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DEFINITIONS

FUNCTIONAL AREA

The Functional area of the Fire Authority in the case of Donegal County Council is the administrative county of Donegal as defined in the Local government (Ireland) Act 1898 and the Local Government (Reorganisation) Act 1985 (See Appendix 1 and 1A).

1.2 MAJOR EMERGENCY

“**Major Emergency** “ any event which usually with little or no warning causes or threatens to cause:

- death or injury
- serious disruption of essential services or
- damage to property

beyond the normal individual or separate capabilities of the Gardai, Health Services or separate or combined Local Authorities (including Fire Authorities).

1.3 RETAINED PERSONNEL

Fire fighters of local brigades who are part time permanent and non pensionable employees of Donegal County Council in accordance with the Conditions of Employment, Duties, Pay, etc. relating to part-time Fire-fighters in Donegal County Fire Brigade.

1.4 DONEGAL COUNTY FIRE SERVICE

An organisation of permanent technical and administrative staff and retained personnel employed by Donegal County Council who discharge the functions of a Fire Authority in accordance with Section 10 of the Fire Service Act, 1981.

1.5 STANDARDS OF FIRE COVER PROVIDED IN RESPECT OF ORDINARY AND SPECIAL RISKS

The degree of fire cover being provided by D.F.A. is:

- (i) In towns with Fire Stations with a single appliance and areas inside a 7km by road of these Stations Class C cover is provided.
- (ii) In areas between 7km and 20km by road from these Stations Class D cover is provided.
- (iii) Remove rural cover is provided elsewhere.

Note: The above covers a single incident situation.

- (iv) In Buncrana, Letterkenny, Bundoran/Ballyshannon, Class C cover is available, because of availability of second appliance inside 8 mins. This second appliance was introduced to cater for special risks in the areas concerned.

The standard of fire cover referred to above are of British Home Office origin. i.e. special risk – individually pre-determined attendance.

Class A - n/a

Class B - one appliance at scene in 5 mins and one in 8 mins

Class C – one appliance at scene in 8-10 mins.

Class D – one appliance at scene in 20 mins.

1.6 MUTUAL AID AND CO OPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER FIRE AUTHORITIES; FORMAL AND INFORMAL; QUESTION OF JOINT SERVICE AGREEMENTS.

Since 1965 Donegal County Council have had a formal agreement with Northern Ireland fire Authority that the N.I.F.A. would provide appliances in the cases of fires occurring in east Donegal that is that portion of County Donegal east of a line linking Ballybofey, Letterkenny and Milford including the Urban districts of Letterkenny and Buncrana continuing so as to include Pettigo – (See Appendix 2).

The co-operation provided for in this agreement has proved invaluable down the years when major incidents have occurred in the County.

Donegal County Council entered into an agreement in 1988 with Leitrim County Council and 1991 with Sligo County Council to attend or receive services on request at fires or other emergencies which may occur in either counties and to act as an agent of the Fire Authority within whose functional area the fire/emergency has occurred, as provided for in the context of the Fire Services Act, 1981.

Civil Defence maintains and trains an auxiliary Fire Service which can be activated at the request of the Chief Fire Officer.

1.7 LIAISON WITH NON-LOCAL AUTHORITY RESCUE UNITS

Continual liaison is maintained with other rescue services such as the RNLI Cliff and Coast Rescue Air Corp helicopter unit based in Bundoran.

The liaison has greatly improved in recent years with the establishment of Irish Marine Emergency Service which co-ordinates the above services in the event of an incident occurring on our shore line or off our coast line. Regular meetings under the auspices of the Maritime Counties Shoreline Search and Rescue Committee, are attended by the Chief Fire Officer or Assistant Chief Fire Officers.

Over the past three years the development of specialist skills in brigades relating to a specialist risk or by way of a back up to a rescue service base in their Brigade area has been ongoing.

