



THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

The professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service

FireControl Scrapped

The Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) is not surprised with the decision announced today by Bob Neill MP, the Minister for Fire, to end the FiReControl project. The project designed to set up 9 regional control centres to handle all 999 fire calls in England has been beset by difficulties from the outset. Peter Holland, CFOA President said, "Despite the best efforts of fire professionals in attempting to assist both CLG and EADS in developing a resilient mobilising and operational asset management solution for the Fire and Rescue Service, the project has failed to deliver on time, cost and quality."

CFOA will now be pressing CLG as a matter of urgency to secure appropriate funding to deliver alternative resilient fire control systems and facilities. CFOA wishes to ensure that equipment which has already been delivered to services by the project remains in place including mobile data terminals in fire appliances. CFOA also wants to see delivery of many of the other benefits that would have been provided by the regional control project but at a lower cost and reduced complexity. To this end, CFOA will be seeking an early meeting with the Minister to explore the implications of this decision and will continue to support Chief Fire Officers throughout England to deliver improvements in what are unprecedented times.

Peter Holland commended the contribution of control room staff across the country who have been living and working under such uncertainty. The CFOA President said, "We must pay tribute to the hundreds of control room staff across the country who have had to deal with major uncertainty over the last few years but who have continued to provide our communities with a very efficient and effective service throughout this time."

- Ends -



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Notes to Editor:

The Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA)

CFOA is the professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service, supporting its members to fulfil their leadership role in protecting our local communities and making life safer through improved service delivery. CFOA provides professional advice to inform government policy and is committed to developing both strategic and technical guidance and sharing notable practice within the wider FRS. Membership of the Association comprises almost all the senior management of fire and rescue services in the United Kingdom. CFOA is the driving force in managing change and implementing reforms in the service.

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20th December 2010