

## **Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2008-11**

- 1. The consultation Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2008-11 was published on 14 November 2007, with a closing date for responses of 6 February 2008. The Framework is a strategic plan which outlines the outcomes the Government expects to see delivered by FRAs and Regional Management Boards. For the first time, the Framework has a lifespan of three years to coincide with the Comprehensive Spending Review period.**
- 2. The Fire and Rescue National Framework sets out the Government's priorities and objectives for the Fire and Rescue Service. It does this by making clear the Government's expectations for the Service, what FRAs are expected to do and the support government will provide in helping them achieve these objectives. The Framework bills itself as a foundation on which to build local solutions.**
- 3. Two of the key priorities for FRAs set out in the National Framework are ensuring that public expectation of FRAs are met and ensuring delivery of an enhanced resilience capability. Equality and Diversity is another key priority within the Framework**
- 4. The Framework is divided into four chapters:**
  - Chapter 1 – Prevention, Protection and Response – covers the core business of Fire and Rescue Authorities in analysing risks and taking action to meet and mitigate the effect of those risks.**
  - Chapter 2 – Resilience – covers the delivery of the key resilience programmes and the actions authorities need to take to ensure they are fully equipped to meet the demands of the resilience agenda.**
  - Chapter 3 – Diversity and Workforce – covers the importance of mainstreaming diversity in all levels of the Fire and Rescue Service and workforce development, training and health and safety.**
  - Chapter 4 – Governance and Improvement – covers institutions in place to support the delivery of Fire and Rescue Authority business, the new Local Government White Paper framework including Local Area Agreements, Performance Assessment and Finance.**

**Consultees are invited to respond to specific questions around the structure and clarity of the document and the policies set out in each chapter.**

- 5. The LGA has been involved in developing the proposals and this version is more focused on results to be delivered rather than specifying the processes to go through. There is a welcome reduction in the number of 'must' and 'should' requirements.**

**6. The consultation document can be viewed at:**

**<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/fire/nf200811consultation>**