2. **NEED FOR A PLAN**

This Plan is prepared pursuant to Section 26 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 which states:

“Each Fire Authority which maintains a Fire Brigade shall prepare (and as occasion requires, revise) plans, for fire and emergency operations showing the provision made by it in respect of organisation, appliance, equipment, fire stations, water supplies and extinguishing agents, training, operational procedures and other such matters as may be relevant and for dealing with operations of an emergency nature under Section 25, Section 27 and the Fire Authority’s (Emergency Operations) 1987.”

Section 25 empowers a Fire Authority to carry out or assist in any operations of an emergency nature whether or not a fire risk is involved and to make provision for the rescue and safeguarding of persons and property as it considers necessary for the purpose of that function.

Section 27 defines persons in control of operations at a fire or other emergency.

This Plan is a revision of the Plan made by Donegal County Council on 14th February, 1991.

3. **PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this Plan is to enable the Fire Authority within its normal capabilities, to make better and more orderly provision for such fire and emergency operations as may be expected to arise within its functional area.

It should be noted that this Plan deals only with Fire and emergency Operations.

Should a **MAJOR EMERGENCY** occur with the Functional Area of the Council, then the Local Authority Element of the Major Emergency Plan would be activated. The Major Emergency Plan for County Donegal provides for a co-ordinated response by the Local Authority Engineering Service, Donegal county Fire Service, the Garda Siochana and the North Western Health Board.

4. **ORGANISATION**

The County is divided into eighteen Brigade areas as follows. Donegal Fire Authority maintain fourteen retained part time Brigades.

Letterkenny, Buncrana, Carndonagh, Moville, Stranorlar, Donegal, Ballyshannon, Bundoran, Killybegs, Glenties, Dungloe, Gweedore, Falcarragh and Milford

And one voluntary Brigade in Glencolmcille and fire fighting equipment is provided on Arranmore and Tory Islands.

Three areas adjacent to the border with Northern Ireland are provided with first call cover by NIFA from Derry, Strabane and Irvinestown. (see Appendix 2).

4.1 Permanent Staff (based at Letterkenny Fire Station)

Chief Fire Officer who is the head of the service and is responsible for the running, controlling and organisation of operation, prevention, technical and administrative sections of the service. He is assisted by three Assistant Chief Fire Officers and one Assistant Fire Officer, an Assistant Staff Officer – Grade 4 and a Clerical Officer – Grade 3 their duties are divided between prevention and operational aspects of the service. Provision is made for overlap and interchange of the operational and fire prevention roles of these Officers.

4.2 Fire Brigade Emergency Calls

All Senior Officers from 1st May 1996 have entered into an agreement to provide a Senior Officer on call at all times by way of a rota to respond to Fire Emergency calls when requested. An informal arrangement had existed with the Chief Fire Officer and the two Operational Officers previous to this date.

4.3 Temporary Staff

At present a Project Engineer is employed to assist with the implementation and compilation of information in relation to the CAMP projects. Student/Graduate Engineers are employed during the summer months on special projects.

4.4 Staff Requirements

Due to the increasing work load in relation to Fire Safety Certificates, inspection of premises under the various Acts and the added administrative workload that this incurs there is an urgent need for the additional services of a Clerk Typist and an Assistant Fire Officer.

4.5 Retained Staff

Each Fire Brigade is under the command of the Local Station Officer and Sub Officer who is second in command. The remainder of each Brigade comprises retained firemen and a fire fighter driver. The total retained

establishment countywide is 124 in all ranks with approx. 21 volunteers in Glencolmcille, Arranmore and Tory Island.

These numbers are established by the Chief Fire Officer who also establishes when Recruits are required.

It is the Council's policy that the Retained Personnel in each Brigade area live and work within approximately 3 km of the Fire Station, so that each Brigade is capable of turning out within 5 minutes of call-out.

Retained Personnel must be available for duty at all times and if they are not available they must inform the Station Officer and it is his responsibility to ensure that he has an adequate crew available at all times. If a Brigade fails to respond to a call there is a procedure in place with Bord Telecom which enable them to alert an alternative or a second alternative.

