

Item Number	3
Title of Paper	Paper 1 – Chairs’ Engagement Activity
Decision or Information	For information
Date of Meeting	24 June 2019
Presented by	Chairs

## Summary

This paper provides the Board with a summary of the engagement activity the Chairs have carried out since the last meeting and what is planned in the coming weeks.

## Recommendations & Decisions

The Board to note the contents of this report.

## Presentations & Meetings

The Chairs have attended the following meetings:

- Second meeting with Zoe Billingham and team - HMICFRS
- Meeting with Luke Edwards, Fire & Resilience Director, Home Office

Key points for the Board’s information from these meetings are summarised below:

### HMICFRS meeting with FSB Chairs

- Planned publication date of latest findings (2<sup>nd</sup> tranche) is 20 June 2019.
- Main themes coming out of the inspection built on previous findings from the first set of inspections. The three items in bold form the basis of the key recommendations by HMICFRS:
  - **Promoting a more nationally consistent approach to:**
    - **Response standards (what constitutes a response so that responses across the country are more easily comparable as they observed a variety of responses in similar demographics)**
    - **Integrated Risk Management Plan - risk resourcing and availability**
    - **Protection definitions and application**
  - Rebalancing prevention, protection and response

- Leadership to improve culture, values and diversity
  - Firefighter selection process
  - Encouraging and facilitating national innovation in IT
  - Tackling barriers to modernisation
  - Supporting capacity to change / modernise
- It was suggested the FSB may wish to prepare a press statement responding to the release of the report.
  - The MoU was discussed, and a draft will be shared with HMICFRS for their input.
  - The next meeting is planned for around early September.

### **Meeting with Luke Edwards (Fire & Resilience Director) and the FSB Chairs**

- Luke explained the structure of the Fire & Resilience Unit and his plans to coordinate the Unit's activities more closely.
- The Fire Safety unit has seen the biggest growth in staff numbers post-Grenfell.
- Luke confirmed that Jonny Bugg is the Board's main contact but periodic meetings with him and the Chairs would also be useful possibly on a half yearly basis and these will be scheduled. The next meeting with him has been proposed for some time in the autumn.
- It was proposed that it may be useful for the Chairs and Luke to meet again when the Board's work programme including key milestones is defined which should take into account the Minister's observations.
- Luke explained the current areas of focus including the spending review submission to Treasury, the impact of the Grenfell inquiry findings and issues with the current data system (IRS).
- Luke will be consulting with unit colleagues as to their thoughts on the priorities. For standards development.

### **NFCC Spring Conference**

A presentation and workshop session were delivered by the FSB Chairs and members of the NFCC CPO at the NFCC Spring Conference. The audience were senior managers from across the UK's fire and rescue services.

The presentation was well received, and feedback was sought on the standards prototype template. This feedback has been gathered and will be combined with that collated from wider stakeholders via the Strategic Engagement Forum and from the upcoming regional workshops.

This feedback will be brought to Board at its next meeting.

## Service Visits

In order to familiarise themselves with the operations of a fire and rescue service, the CPO are facilitating a number of visits by the Chairs to various services. The service visit plan is below:

21 <sup>st</sup> June	Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service
27 <sup>th</sup> June	North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service

Further visits are being arranged with:

- Avon Fire & Rescue Service
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service
- London Fire Brigade
- Hereford and Worcestershire Service

The Chairs aim to visit any service where they receive a direct invitation from the Chief Officer or equivalent. Future visits will be planned from the Autumn onwards.

The Chairs will be presenting at the Institute of Fire Engineers Conference in July in the same session as Roy Wilsher.

## Editorial

An article about the establishment of the Board and introducing the Chairs was published in the Emergency Services Times.

The article can be accessed via [this link](#) (page 13 of the online version).