Consultation on the National Procurement Strategy for the Fire and Rescue Service 2008 - 2011

Issued by:
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Addressed to:
The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Chief Executive of the County Council
The Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Clerk to the Combined Fire and Rescue Authority
The Commissioner of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority
The Chief Fire Officer

Please forward to:
Chairs of Regional Management Boards
Directors of Finance
Treasurers

Summary
This Circular covers a copy of the consultation document on the National Procurement Strategy for the Fire and Rescue Service (in England) 2008 – 2011. Responses are sought by 14 November.

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1.0 **Background**

1.1 The National Procurement Strategy for the (English) Fire and Rescue Service 2005-2008 was published in November 2005 and responded to earlier reports calling for greater collaboration and efficiency in Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) procurement. The Secretary of State established a national body – Firebuy Ltd – to take forward the Strategy.

1.2 The Strategy now needs to be updated to reflect progress in implementing the original strategy and developments and changes to the Service in general since it was introduced.

1.3 A group convened by the Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) National Procurement Board has been working with Communities and Local Government on a new strategy for 2008 - 2011. This group included representatives from CFOA, Fire and Rescue Authorities, Association of Procurement Practitioners in the Fire Service, Local Government Association, Firebuy Ltd, Fire and Rescue Suppliers Association and Regional Centres for Excellence.


2.0 **Consultation Process**


2.2 The consultation will be for 12 weeks and closes at midday on 14 November 2008. Earlier responses will be welcome. To assist with the compilation and analysis of responses to this consultation exercise, it would be appreciated if responses were submitted electronically to fsed6@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

2.3 Hard copies will be accepted but it would be helpful if these were in addition to electronic submissions. It will not be possible to accept late responses.

3.0 **Further information**

3.1 For further information on the National Procurement Strategy for the Fire and Rescue Service 2008- 2011 please contact fsed6@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

3.2 Further information on Firebuy Ltd can be found at [www.firebuy.gov.uk](http://www.firebuy.gov.uk).

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