The organisation of Donegal County Fire Authority is shown on chart form (See – Appendix 3).

5. **FIRE APPLIANCES**

The standard first turn appliance in all stations is a water tender which has rescue capabilities. See Appendix 4. Standard equipment on first turn out appliances includes 1800 lts. Of water on board, a high and low pressure pump driven off the appliance PTO, a portable pump, ladders, foam making equipment, air lifting bags, crash rescue equipment and breathing apparatus. The appliance is a Class B water tender; wrl;

A 14m Simon Snorkl Hydraulic Platform is based in HQ for use throughout the County as required.

A specialised constructed emergency tender is located at Letterkenny HQ Station. This vehicle is designed and equipped to provide a back up to other Stations throughout the County in the event of a serious fire or chemical incident. It can provide back up equipment in the following areas: Communication, Road Traffic Accidents, breathing Apparatus, Chemical Incidents. Additional lighting and responds to provide a forward control in the event of a major incident occurring.

Replacement of appliances is funded by Central Funds from the fire Service Section of the D.O.E. Application for the replacement of 4 no. appliances has been submitted in December, 1994. We were asked by the DOE to purchase second hand appliances. C.F.O. is not in agreement. 1 no. new fire appliance is approved and now under construction.

The disposition including age and planned replacement of all appliances of Donegal County Fire Service is illustrated – (See Appendix 4).

6. **EQUIPMENT**

Water Tenders

Each Water Tender carries the standard equipment of a Class B Tender Wrl. A typical inventory is shown. – (see Appendix 5).

Crash Rescue Equipment

Each Fire Station holds a set of crash rescue equipment including air operated and hydraulic tools. The air operated tools include a saw, ripper-gun and a lifting mat set with ancillary equipment which enable the tools to be used either from an air tank off the air brake compressors or from Breathing apparatus air cylinders.

Miscellaneous Equipment

The following stations are equipped with heavy duty hydraulic rescue equipment consisting of engine driven and hand operated hydraulic pump, a cutting shears, spreader and a set of ram units:

Buncrana, Stranorlar, Donegal, Killybegs and Gweedore – (See Appendix 4). The other Stations are equipped with hand operated equipment. It is hoped to provide combi tool units in these Stations as finances allow. The present equipment in these Stations is in operation since 1972.

The distribution of miscellaneous equipment not mentioned heretofore is as shown – (See Appendix 6).

The types and quantities of equipment assigned to each Brigade are continuously monitored and are increased/reduced or deployed as operational requirements necessitate.

7. **FIRE STATIONS**

7.1 The Service is provided from 15 Stations in the County all of which are in need of replacement.

7.2 Submissions have been made to the Department of the Environment over recent years for the provision of 3 new Fire Station buildings, i.e. Milford Station – 2 bays; Buncrana Station – 3 bays and Letterkenny Central Station – 4 double bays.

Present position – Milford Fire Station nearing completion.

Buncrana and Letterkenny received approval in principle in 1984 from the DO E, but later the DO E advised re-appraisal, revision and redesign on a more modest scale. The earlier design and fees were written off. The

redesign of Buncrana Station is about to be sent to the DOE for approval to go to tender.

Moville, Killybegs, Donegal Town and Bundoran/Ballyshannon combined require new 3 bay stations in the short term.

An additional appliance bay and standard facilities such as:

- (a) Extra accommodation for vehicles and equipment.
- (b) Wash up facilities such as showers, improved toilet facilities
- (c) Proper Lecture room
- (d) BA Service facilities
- (e) Proper Must Room and drying facilities
- (f) Store Room
- (g) Training Yard and Drill Tower

are required in all of the other Stations to comply with the requirement of Health and Safety at Work Act, and to provide for the future development of the service.

