

Topic	Description	LGA objectives	Next actions	Lead member and adviser (if appropriate)
Spending Review settlement	Spending review will set out the funding position for fire and rescue authorities for the financial years from 2010/11 – although the precise terms of the next spending review and years it will cover have not yet been announced by the government.	<p><i>a) To ensure a settlement for fire and rescue authorities that provides the capacity to continue to deliver a first class service to the public, and equips them to achieve our ten year vision.</i></p> <p><i>b) Prepare a compelling case in the form of an evidence based submission.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LGA led officer level expenditure group to continue to meet to produce the overall submission. Emma Varley and CFO Lee Howell to attend. 2. Gather powerful and irrefutable evidence that funds are being used effectively in the service, and that spare capacity has been, or is being, removed. 3. Gather examples of where the fire service is contributing to local partnerships, especially through LAAs, to make the case that the service adds value. 4. Liaise with Audit Commission and input as far as possible into their review of fire service effectiveness. 5. Report back to FSMC when the government formally announces terms of the spending review, to agree precise approach. 	Lee Howell
Comprehensive Area Assessment for fire and rescue authorities –	From April 2009, CAA replaces Comprehensive Performance Assessment. CAA	<p><i>a) To ensure that future inspection is proportionate to FRAs' performance;</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Mehboob Khan to lead on CAA and LAAs on behalf of the FSMC. Cllr Khan and Emma Varley to represent LGA on Fire CAA Steering Group. 2. LGA to lead development of proposals for sector led 	Cllr Mehboob Khan

<p>including FRAs role in Local Area Agreements</p>	<p>represents a fundamental change in the way councils and their partners are assessed. For FRAs, CAA will comprise two main components – an Organisational Assessment – with a sector-led service assessment informing it – and via the Area Assessment, the FRA’s contribution to the LAA and wider community priorities.</p>	<p><i>b) To disseminate good practice and support continuous improvement across FRAs;</i></p> <p><i>c) To ensure that the approach to improvement activity for the fire and rescue sector is sector led and achieves real and sustained improvement across FRAs, reducing the need for central government intervention;</i></p> <p><i>d) To ensure that assessments are based on like-for-like comparators across FRAs.</i></p> <p><i>e) To achieve recognition that fire authorities are part of local government and should be inspected in that</i></p>	<p>improvement in the fire sector, working closely with CFOA, the IDeA and the RIEPs.</p> <p>3. LGA to work with FRAs, the wider local government sector and the Audit Commission to communicate the wider contribution that FRAs can play in achieving a broad range of local partnership priorities in LAAs.</p> <p>4. FSMC to agree overall high level view on fire specific aspects of the Audit Commission consultation on CAA, to inform overall LGA response prior to 20 October deadline.</p>	
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		<i>context</i>		
Equality and diversity	Following 2006 CLG Select Committee report on the Fire and Rescue service which made strong criticisms of progress in improving the diversity of the service, the Equality and Diversity Strategy for fire and rescue was produced and launched in May 2008. It is a ten-year high level national Strategy that will require action by FRAs in five priority areas: leadership, service delivery, employment practice, evaluation and dissemination of good practice, and accountability.	<p><i>a) To provide high level political leadership and demonstrate commitment to this issue at a national level;</i></p> <p><i>b) To harness the leadership of elected members in FRAs to deliver a step change in progress on improving the diversity of the fire and rescue service workforce;</i></p> <p><i>c) To ensure that the fire and rescue service is well equipped to meet the diverse needs of the communities it serves.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Tony Duggan to represent the LGA at meetings of the Equality and Diversity Programme Board, and its successor body. 2. Support FRAs to implement the Equality and Diversity Strategy . 3. LGA to support creation of a graduate/high potential development scheme for the fire and rescue service. FSMC to appoint a member to represent the LGA at the Graduate Scheme project board, along with Clive Harris. 4. LGA to recommend that every FRA has a designated equality and diversity member champion and facilitates those champions meeting to share good practice. 5. LGA to continue to sponsor the Equality and Diversity Awards. 6. LGA to play a key role in reviewing progress against the targets before 2013 with CLG. 	
National Functions –	Following a consultation, CLG	<i>a) To ensure that</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LGA to respond to CLG consultation on the National Procurement Strategy 2008–11, and wider questions about 	

<p>including future funding for Firebuy and Fire Gateway</p>	<p>announced in May 2008 that a Centre of Excellence for the fire and rescue service would not be established at the current time.</p> <p>There are a number of so-called national functions on which funding and governance issues are to be determined.</p>	<p><i>national procurement arrangements provide a simple, cost effective solution that meets the varying needs of FRAs.</i></p> <p><i>b) To ensure that governance arrangements for national functions recognise the leading role of FRAs and demonstrate accountability</i></p> <p><i>c) To ensure that funding arrangements for national functions are fair, equitable, and offer value for money for fire authorities</i></p>	<p>national procurement, by the deadline of 14 November.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. LGA to participate in review of Fire Service College. 3. LGA to work with CLG and others to determine long term funding arrangements for Fire Gateway, Firebuy and ODC. 	
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<p>FiReControl</p>	<p>Implementation of 9 regional control centres, replacing local fire and rescue</p>	<p>LGA supports implementation of an agreed, affordable and effective project.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CLG to publish part 2 of the Business Case in autumn 2008. 2. Cllr Willmott to continue to attend the FiReControl 	<p>Cllr Jerry Willmott</p> <p>Dave Webb</p>
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	<p>control centres and aligned to the Government Office regions. Implementation intended to be complete Q1 2010.</p> <p>FiReControl is dependent on the successful implementation of the Firelink project. Firelink will provide a new radio system for all fire and rescue services, and is intended to improve resilience and enhance inter-operability between the emergency services.</p>	<p>LGA objectives are:</p> <p>a) <i>To ensure that FRAs are properly resourced to deliver the project;</i></p> <p>b) <i>To ensure that governance arrangements are transparent and accountable to local people; and</i></p> <p>c) <i>To ensure a smooth transition to the new arrangements.</i></p>	<p>Project Board as Senior User; and to chair the FiReControl Finance Working Group.</p> <p>3. Emma Varley to attend the Finance and Legal Working Groups and to chair the FiReControl Sounding Board.</p>	
<p>New Dimension – long term capability management (LTCM)</p>	<p>The New Dimension programme aims to ensure FRAs are trained and equipped to deal with major CBRN and</p>	<p>a) <i>To ensure that all FRAs are fully resourced and trained to deliver an effective resilience capability</i></p>	<p>1. LGA to work with CLG and others to ensure appropriate funding for FRAs in advance of transfer of ND assets</p>	<p>Cllr Jeremy Hilton</p> <p>Ron Dobson</p>

	conventional terrorist attacks. Through the Long Term Capability Management project, CLG are now seeking to hand over assets distributed through the ND programme to the ownership of fire and rescue authorities.	<p><i>b) To ensure that appropriate funding mechanisms are in place for FRAs upon the transfer of assets</i></p> <p><i>c) To ensure that future governance arrangements of the ND LTCM programme are in the best interests of FRAs</i></p>	2. FSMC to receive updates from CFOA chaired Assurance Board on progress.	
Contingency planning and project Fireguard	Planning to provide fire and rescue cover during times of stress – particularly strike action but also other threats such as a flu pandemic.	<p><i>a) To support fire and rescue authorities in putting in place effective contingency plans to provide service continuity in extreme circumstances, particularly strike action.</i></p> <p><i>b) Ensure project Fireguard is available to those who wish to</i></p>	1. Cllr Fred Walker to continue to act as LGA lead on contingency planning, liaising with CFOA and CLG and report back to FSMC and Fire Forum as necessary.	Cllr Fred Walker

		<i>contract with it</i>		
Co-responding	Covers situations where both fire and ambulance services are called to an incident, but the fire service arrives first and firefighters administer basic first aid to any victims prior to the arrival of ambulance staff.	<i>a) To see co-responding schemes implemented across the FRS</i>	1. Additional single issue CLP meeting on co-responding issue with Department of Health and CLG – date tbc.	

Fire Gateway	The Fire Gateway is an internet portal that will provide online access to services, applications and information for all fire stakeholders (including the FRS, members of the public, teachers, etc).	<i>a) To ensure that systems meet the needs of FRAs;</i> <i>b) To gain engagement of all FRAs to make the Fire Gateway successful;</i> <i>c) To ensure that any new ICT infrastructure required is affordable and robust;</i> <i>d) To ensure that new systems can</i>	1. LGA to continue to chair meetings of Fire Gateway Steering Group 2. Contribute to discussions on future funding mechanism for Fire Gateway.	Cllrs Michael Murphy (Chair), Tony Hooton and Eddie Clein
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		<i>be efficiently and effectively maintained.</i>		
IRMP guidance development	The IRMP (Integrated Risk Management Plans) Steering Group have commissioned work to review guidance on IRMPs which is due to be published in the autumn.	<i>a) To ensure that any new guidance on IRMPs meets the needs of fire and rescue authorities and avoids national prescription.</i>	1. Clive Harris to attend meetings of IRMP steering group and sub-groups, and report back to FSMC as necessary.	
Public relations	Work to raise the profile of key issues with the general public and key stakeholders.	<i>a) To support the delivery of the LGA's policy priorities for fire and rescue by raising the profile of key issues with the general public and with key stakeholder groups.</i>	1. Leaflet on the benefits of sprinklers produced by fire suppression and sustainable buildings task group to be publicised to a wider group of elected member, focusing on lead members for Childrens' Services.	