when taking this examination. Those who fail in their attempts to achieve the necessary passes in this examination, together with those who now enter the fire & rescue service, will in future need a relative knowledge and understanding to be assessed as part of the Integrated Personal Development System (IPDS).
11. 22 candidates initially entered the examination. Of these, 3 (13.6%) absented themselves, leaving 19 candidates sitting the examination.
12. Of the 19 candidates who sat the examination, only one failed to achieve the necessary marks to enable a pass to be awarded in one of the papers, this being Paper 2 (Fire Safety, Education and Enforcement).
13. Comparisons with results achieved by candidates in previous examinations would seem neither reasonable nor expected to provide any useful guidance. However, it seems reasonable to suggest that as this was the last occasion for success in the examination to be achieved, and the opportunity presented only five months after the previous examination, the candidates had made serious attempts to properly prepare themselves. The high quality of responses generally provided by candidates in the scripts submitted implied that this was the case.
14. There were no problems associated with the format of the examination, the venues or the instructions to candidates in the various question papers.

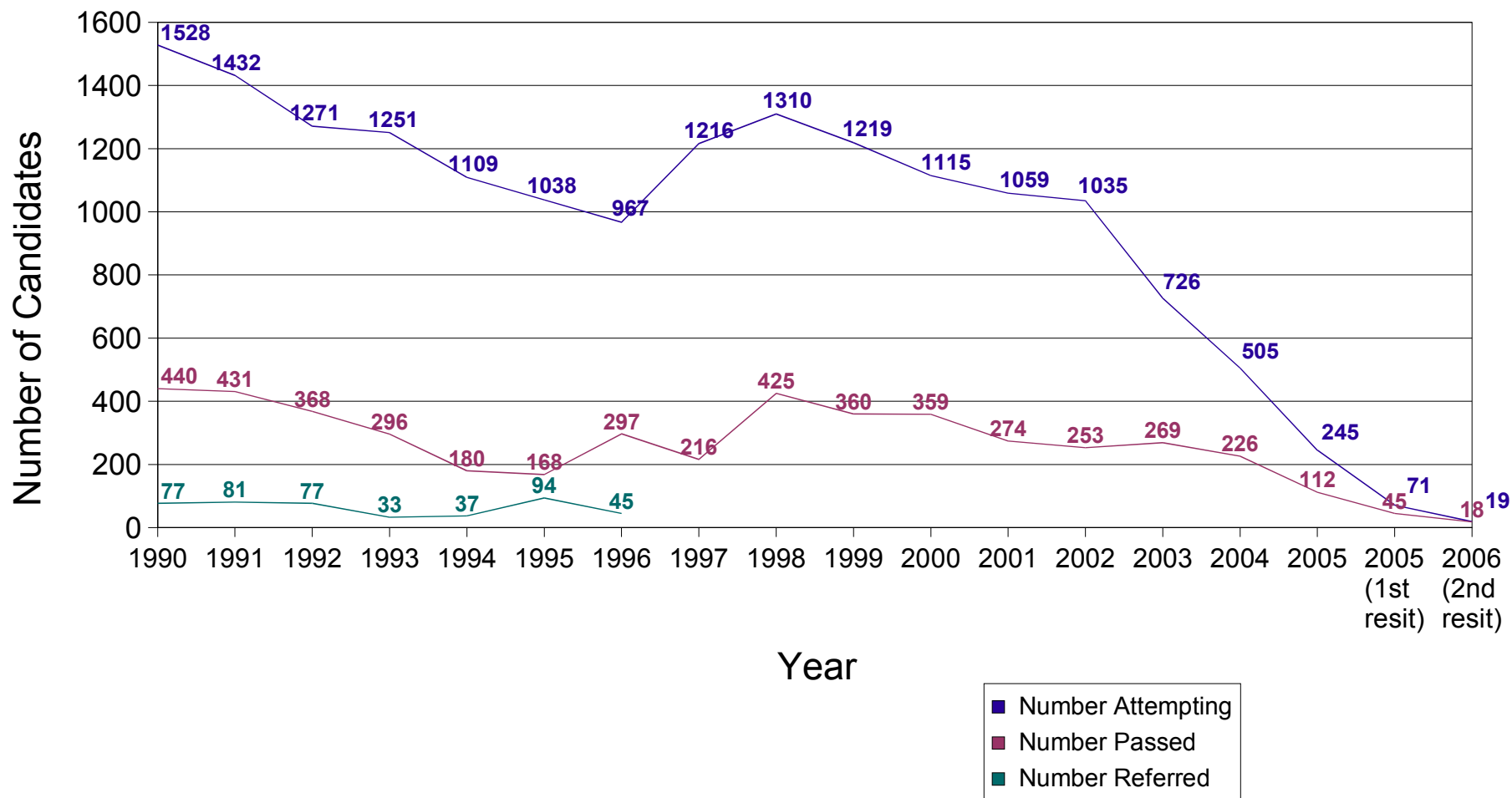
Summary of Results

15. The following tables show the results in the examination as a whole, in both graphical and tabular format. A graph showing the numbers attempting the examination and the numbers passing it is attached at Appendix A. A summary of statistics is attached at Appendix B and a full statistical report for the examination, including an analysis by brigade, is attached at Appendix C.