8. **WATER SUPPLIES AND EXTINGUISHING AGENTS**

Each Water Tender carries 1800 litres in an on board tank. This provides a 20 minute supply to one high pressure hose reel and is a supply capable of extinguishing vehicle fires, small out-houses fires, rubbish fires, chimney or roof space fires etc.

Where water mains, open source supplies or stored water supplies are available each Water Tender has the capability to pump 2500 litres per minute.

It is a function of the Sanitary Authority to provide water for fire fighting purposes and to maintain hydrants for use by the Fire Service.

The County Engineer at the design stage of water and housing schemes advises on the fire flow requirements and the number and location of fire hydrants.

Since the Planning Act 1963 came into effect every planning application for commercial and industrial development and for any proposal which would involve public access to the proposed development has been referred to the Fire Department for advise. The Department has used this mechanism to request, inter aliz, adequate water supplies for fire fighting purposes are provided as part of every such development.

Each Fire Brigade continuously monitors the adequacy of water supplies from all sources, taking particular account of the nature, reliability and accessibility of open water sources. They are also advised by Sanitary Services where shortfalls occurs.

Standard foam stocks held in each Fire Station are set out in **Appendix 5**.

These stocks are kept under continuous review and are altered from time to time in accordance with the operation needs of the various brigades.

The fire flow requirements for different categories of risks are as follows:

A. The following requirements are standard for hydrants:-

- Fire hydrants to be installed in locations such that no premises of the referenced category (see B) are over 100m from a hydrant.
- Fire hydrants to be B.S. 750 round threaded outlet provided with frost plug.

Fire hydrants to be located on the public footpath or on the verge of a surfaced roadway should no footpath exist. (Cover should be cited to prevent silting of hydrant chamber). A drain should be taken to nearest surface water (not sewer) outlet.

- Fire hydrants should be marked with a vertical plate within three metres of location.
- Marking plate should comply to national standards for size, colouring and lettering and show distance of hydrant from marker, size of main feeding hydrant and direction of opening of hydrant valve.

The Fire Service should be able to obtain water from this hydrant via a 0.5m standpipe.

B. The following are the standard requirements for Fire Fighting Water Supply:

1. Standard Residential Area

Requirements:

A fire flow water supply of 2,000 litres per minute is necessary and this is to be sustainable for not less than 30 minutes simultaneously with peak daily water demand. There shall be residual watermain pressure of 2 bars at a full fire flow discharge.

2. Urban Residential, Shopping, garages. Light Industry areas

Requirements

Similar to the first point except it should be sustainable for not less than 60 minutes.

Town Centres, High Rise building, Industrial Estates and Hospitals, etc.

Requirements:

A fire flow water supply of 4000 litres per minute is necessary and must be sustainable for not less than 60 minutes simultaneously with peak daily water demand. There shall be a residual watermain pressure of 2 bars at full fire flow discharge.

Specific High Risk Factories, etc.

Requirements

Similar to the third point except water must be sustainable for not less than 90 minutes.

Storage Requirements in lieu of above four groups are as follows:

1. 60,000 litres (13,200 gallons)
2. 120,000 litres (26,400 gallons)
3. 240,000 litres (54,800 gallons)
4. 360,000 litres (81,200 gallons)

Storage should be capable of being replenished in 24 hours.

C. FIRE SERVICES ACT 1981

The following text of Section 29:-

Public Water Supply for fire fighting

29(1) "The functions of a sanitary authority for the provision of a supply of water shall extend to supply of water for fire fighting purposes and the provision and maintenance of fire hydrant at such places as the fire authority requires."

29(2) "Where a fire authority represents to a sanitary authority that reasonable provision has not been made for a supply of water for fire fighting purposes, the sanitary authority shall consult with the fire authority as to the measures required and shall take such measures as may be agreed."

