



## FiReControl & Firelink PROJECT UPDATE Issue 28 : May 2009

### FIRECONTROL PROJECT UPDATE

#### **1 National FiReControl Project Update**

**Ways of Working (WoW)** - A revised process for the release of WoWs has been agreed . Under this approach CLG are issuing the Introduction and Key Principles for each document ahead of the full detail. This ensures that progress is made across all areas of FiReControl, and enables the FRSs to be involved in reviewing the key principles.

**Data Retention Ownership & Privacy (DROP)** - CLG has written to the Information Commissioner's Office seeking guidance on the classification of LACCs under the Data Protection Act. The decision will have a significant bearing on the rules and processes the LACCs will need to put in place and operate.

**Mobile Data Terminals (MDT)** – A review of FRS Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) and Wide Area Network (WAN) infrastructure is currently underway to determine whether additional hardware is required to provide a wireless updating solution for MDTs delivered to FRSs without a current MDT capability .

#### **2 Regional FiReControl Project Update**

**Station end Equipment (SEE)** - Short Site Survey reports have been received by those FRSs which have had the Surveys for the new FIREControl SEE. Northamptonshire FRS are currently involved in a trial with CLG to document the next steps of the process which includes establishing cost estimates for enabling works resulting from the install of the new SEE .

**Control Room Seminars** – Dates for the 4<sup>th</sup> set of Control Room Seminars have been agreed and communicated to all Control Room staff across the Region. The seminars will take place in July and will provide information on the LACC's Role Matching and Relocation Policies, shift patterns and start and finish times.

**FRS Principal Officers & Senior Management Teams Briefing** - A Regional FiReControl and Firelink briefing is to be held at the RCC on 22 July for FRS Principal Officers and Senior Brigade Managers.

#### **3 Local Authority Controlled Company (LACC) Update**

The last meeting was held on 7th May 2009 and was followed by a General Meeting.

**General Meeting** –the Board considered proposed changes to the Articles of Association and the Directors Report and Financial Statements 2008 were approved and will be sent to each FRA. The 5 FRAs at the General Meeting unanimously agreed to 2 Special Resolutions to change the Articles of

# EAST MIDLANDS FiReControl Project

DERBYSHIRE LEICESTERSHIRE LINCOLNSHIRE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



Association – 1) dispensing with the need for an AGM and 2) Reducing the quorum for Board meetings to 50%+1.

**LACC Website** - discussion took place on the development of a company web site.

**Relocation and Additional Support Policy** - was given final approval and now awaits formal Joint Partnership Forum sign-off and the issuing of a Consultation Measures Letter to FRAs.

**Employee Involvement Group** - A progress report on the work of the Employee Involvement Group was received and the continuation of the group was agreed.

**Local Government Pension Scheme** - The Board agreed to write to CLG concerning an extension to the early retirement transitional arrangements in the LGPS.

**TUPE** - The Board reaffirmed its commitment to existing staff transferring to the Company on their existing terms and conditions as required by TUPE.

**If you have any questions about the FiReControl Project please contact Carole Anderson – Regional Project Manager - [Carole.Anderson@LFRS.org](mailto:Carole.Anderson@LFRS.org)**

## FIRELINK PROJECT UPDATE

### **1. National Firelink Progress**

**Phase B Operational Rollout** - 18 English FRSs are now complete and a further 15 are in the process of fitout which broadly equates to over 3000 FRS vehicles and Officers Cars having been fitted out with radios and ancillary equipment. Phase B rollout of the combined voice & data solution in Scotland is due to start next month and in Wales the following month.

