

report

meeting	NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY	
date	3 June 2005	agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

CHANGE OF MINISTERIAL DUTIES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform Fire Authority Members of the Ministerial changes affecting Fire & Rescue Services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Since 2001 the responsibility for Fire & Rescue Services at Ministerial level has rested with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).
- 2.2 Responsibility for the Fire & Rescue Service within the ODPM rested with the Right Honourable Nick Raynsford MP, who was supported by Phil Hope MP as Parliamentary Under Secretary, and a team within the Local Government and Fire Group.
- 2.3 The Cabinet re-shuffle following the General Election on 5 May 2005 has resulted in changes which affect the Fire & Rescue Service.

3. REPORT

- 3.1 Following the general election and the associated Cabinet re-shuffle, the responsibility for Fire & Rescue still falls under the remit of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, Right Honourable John Prescott MP, although the structure and responsibility for the Service has changed.
- 3.2 Replacing Nick Raynsford as Minister of State for Local and Regional Government and Fire is the Right Honourable David Milliband MP who has the revised title of Minister for Communities and Local Government.
- 3.3 Supporting the Right Honourable David Milliband as Minister for Local Government, which includes Fire & Rescue within its remit, will be the Right Honourable Phil Woolas MP who has the title of Minister for Local Government. The references accredited to Phil Woolas include Fire and Civil Resilience, along with, amongst others, Local Government Efficiency, the future of CPA and Better Regulation.
- 3.4 The Parliamentary Under Secretary within the ODPM will be Jim Fitzpatrick MP. Although Mr Fitzpatrick will not hold any specific responsibility for Fire, he will support Ministers within the ODPM.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An initial impact assessment has revealed there are no specific issues of equality arising from this report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Fire Authority Members note the contents of this report and the associated changes with regard to Ministerial responsibility at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION

None.

Paul Woods
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER