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| Cllr Kay Hammond |  | 11 December 2015 |
| Deputy Chairman |  |  |
| Fire Services Management Board |  |  |
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**Briefing Note**

**Background**

**The National Operational Guidance Programme is helping fire and rescue services in the UK to ensure the way they respond to incidents is safe and effective by using current best practice. It was set up in 2012 and will complete delivery of the guidance by March 2018. Based at the London Fire Brigade, the programme is funded by all 51 fire and rescue services in the UK, along with funding from the devolved administrations and DCLG.**

**Benefits of collaboration**

**The programme takes a collaborative approach. There is a strong emphasis on partnership and this was recently recognised when the programme won Partnership of the Year at the Excellence in Fire and Emergency Awards.**

**Fire and rescue services are working together to develop guidance nationally that can be adapted or adopted locally. The application of national approaches at a local level recognises the importance of local determination and leads to a consistent approach to delivering front line services.**

**Driving efficiencies at a local level**

**The programme is of interest to Members because its approach can be used to drive other changes in the fire and rescue service. A national approach that is delivered locally can aid all fire and rescue services in delivering efficiencies in all areas of responsibility, ranging from the back office functions to delivering training.**

**The programme welcomes Member involvement.**

**Recommendation**

**Include an agenda item about the programme at the next FSMC meeting on 7 March, inviting the Nick Collins, the Programme Director to attend.**