

## report

meeting	<b>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE &amp; RESCUE AUTHORITY</b>	
date	<b>13 September 2006</b>	agenda item number

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

#### CHANGES TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT OF FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITIES

##### 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Members on the impact of changes to the ministerial framework within Central Government and its impact on Fire & Rescue Authorities.

##### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Since its move from the then Department for Transport, Local Authority and the Regions, the responsibility at ministerial level for the Fire & Rescue Service has rested with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.
- 2.2 The cabinet reshuffle by the Prime Minister earlier in the year and the change of role for the Deputy Prime Minister has led to the formation of a new department which has fire and resilience among its responsibilities.

##### 3 REPORT

- 3.1 The cabinet reshuffle by the Prime Minister has seen the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) being replaced by a new department entitled the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG).
- 3.2 Replacing John Prescott as the head of the new department is the Right Honourable Ruth Kelly MP, whose role will be Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and Minister for Women. Ruth Kelly was previously the Secretary of State for Education.
- 3.3 The Minister for Fire, the Right Honourable Jim Fitzpatrick MP, is replaced within the DCLG by Angela Smith, MP whose references as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State include Fire within the portfolio. Angela Smith was a former Member of Essex County Fire & Rescue Authority before becoming an MP.
- 3.4 In respect of the Board Executive of the DCLG, the reference for Fire and Resilience was initially placed with Alun Evans, who retained the reference from the transfer from ODPM. As a result of a re-structure within the DCLG however, Neil Kinghan will become the Director General for Fire, Resilience and Civil Contingency, which will take effect from October 2006.

**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 equality impact assessment has revealed there are no specific equalities issues arising from this report.

**7 RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific risk management implications arising from this report.

**8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Members note the contents of this report.

**9 BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION**

None.

Paul Woods  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**