Sir G Meldrum
Chairman

D J Stanley
Secretary

Station Officers' Written Examination 1990 to 2006





Fire Services Examinations Board

Qualifying Examination for Promotion to the Rank of Station Officer 2006 Written Examination - 2nd Re-sit

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

ENTRY SUMMARY

The following table provides a breakdown of candidates by the number of papers they have entered for the above examination.

Table I

Quantity of papers	Overall Total				
	Entered	Absent		Sat	
	No	No	%	No	%
1 Paper	15	0	0.00	15	100.00
2 Papers	5	3	60.00	2	40.00
3 Papers	2	0	0.00	2	100.00
4 Papers	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
Overall Total	22	3	13.64	19	86.36

OVERALL CUMULATIVE RESULTS

The following table shows the cumulative results for candidates entered (including absentees) for the above examination.

Table II

Paper Passes	Overall Total	
	No	%
Passed all papers	18	81.82
Passed 3 papers	1	4.55
Passed 2 papers	3	13.64
Passed 1 papers	0	0.00
Passed 0 papers	0	0.00
Absent with No Cumulative Credits	0	0.00
Total Candidates Entered	22	100.00

Note: 1 candidate above, with cumulative papers to date, and 3 Absent/Lapsed candidates have failed to complete the examination within the requisite period.

PAPER SUMMARY

The following table provides a breakdown of the number of candidates entered for a particular paper in the above examination and the respective results.

Table III

Paper Number	Overall Total						
	Entered	Absent		Sat		Passed	
	No	No	%	No	%	No	%
Paper 1	13	3	23.08	10	76.92	9	90.00
Paper 2	5	2	40.00	3	60.00	3	100.00
Paper 3	5	0	0.00	5	100.00	5	100.00
Paper 4	8	1	12.50	7	87.50	7	100.00

Note: Passed percentage is calculated against the number of candidates who sat the paper.



Fire Services Examinations Board

Qualifying Examination for Promotion to the Rank of Station Officer 2006 Written Examination - 2nd Re-sit

FULL STATISTICAL REPORT

ANALYSIS OF ENTRIES BY AGE GROUP

The following table shows the distribution of candidates by age and their cumulative performance in the above examination.

Table I

Age Group	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No
Up To 20 Years	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
20 To 24	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
25 To 29	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
30 To 34	5	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	5
35 To 39	5	83.33	0	0.00	1	16.67	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	6
40 To 44	5	71.43	0	0.00	2	28.57	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	7
45 To 49	2	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2
50+	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
TOTALS:	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22

ANALYSIS BY RANK

The following table shows the distribution of candidates by rank and their cumulative performance in the above examination.

Table II

Rank	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No
Firefighter	4	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	4
Leading Firefighter	6	66.67	1	11.11	2	22.22	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	9
Sub-Officer	8	88.89	0	0.00	1	11.11	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	9
TOTALS:	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22

ANALYSIS BY GENDER

The following table shows the distribution of candidates by gender and their cumulative performance in the above examination.

Table III

Title	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No
Female	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Male	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22
TOTALS:	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22

ANALYSIS BY LENGTH OF SERVICE

The following table shows the distribution of candidates by length of service and their cumulative performance in the above examination.

Table IV

Length of Service	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered	
	Years	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	No	
0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
1	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
2	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
3	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
4	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
5	0	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
6	3	3	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3
7	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
8	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
9	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
10	2	2	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2
11	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
12	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
13	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
14	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
15	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
16	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
17	2	2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3
18	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
19	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
20	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
21	2	2	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2
22	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
23	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
24	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
25	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
26	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
27	1	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
TOTALS:	18	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22

ANALYSIS BY ETHNIC ORIGIN

The following table shows the distribution of candidates by ethnic origin and their cumulative performance in the above examination.

Table V

Ethnic Origin	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No
Declined To Say	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1
White	17	80.95	1	4.76	3	14.29	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	21
TOTALS:	18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22

ANALYSIS BY BRIGADE

The following table shows the cumulative results achieved in each brigade (grouped in local examination boards.) The percentage figure for absentees is calculated on the number of candidates entering the examination.

Table VI

Board	Brigade	Passed Complete Exam		Passed 3 Papers		Passed 2 Papers		Passed 1 Paper		Passed 0 Papers		Absent With No Credits		Total Entered	Total Absent		
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	No	%	
A	Tyne & Wear	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
B	South Yorkshire	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
C	Greater Manchester	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1	100.00	
Sub-Totals:		0	0.00	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1	100.00	
E	Staffordshire	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
E	Warwickshire	0	0.00	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
E	Hereford and Worcs	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		2	66.67	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0	0.00	
L	Buckinghamshire	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
M	Cornwall	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
O	Avon	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
O	Gloucestershire	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		2	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0	0.00	
Q	Strathclyde	4	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		4	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	0	0.00	
R	Grampian	2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1	33.33	
Sub-Totals:		2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1	33.33	
S	Central Scotland	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
S	Lothian & Borders	1	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	
Sub-Totals:		2	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0	0.00	
T	Northern Ireland	2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1	33.33	
Sub-Totals:		2	66.67	0	0.00	1	33.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1	33.33	
TOTALS:		18	81.82	1	4.55	3	13.64	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	22	3	13.64	

Published by:
Fire Services Examinations Board
Layden House
76 - 86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

Telephone: 0207 296 6600
Fax: 0207 296 6591

www.fseb.gov.uk

PDF version produced for FSEB by Electronic Equipments Ltd. info@electronic-equipments.co.uk

This PDF file was produced on 10 May 2006.