9. TRAINING

Training takes place at three general levels:

- (i) Centralised training organised nationally.
- (ii) Centralised training organised at county level.
- (iii) Local Brigade

Centralised operational training organised nationally by the Fire service Council is geared towards two levels appropriate to Donegal Co. Fire Service:

9 (i) Centralised training organised nationally

Courses to be taken by all permanent Senior Officers – some of these courses are conducted in England and Denmark and the present position with regard to Senior Officer Training in Donegal Fire Service is as shown – (See Appendix 7).

A Course of two Modules to be taken by as many Retained Junior Officers as possible as places and students become available. These are generally courses emphasising command and control training, specialist incident procedures, breathing apparatus procedures and control and other subjects.

Additional specialist courses such as RTA skills, dealing with ship fire, hazardous substances, etc. are provided as finances allow. The present position as regards Junior Officer Training in Donegal Fire Service is as shown – (see Appendix 8).

9(ii) Centralised operational training organised at County level includes:

Recruit Induction Courses

Before being actually enlisted to the service, selected personnel are trained on a two week Recruit Induction Course to a national syllabus issued by the fire Service Council. Only satisfactory personnel are employed thereafter. These Courses are run within the County or at a nearby training centre.

Breathing Apparatus Wearers Course

Within one year of the Recruits Course, new recruits are trained to use breathing apparatus on a two week intensive course at a Breathing apparatus Facility of which several exist in various places outside the County.

Breathing Apparatus Wearers Refresher Courses

These courses are held regularly to ensure that all personnel are kept familiar with BA procedures.

9(iii) Local Brigade Training

Local training takes place under Senior Officer supervision on an on-going basis. A 3 monthly syllabus is issued by the Chief Fire Officer with flexibility for Assistant Chief Fire Officers to vary training to meet local brigade needs. Training drills are held twice monthly, each of a two hour duration.

Station Officer Seminar

Each year a two-day Seminar is held for Station Officers. This Seminar covers topics in relation to Major Incidents in the County and provides a platform for Officers to discuss issues relating to the policy and procedure in the Brigade for the coming year.

Local Brigade Training – normal drills 2 per month – see typical quarterly programme – (See appendix 11).

Joint Exercises

As part of our local training joint exercises are held regularly with adjoining Brigades to ensure that units work efficiently together when the need arises.

Specialist Skills Training

Over the past three years the Fire Authority have developed a policy of specialist skills training.

The objective of this policy is to provide selective crews throughout the county with additional skills in relation to their immediate risk or as back up to other rescue organisation in their area. In the event of a Major Emergency or Major incident occurring these units could be called on to respond. Training to date has taken place in Sea Survival, Rope and Line Rescue skills. RTA. Hazardous Substances and First Aid. It is hoped that this policy will be further developed over the next five years. Special Driving skills Courses have been provided for all Brigade Drivers.

Additional Training

In 1993 the Fire Services Council recommended that a weekly training programme be implemented Country wide for Retained Personnel. This has not been implemented in Donegal. The present additional cost of implementing this additional training would be £82,565.00.

10. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

The operational procedures of the fire Service are determined by the Chief Fire Officer from time to time. Current call out procedures are set out hereunder.

Turn-out

10.1 Brigade Turn out

Brigades are generally turned out by the use of the 999 or 112 Emergency call system.

The calls are received in either the Station Officer or Sub Officers houses by means of a non-dial telephone. Brigade members are then alerted by the member of the family receiving the call by pressing a button which activates the pager by means of land lines from the houses to the Fire Station. Each Fireman carries a personal alerter.

When the members of the Brigade arrive at the Fire Station they then contact the Station officer or Sub Officer's house to receive information on the call out.

10.2 Full time Officers Turn-out

The Officer in charge of a responding Brigade will call the relevant Senior Fire Officer, under the following circumstances as set out in Brigade order issued in 1976 – updated 1983, 1985, 1991 & 1997.

All Senior Officers have phones in their homes and are equipped with mobile telephones. Three Senior Officers have their private cars equipped with radios which have a very limited capability.

Radio Communications

10.3 Pager Call-out system

A new pager call out system to comply with new MG4 specification is currently being installed throughout the County. This system will have the capability of being activated from a region control.

