Safer Communities Directorate
Fire and Rescue Division
John Nicholson
Head of Division

E: fireframeworkconsultation@gov.scot

The Scottish Government

Dear Consultee

FIRE AND RESCUE FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND 2016 CONSULTATION

This letter invites your views on the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 and its strategic key priorities.   As part of this consultation exercise we are particularly interested in your views on the current Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 Targets (Annex B) and if these targets should be amended or not.

The Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016 is the vehicle, established under the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, as amended by the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, through which Scottish Ministers set out priorities and objectives that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) must have regard to in carrying out its functions, in terms of public safety, efficiency and effectiveness.

The 10 strategic key priorities within the 2016 Framework sets out Scottish Ministers' expectations of the SFRS and also seeks to provide guidance and support to the SFRS, setting in context the overarching purpose that the SFRS should adhere to in carrying out its functions.

The respondent information form asks for your views concerning the following sections within the framework consultation document:

- Chapter 1 – Protecting Communities: Risk, Prevention and Response;
- Chapter 2 – The Evolving Role of the SFRS;
- Chapter 3 – Governance, Accountability and Performance; and
- The current Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2013 targets (Annex B)

An Equality Impact Assessment and a Partial Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment are also available, and I welcome any comments you may have on each of these three documents.

Yours faithfully
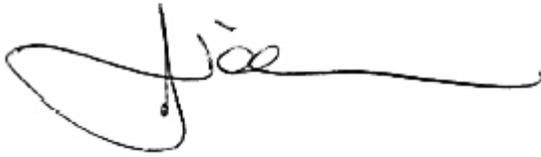
John Nicholson
Head of Fire & Rescue Division
Safer Communities Directorate

Responding to this consultation paper

We are inviting written responses to this consultation paper by **15 June 2016. Please send your responses with the completed Respondent Information Form to:**

fireframeworkconsultation@gov.scot

or

Fire and Rescue Framework Scotland **2016** Consultation
Fire and Rescue Division
Area 1R
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

If you have any queries regarding the consultation please contact Richard Hastings on 0131 244 2388.

We would be grateful if you would use the consultation questionnaire provided or clearly indicate in your response which questions or part of the document that you are responding to as this will assist in our analysis of all the responses received.

This consultation, and all other Scottish Government consultation exercises, can be viewed online on the consultation web pages of the Scottish Government website at: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations.

The Scottish Government has an email alert system for consultations, http://register.scotland.gov.uk. This system allows stakeholder individuals and organisations to register and receive a weekly email containing details of all new consultations (including web links). It complements, but in no way replaces Scottish Government distribution lists, and is designed to allow stakeholders to keep up to date with all Scottish Government consultation activity, and therefore be alerted at the earliest opportunity to those of most interest. We would encourage you to register.

Handling your response

We need to know how you wish your response to be handled and, in particular, whether you are happy for your response to be made public. **Please ensure you complete and return the Respondent Information Form which forms part of the consultation questionnaire.** This will ensure that we treat your response appropriately. If you ask for your response not to be published we will regard it as confidential, and treat it accordingly.

All respondents should be aware that the Scottish Government is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and would therefore have to consider any request made to it under the Act for information relating to responses made to this consultation exercise.

Next steps in the process

Where respondents have given permission for their response to be made public and after we have checked that they contain no potentially defamatory material, responses will be made available to the public on the Scottish Government consultation web pages by **4 July 2016**.

What happens next?

Following the closing date, all responses will be analysed and considered along with any other available evidence. We aim to issue a report on this consultation process by **15 August 2016.**

Comments and complaints

If you have any comments about how this consultation exercise has been conducted, please send them to:

Richard Hastings
Fire and Rescue Division
Area 1R
St. Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

Richard.Hastings@gov.scot

FIRE AND RESCUE FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND 2016

RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response.

Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

☐ Individual

☐ Organisation

Full name or organisation's name

```
[                                                    ]
```

Phone number

```
[                                    ]
```

Address

```
[                                                    ]
```

Postcode

```
[                                    ]
```

Email

```
[                                    ]
```

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

☐ Publish response with name

☐ Publish response only (anonymous)

☐ Do not publish response

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

☐ Yes

☐ No

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1.	Do you agree with the 10 strategic priorities attached in **Annex A** to the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

2.	Do you agree with the text set out in the sections **Protecting Communities** and **Prevention and Protection**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

3.	Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Responding to Incidents**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

4.	Do you agree with the text set out in the section **Managing Risk**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

5.	Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Evidence Based Decision Making**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

6.	Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Working with Others**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

7.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Local Flexibility**, in Chapter 1 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

8.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Driving Improvement and Realising the Benefits of Fire Reform**, in Chapter 2 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

9.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **The Future Role of the Firefighter: Productive use of Capacity**, in Chapter 2 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

10.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Modernising Emergency Response**, in Chapter 2 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

11.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Telecommunications Systems: Current and Future Use**, in Chapter 2 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

12.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals**, in Chapter 2 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

13.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Managing Performance**, in Chapter 3 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

14.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Developing Capacity**, in Chapter 3 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

15.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Equalities and Human Rights**, in Chapter 3 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

16.   Do you agree with the text set out in the section, **Community Empowerment and Community Planning** in Chapter 3 of the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland **2016**?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Comments

17.   **Annex B** includes the 2013 Framework Targets and we would like to hear your views on whether these should be kept, dropped or amended. We would also like to hear if you think that any new targets should be added for example reduction of unwanted fire alarm signals or how better to measure the economic impact of non-domestic fires?

Comments

FIRE FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND 2013 – TARGETS

1. Fire casualties
Reduce the rate of fire fatalities and casualties (excluding precautionary checks) per million population by 5% a year based on the previous 3 year rolling average.

2. Reducing special services casualties
Based on a 3 year rolling average, reduce the rate of casualties and fatalities per million population, each year.

> Special services to be included:
- Road Traffic Collision;
- other transport incident;
- flooding;
- rescue or evacuation from water; and
- other rescue/release of persons

3. Reducing the number of accidental dwelling fires by 10% each year
Comparing a three year rolling average against the previous 3 year average, reduce the rate of accidental dwelling fires per 1,000 households by 10% each year.

Support the target with a measure of 'life risk accidental dwelling fires' – i.e. accidental dwelling fires where there was a casualty or fatality to show how the SFRS impacts the fires that matter.

4. Reducing the number of non-domestic fires
Reduce the rate of non-domestic fires per 1,000 in other buildings from the previous year.

5. Reducing firefighter injuries
Reduce the rate of injuries per staff member (headcount, including volunteers) each year.

Increase attendance – reduce the days lost to sickness so that SFRS at least matches the average of the best 4 pre-2013 fire and rescue services.

6. Improving attendance
Reduce the rate of injuries per staff member (headcount, including volunteers) each year.

Increase attendance – reduce the days lost to sickness so that the SFRS at least matches the average of the best four pre-2013 fire and rescue services.