

FOREWORD

The protection of people and property from fire is a matter of utmost importance. I am therefore very happy to publish this guide to fire precautions in existing hotels, guesthouses, and similar premises. The Guide will make a positive and comprehensive contribution to fire safety in such premises.

The Guide can be regarded as a 'first' in that the subject has not previously been dealt with in such depth and detail. It should prove of value both to persons in control of hotels, guesthouses etc. and to the officers of local fire authorities.

Internationally-accepted fire safety standards have been taken into account, as have the provisions of the European Communities' Recommendations on fire safety in existing hotels. Accordingly the guide will help towards ensuring that fire safety standards in Irish hotels and guesthouses will continue to be as good as those obtaining elsewhere.

In the preparation of the guide, valuable assistance has been given by:

Mr. D. O'Mahoney, Chief Fire Officer, Cork Corporation

Mr. J. McGrath, Chief Fire Officer, Limerick County Council

Mr. M. Raftery, Chief Fire Officer, Clare County Council

Capt. E. O'Boyle, Chief Fire Officer, Tipperary (N.R.) County Council

Mr. J. O'Shaughnessy, Chief Fire Officer, Galway County Council

Mr. J. Hegarty, Asst. Chief Fire Officer, Kerry County Council

Mr. O. O'Loughlin, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Limerick Corporation

Mr. S. Hogan, Assistant Fire Adviser, Department of the Environment

I am glad to have the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of their contribution.

Padraig Flynn, T.D.,

Minister for the Environment

May, 1989.