10.4 Radio System

The present system was initially installed in the 1970's. It is currently in very poor condition and provides little or not radio cover. This greatly inhibits the operational efficiency of Brigades responding to incidents when the transmission of information is vital – see notes 15 and 16.

10.5 Attendance at Incidents

Appendix 9 outlines the number of calls attended by each Brigade for a particular year. Appendix 10 outlines the trends in they types of calls attended.

10.6 Operational Procedures

Control Procedures for major Incidents

Control Point

- (a) Normally Incident Control will be established from the first appliance to arrive at the scene.
- (b) This vehicle will be designated meeting point for Officers until a formal control is established on the arrival of the E.T.
- (c) On arrival of the E.T. formal control will be established from this vehicle.

Manning of Control Point

- (a) When one appliance is in attendance control will be established through the Pump Operator.
- (b) When two or more appliances are in attendance, a fire-fighter should be designated by the Officer in Charge to receive and transmit radio messages as required. O.I.C. must inform this fire-fighter of his location at all times.
- (c) On arrival of the E.T. the O.I.C. or the Officer designated to be in charge of the E.T. will take responsibility for all communication to base or Letterkenny HQ.

Nominal Roll Board

Each Appliance has been issued with a nominal roll board. This board will be used to record the names of all personnel manning each vehicle.

- (a) On arrival of the E.T. Control, the designated Officer in charge of the E.T. will arrange to collect the nominal roll board from each appliance already in attendance.
- (b) The information on this board will be recorded on the main control board or as appropriate.

Arrival of additional appliances

- (a) All additional appliances for assistance or relief purposes will report to the E.T. Control where they will hand in their nominal roll board.
- (b) They will be then issued with instructions by the O.I.C. of the E.T. Control on the deployment of his crew or individual from his crew.

Arrival of Senior Officer

The Senior Officer, on his arrival, will report to the E.T. Control where he will be given an update on the incident and informed of the location of the O.I.C.

Operations of an Emergency Nature under Section 25 of the Fire Services Act, 1981 may be carried out by the fire authority whether or not a risk of fire is involved.

The operations referred to here are principally:

1. Road Accidents
2. Floods
3. Chemical Incidents
4. Storm Damage
5. Fish Spills
6. Boat sinking etc.

Road Accidents

As already stated under “Appliances” every standard fire appliance carries a range of rescue equipment for use in road accidents.

Flooding

Brigades respond to rescue persons trapped by flooding and to assist the Engineering Services of the Council in flood emergencies when requested by them or by members of the Gardai.

Chemical Incidents

Copies of the British Home Office “Hazchem” Manual and the United States Department of Transport “Emergency Response Guidebook” both of which provide emergency response information on over two thousand hazardous materials are held on each fire appliance.

The Fire Service (as well as its normal role) has recently established a procedure for alerting Council staff listed in the major Emergency Plan by phone over the P.S.T.N in the event of a major emergency.

12. FIRE SAFETY

FIRE SAFETY CERTIFICATES:

The Building Control Regulations, 1991 require that an application for a Fire Safety Certificate shall be made in a prescribed form together with full plans and specifications to enable an assessment to be made of the compliance of the plans, etc. with the fire safety requirements of the Building Regulations, 1991. Applications for Fire Safety Certificates are received and processed in the fire Station at Letterkenny where such records are kept.

PLANNING

Planning Section refers all planning applications other than dwelling houses to the Fire Department for the inclusion of any fire safety conditions that may be required. Approximately 270 such referrals are made annually.

POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

The Fire Service Act, 1981 defines buildings which are “potentially dangerous building” and the Chief Fire Officer advises the Council on the necessity otherwise of serving “Fire Safety Notices” under the above Act, imposing requirements to ensure safety. The Act now applies to offices and factories. Under the Fire Services Act, 1981 the Chief Fire Officer and the other Senior Officers are “authorised officers” and have the powers of inspection under the Act.

LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Applications made to Courts for licences in respect of “licensed premises” i.e. public houses, temporary licenses in respect of the sale of intoxicating liquor at such places as agricultural shows, etc., licences in respect of registered clubs, public dance halls, restaurants and premises licensed for gaming and lotteries are notified to the Chief Fire officer to bring to his attention the venues used for these functions and to enable him to have the premises inspected and provide him with an opportunity to object to the use of such premises or require works or have the licences granted subject to conditions etc.

In 1996 this Fire Authority was notified of 128 premises applying for Public Dance Hall licences.

There are 120 premises licensed under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Acts 1833 – 1988 and this Fire Authority receive notification of the renewal of these licenses annually.

In 1996 the number of premises which this Fire Authority was notified of which were registered under the clubs Act 1904 – 1981 was 23.

The number of premises which relate to the Gaming & Lotteries Act 1956 – 1979 of which this Fire Authority was notified in 1990 was 25.

DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES ACT, 1972

There are 50 Retail & Private petroleum Stores licensed by this Fire Authority. The licence is usually issued for 3 years unless works are required at the filling station. There are approx. 108 such premises operating without Licence and these are being encouraged to upgrade their premises to adequate standard to qualify for a Licence.

FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION, PUBLICITY, ETC.

The Chief Fire Officer is responsible for all matters concerning fire safety in relation to the activities of Donegal county Council and the three urban District Councils in the County. Under the Fire Services Act, 1981 the Fire Authority may give advice to the owner or occupier of any premises.

During the year many schools and other community organisations visit the Fire Stations. Each year the Fire Department organise activities in the County for Fire Prevention Week.

13. POLICY

Fire Services Policy – aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the Fire Service are to comply with the following legislation and Regulations and ensure compliance countywide:

- (i) Fire Service Acts, 1981 and Regulations made under this Act.
- Dangerous Substances Act, 1972 and Regulations made under this Act.
- (ii) Building Control Act, 1991 and Regulations made under this Act.
- (iii) Any other legislation which places obligations on Donegal County Council as a Fire Authority.

The fire safety and fire fighting and operational aspect of the Fire Service will be developed to the fullest extent possible having regard to the needs of the Fire Service and the extent of available resources.

14. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF VARIOUS RANKS INCLUDING THEIR REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

Senior Officers are responsible for the performance and discipline of Firemen under their command.

Responsibilities of the various ranks

Fire Fighters/Drivers	Carry out duties as assigned by the Station Officer and Sub Officers.
Station Officer:	Responsible for ensuring the preparedness of unit for fire and other emergency calls and the efficient management of the operations carried out by the unit.
A.F.O./A.C.F.O.	Duties as assigned by the Chief Fire

Officer

C.F.O.

Responsible to the County
Engineer/County Manager for the
running of the Fire Service.

Reporting Relationships:

- Fire-fighters report to Sub-Officer or Station Officer.
- Station Officers report to Assistant Chief Fire Officers
- Assistant Fire Officer/Assistant Chief Fire Officers report to the Chief Fire Officer.
- Chief Fire Officer reports to the County Engineer/County Manager/Assistant County Manager) in Management Team.

15. MOBILE PHONES

The 5 Senior Officers have Mobile phones which have as yet very limited cover. These phones are used to contact the duty officer on call for fire service matters.

16. CAMP

This County is actively involved in improving radio cover and call out procedures by introducing computer aided MOBILISATION with the necessary communication links and improved radio cover over the next few years. The call-out will be operated from a fully staffed Control Centre at Castlebar for a shared cost. In preparation for the past year, we have been setting up an address database.

The Station Officers with their local knowledge, are the main contributors to this and they are being co-ordinated by a Project Engineer.

These new facilities will place an additional financial burden on the Fire Authority over the coming years, but will provide a more update and efficient MOBILISATION procedure.

CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

COUNTY ENGINEER.

COUNTY MANAGER.