



This Project update now includes a Firelink national and regional update.

This update will now be split into these sections:

1. FiReControl – National, Regional
2. Firelink - National and Regional updates

1. National DCLG Project Update

New Burdens funding was agreed for FRSs for 2007/2008 and this is to enable progress on the planned transition activities for this year. Award of the Infrastructure Services (IS) contract is in the final stages of the approval process.

2. Regional Project Update – Regional Project Manager

The East Midlands Fire & Rescue Control Centre Limited (EMFRCC) held its first Board Meeting on 25 January to agree the formalities of establishing the company. The Agenda included an RCC visit and an overview and introduction to the project and scope of the work, relationships between the Company, RMB and Project Board and where the Company will source its professional services and advice from.

The Board members from each FRA are :

Derbyshire	- Cllrs : Paul Smith & Richard Gerrard
Leicestershire -	- Cllrs : Peter Roffey & Cliff Stanley
Nottinghamshire	- Cllrs : Darrell Pulk & Brent Charlesworth
Lincolnshire	- Cllrs : Peter Robinson & Graham Marsh
Northamptonshire	- Cllrs : Andy Mercer & Robert Civil

The Chair of the Board is Cllr Darrell Pulk

Sean Burns has been seconded from Derbyshire FRS to join the Regional Project Team as the HR Project Manager and he takes up his role from 19 February. He will be involved in the set activities for the EMFRCC and will be working alongside FRS HR colleagues to achieve this.

The Regional Project also has two Working Groups comprised of FRS Managers who meet monthly. These are the Control Room Managers Working Group (CRMWG) and the East Midlands HR Working

Group (EMHRWG). Their role on the Project is to act as a professional advisers to the Project and provide input on delivery of transition activities.

If you have any questions about the FiReControl Project please contact :
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FIRELINK PROJECT UPDATE



1. National Firelink Update

As this is the first of a series of monthly updates this update includes an overview of what the Project aims and deliverables are and progress to date :

Background

Firelink is a vital investment in the FRS radio system. It will replace each fire and rescue services' current main scheme radio technology (some now over twenty years old) with, for the first time, a single national wide area communications capability in England, Scotland and Wales. It will improve resilience and interoperability within the FRS and between the primary blue light services

Deliverables

The Firelink project team will install radio terminals, Global Positioning System (GPS) units, printers and Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) in over 7,000 FRS appliances. It will also provide interim connections into existing control rooms, so that FRS vehicles can benefit from using Firelink prior to migration to the new RCCs. The software applications running on the MDTs will be provided by the FiReControl project. Firelink is therefore an enabler for the FiReControl project

The following is a list of equipment that will be made available to the FRS as part of the Firelink solution:

- SAN A: Mobile Radio Terminal
- SAN B: Desk top radio
- SAN C: Handheld Officers car radio
- SAN D: Transportable SAN A
- SAN E: Appliance MDT
- SAN F: Officers car MDT (TBC)
- SAN I: Control Room Interim Solution



Progress to Date And Planned Rollout

The Firelink contract was awarded to O2 Airwave on 29th March 2006. The procurement, delivery and installation of Firelink is scheduled for completion by the end of 2009. Delivery is in phases with the final phase dependent on the progress of the FiReControl project.

Delivery Phase A: O2 Airwave will install additional network capacity to accommodate Firelink traffic and achieve network resilience including additional radio carriers and additional router ports. In England (except London) this phase includes the installation of SAN I's in control rooms, SAN B's in brigades and a number of SANs in up to 8 test vehicles for each brigade.

Delivery Phase B: Fitting SAN's to the vehicles and the migration to operational use of the Airwave Service.

Delivery Phase C: During implementation of the FiReControl project this stage will integrate the Airwave Service into new Regional Control Centres.

2. Regional Project Update

Implementation Phase A:

The Implementation Phase A within the East Midlands region will follow a generic plan that consists of the following activities:

- Due Diligence Visit (DDV) and site survey
- Delivery of Individual Detailed Design Specification (IDDS)
- Enabling works completed
- Installation of SAN I (control room interim solution)
- Installation of vehicle fits (Up to 8 vehicles per fire and rescue service)
- FRS test and acceptance
- Regional test and acceptance

Progress to date:

- DDV and site survey completed
- Delivery of Individual Detailed Design Specification (IDDS) , Leicester FRS currently under review and the remainder yet to be issued

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