

*These notes relate to the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005
(asp 5) which received Royal Assent on 1 April 2005*

FIRE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005

EXPLANATORY NOTES

THE ACT – SECTION BY SECTION

Part 2 – Fire and Rescue Services

Chapter 6 – Mutual assistance etc.

Sections 33 and 34 – Reinforcement schemes and directions about reinforcement schemes

52. These sections re-enact the provisions of the 1947 Act on reinforcement schemes and extend them to apply to road traffic accidents and other serious emergencies (as set out by additional function order under section 11). Section 33 obliges relevant authorities to group together (so far as practicable) to provide mutual assistance. If there are cases where such authorities are unable to come to an agreement about forming such a group then, at the request of one of the authorities concerned, section 34 gives the Scottish Ministers the power to direct authorities involved to make, vary or revoke such a scheme.
53. Before giving a direction, the Scottish Ministers must give all authorities concerned the opportunity to make representations to them and may also instruct an inquiry.