

# Facing the Challenge

Sir Ken Knight  
Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser



LGA Fire Services Forum – June 2008

PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

# Scope

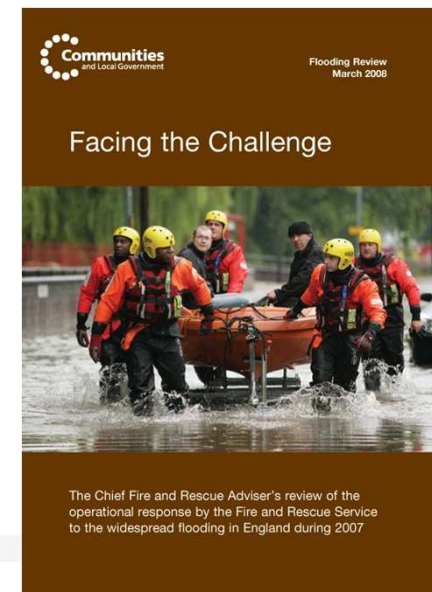
- **Reviewing the operational response to the two major flooding incidents in the areas of:**
  - **Use of data/intelligence – risk analysis and IRMPs**
  - **Operational Preparedness**
  - **Mobilising arrangements**
  - **Operational effectiveness – functionality and deployment**
  - **Mutual aid and resilience arrangements**
  - **Role of Retained Staff**
  - **National co-ordination**

# Overview

- **Two stage review**
  - **Stage 1 ~ Emerging issues report**
  - **Stage 2 ~ Broader consultation**
  - **28 recommendations for the FRS**
  - **Links with Sir Michael Pitt's review**

# Recommendations

- **Control and Communications**
- **Capability and Statutory Duty**
- **Equipment, Health, Safety and Training**
- **Flood Risk Information**
- **National Co-ordination and clarity of roles**



# Pitt Review

- **Two stage wide ranging review with 92 recommendations.**
- **Response framework.**
  - **Mutual Aid**
  - **Flood Rescue**
- **FRA involvement.**

# Pitt Review

11.57 It should be noted that LRF's are only required to consider risks in their local area and that there is no requirement to plan for any larger regional or national emergencies, including wide-area flooding. The exception to this is for emergencies utilising specialist equipment (known as 'New Dimension' assets), for example high volume pumps and decontamination equipment, for which the additional capability is provided centrally to respond to a wide range of emergencies.

11.61 In a submission to the Review, the Chair of the CFOA Inland Water Strategic Group stated that:

*“We have a tremendous flood rescue capability, but it is inconsistent, and we lack the capacity to respond to major events.”*

11.85 In its submission to the Review, the FBU stated:

*“After the experience of the summer 2007 floods, the FBU believes that the case for imposing a statutory duty for major floods is overwhelming. The public expects fire services personnel to respond in an emergency situations and fire service personnel, with our training and expertise, expect to participate in rescue efforts. Imposing a duty, as long as it is backed by the necessary resources, will help the fire and rescue service prepare for the next floods.”*

11.97 In light of the contributions of other organisations, FRA’s should not unduly invest. Capabilities should be fit for purpose but should not be ‘gold-plated’.

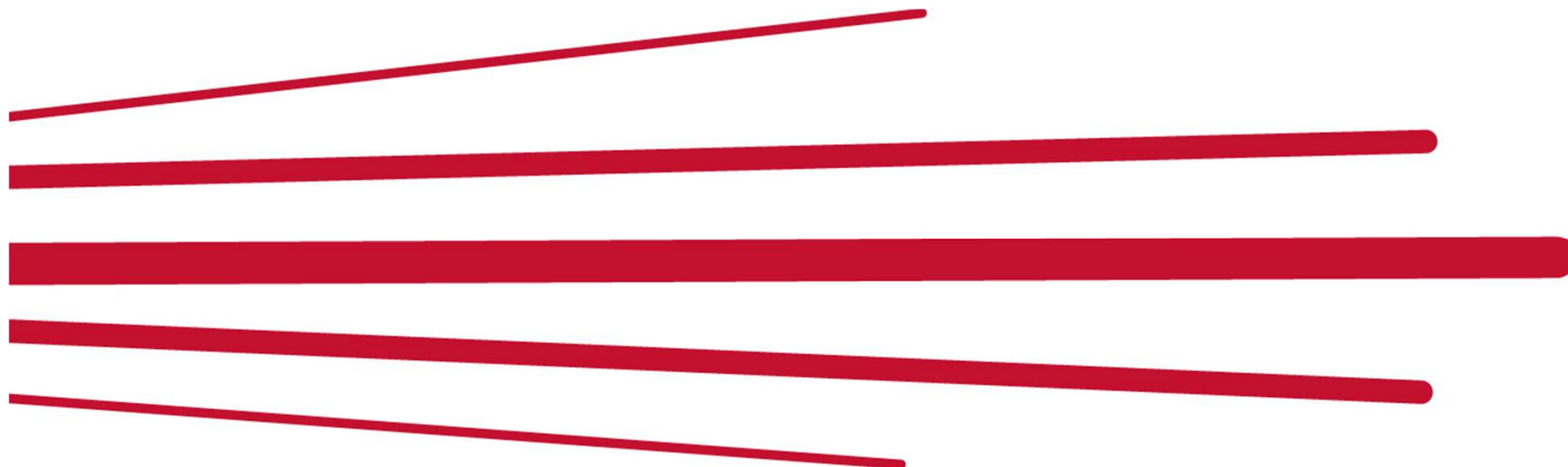
# Next steps

- **Government response.**
- **Departmental considerations including funding/cost benefits.**
- **Implementation plan**



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[ken.knight@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ken.knight@communities.gsi.gov.uk)