

# EAST MIDLANDS FiReControl Project

DERBYSHIRE LEICESTERSHIRE LINCOLNSHIRE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

## PROJECT UPDATE

Issue 1

Dec 2006

This is the first of a series of monthly Project Updates on the FiReControl Project. The update will generally be split into these sections:

1. This month's introduction / overview
2. Dept. of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) National update
3. East Midlands Regional update

### **1. General Overview this month**

As this is the first of an ongoing series of Project updates this a brief overview of what the FiReControl Project aims to deliver :

- Creation of nine regional control centres (RCCs) for the 46 English FRS's for the purposes of delivering high levels of resilience and improving efficiency.
- One component of the enhanced levels of resilience will be the adoption across all the RCCs of the same call-handling and mobilisation technology, which is being centrally procured through the FiReControl national project team, reporting to the Fire & Resilience Directorate (FRD) of the DCLG.
- The new system will be integrated with the Firelink radio scheme and operating within the same timetable as Firelink will save considerable sums of public money and achieve operating efficiencies.
- Control room staff in the new control rooms will be trained to nationally agreed business processes and Regional control centre operational standards.
- The planning and implementation of the FiReControl project is being jointly managed between the FiReControl national project team and regional project teams, primarily funded by DCLG.

### **2. National DCLG Project Update**

Four of the Regional Control Centres (RCCs) are now under construction, The North East, South West and East Midlands are well advanced, and photos of the construction work completed so far can be accessed via the FiReControl website <https://www.firecontrol.odpm.gov.uk>

Best and Final Offers were received from the three final bidders for the Infrastructure Services (IS) Contract on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The two remaining bids are currently being evaluated by central government and contract award is expected in early January 2007.

### **3. Regional Project Update – Regional Project Manager**

A Regional Control Centre Director (RCCD) - Paul St Clair from East Midlands Ambulance Service - was appointed in August 2006 and has commenced work on defining the Support Services requirements for the RCC.

The local authority controlled company (LACC) was established on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2006 and will be jointly owned by all Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) in the region. The purpose of the Company will be to share the control of the Regional Control Centre fairly between all FRAs in the region. Full responsibility for running the fire control service will continue to rest with fire and rescue authorities.

The name of the LACC is the **East Midlands Fire and Rescue Control Centre Limited** and its address is - Willow Farm Business Park, Castle Donington, Leicestershire DE74 2NN.

In the week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006 the Representative Bodies in the Region will have received a letter signed by each FRS Chief Fire Officer notifying them of the formation of the Company and informing them that consultation with staff might commence in Spring 2007. Consultation will include matters such as staffing structure and numbers, shift patterns and preliminary HR policies for managing the transition .

At a Regional level and at an individual FRS level, plans are being drafted up for the work that will need to be undertaken over the next two years leading up to the Go Live of the RCC. The intention is to provide updates on progress against these plans on a monthly basis from January 2007 once the IS Contract has been awarded by DLCG and we can then build some detailed plans for the transition activity.

**If you have any questions about the Project please contact :**

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