

BOARD PAPER

Item Number	Item 5 – Paper 3
Title of Paper	General Progress Update
Decision or Information	For information
Date of Meeting	9 th October 2023
Presented by	Fire Standards Team
Attachments	None

Summary

This paper provides the Board with a summary of general activity relating to the Board and Fire Standards. This includes:

- Update on Equality Impact Assessment of Fire Standards
- Chairs' meetings and engagements
- Website and social media statistics

Recommendations and decisions required.

The Board is asked to note the contents of this paper.

Equality Impact Assessment

Following the discussion at the July Board meeting, it was agreed that a statement outlining the position of the Board with regards to the level of equality impact assessment undertaken on Fire Standards, should be developed, and made public on the website.

Having taken appropriate expert advice, a statement has been prepared by the FST, shared with the FSB Chairs and approved by them. It is now live on the [website](#) but the wording is replicated below for information.

The Fire Standards are designed to be applicable to all fire and rescue services in England and for the wider benefit of local communities. Fire Standards are produced by the services for the services.

The Fire Standards Board is committed to listening and responding to a diversity of voices. Through its open consultation process, it welcomes views and feedback from those with differing backgrounds and experiences about its Fire Standards. With best endeavours, it considers all

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feedback as part of its development and approval processes to ensure the standards will not directly or indirectly discriminate against a person or persons or negatively affect them.

Achieving the Fire Standards will support fire and rescue services in complying with their public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010, in particular this means their responsibility to; eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it, and to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The impact of this will benefit the fire sector and the wider community that they serve.

New FSB videos

As part of the communications and engagement activity and to continue to raise awareness about the Board and the progress with Fire Standards, three new videos have now been produced.

They each take a different perspective starting with that of the Chair of the Board, then the perspective from governing bodies and finally the perspective of how services may best benefit from them.

In addition, Cornwall FRS have also produced a short video on behalf of the Board where the Chief Fire Officer talks about the impact Fire Standards have had within the service and how they have approached achievement of them. This is more of a case study but compliments the three official videos.

They will all be available on the FSB YouTube Channel and website and the team will be promoting them through the usual social media channels.

They have been shared with all FSB SPOCs and we will liaise with the network of communications teams to encourage their use within the services and help cascade the messages to a broader range of staff.

The FST wish to thank all the Board members who took part and, once available, encourage all members to encourage their use as communications tools through their respective networks.

Communications and Engagement

Chairs' Meeting and Engagements

Since the last Board meeting, the Chairs have met with the following stakeholders on a range of topics including:

- LGA Fire Commissioners meeting (to promote Fire Standards) – September
- Emergency Services Show- September
- Meeting with Fire Minister- September

Future engagement planned by the Chairs are listed below, also attending may be FST members:

- NFCC Autumn Conference - 11th Oct
- South Yorkshire FRS - 19th Oct
- Humberside FRS - 20th Oct
- Meeting with Alex Norris Shadow Fire Minister - 31st October
- HMICFRS Team Away Day – 2nd November
- Leicestershire FRS Service Visit – 3rd November
- West Sussex – 11th March 2024

Website and Social Media Impact

Platform	July 23	August 23	September 23
YouTube subscribers	61	61	61
Twitter followers	1630	1651	1652
LinkedIn followers	490	490	492

Commented [JF2]: We will add details in the final version

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