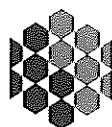


FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY
Edwin Poots MLA



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**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**
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Mr Gregory Campbell MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont

Our Ref: SUB/105/2012

1 February 2011

Dear Gregory

I refer to your written Assembly Question (AQW 6128/11-15) about the numbers of applicants for the recent Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS) recruitment competition who were informed that they had failed in a section of the process and who, following appeal, were reinstated, and I would advise of an amendment to my original reply.

In responding to your subsequent question, AQW 6940/11-15, requesting the religious backgrounds of those candidates who had failed in a section of the process and who, following appeal, were reinstated, the NIFRS realised that the information originally provided had included one candidate who had been double counted. A revised AQ answer has been attached for information.

I apologise for any confusion this error may have caused and have copied this letter to the Assembly Library Services for their information.

Edwin Poots MLA
Minister for Health Social Services and Public Safety

Enc

DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE FOR ANSWER: 24 January 2012

ORDINARY WRITTEN NO: AQW 6128/11/15

Gregory Campbell (Londonderry East): To ask the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety in relation to the most recent recruitment drive for the Fire and Rescue Service, how many applicants were informed that they had failed in a section of the process and following appeal were re-instated.

Edwin Poots

The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service has advised that the recent recruitment competition comprised four stages: a multi stage fitness test; an assessment of the candidate's application form; a Practical Aptitude Test (PAT); and an interview. Only the Practical Aptitude Test had an appeal process and the outcome of that process is set out below.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of candidates attending the PAT | 664 |
| Number of candidates who failed the PAT | 372 |
| Number of candidates who appealed | 67 |
| Number of candidates retested | 44 |
| Number of successful candidates after retest | 37 |



Date: _____

Signed and approved by the Minister for Health Social Services and Public Safety