### **2. Regional Firelink Progress**

**Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire FRSs** - have now completed their Operational Phase B Rollout with all vehicles now fitted with Firelink Radios. Derbyshire and Northamptonshire FRS went 'live' immediately with Lincolnshire scheduled to 'go live' on the 1st June 09

**Nottinghamshire FRS** - are expected to complete Operational Rollout in mid July 09

**Leicestershire FRS** - are still planning for Operational Rollout, with an anticipated commencement in mid July 09

**If you have any questions about the Firelink Project please contact :**  
**JL Smithurst ,Regional Delivery Manager, East Midlands m:+44(0)7900 332749**

## **FiReControl glossary of project terms**

**Introduction** - *This glossary will be updated and added to quarterly from May 2009. It can be read in conjunction with the Monthly Project Update to provide a more detailed description of commonly used terms and acronyms.*

**CLG – Communities and Local Government.** This is the organisation that sets policy on local government, housing, urban regeneration, planning and fire and rescue.

**DCMT – Data Collection & Migration Toolkit 1) and 2).** This is a number of PCs and a server (which may be connected to FRS' own systems in the next year) that has been provided by CLG/EADS to receive FRS' current data and convert it into the required format for transferring to the RCC. FRS' already have DCMT1 installed and this is for the collection of existing local Gazetteer data which is being transferred to the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) for use at the RCC within its mobilising system. DCMT2 will be installed later this year and will be used for the collection of other data sets such as risk data, SOPs, Site Specific risk information, hydrants and water supplies etc.

**EADS – Europe Aeronautic Defence and Space Company.** This is the company that is developing the technical solution for the FiReControl project and includes systems such as Data Collection and migration toolkits, mobilising equipment and Station End Equipment.

**FDM – FDM Group plc.** This is the company that has been appointed by CLG to undertake the initial training of all staff in order to enable them to use the equipment at the RCC.

**ISP – Initial Staffing Pool.** This is the first group of staff from all FRS' in the Region that will need to be in place at the RCC at least 8 weeks before 'go live' to receive the RCC training, ready for Derbyshire FRS calls to cutover to the RCC. This group will be seconded from their original FRS until that Service cuts over, at which point TUPE will be applied.

**IWT – Integrated Working Teams.** The overall objective of an IWT is to create a project team that is entirely focused on the successful delivery of a sub-system of the overall FiReControl System. The IWT will involve experts with the necessary level of knowledge and skills from the national team, FRS' and the supplier. Recent topics include incident types and planned responses, mobilising attributes and FRS prompts and information for the control room operators.

**LACC – Local Authority Controlled Company.** The regional control centres will be run by Local Authority Controlled Companies, which bring together the Fire and Rescue Authorities in a region. These Fire and Rescue Authorities will wholly own and control the companies which will manage regional control centres. The Local Authority Controlled Company has a board of directors and these directors are drawn from the Fire and Rescue Authorities in the region.

**MDT – Mobile Data Terminal.** This is the computer that will be installed in the cab of fire appliances, comprising a keyboard, screen and printer. The MDT will provide fire crews with up-to-date risk information such as Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and site specific risk information. It will provide the crew with the quickest route to the incident and

the location of fire hydrants and water supplies. Other features include hazardous material data and crash data. The MDT will be used for sending data messaging to the RCC, such as booking mobile to and from incidents.

**RCC – Regional Control Centre.** This is the centre that has been built at Castle Donington, which will take all the emergency calls for the region once cut-over has taken place. There will be nine RCCs for the whole of England.

**RCC Task and Finish Group.** This is a group that has been set up by CLG. The purpose of the RCC Task and Finish Group is to review training modules written by FDM. There are two representatives from this region (Derbyshire and Lincolnshire) that are invited to attend workshops where they feed back comments on draft training modules.

**SEE – Station End Equipment.** This is the equipment in place at stations to receive mobilising alerts from the FRS Control Rooms. This kit is being replaced by the FiReControl project and will be connected to the RCC mobilising system when each FRS' calls are cut-over into the RCC

**Ways of Working.** These are documents produced by CLG that identify the areas where FRS' need to converge in the way they work and the terminology that they use. There are over 48 products that have been produced, an example of which is National Call Signs.

Please contact Carole Anderson, Regional Project Manager at [Carole.anderson@LFRS.org](mailto:Carole.anderson@LFRS.org) with any queries or requests for additions to this initial list.

May 2009