

REPORT TO: THE MORAY COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2009

**SUBJECT: FIRE AND RESCUE FRAMEWORK FOR SCOTLAND 2009 –
PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

BY: CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Council that the Scottish Government are now consulting on the draft of a second Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2009, which has been developed in partnership with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and that comments on the draft Framework are invited by the deadline of 20 September 2009.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Council in terms of Section A(52) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to considering all matters relating to any alteration in the boundaries of the Council Area of electoral divisions.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the Council note that the Consultation on the draft second Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland has been referred to the Community Planning Safer and Stronger Strategic Group for consideration;**
- 2.2 **That the Council agree that any representations made by the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group concerning the Framework be referred to the Chief Executive; and**
- 2.3 **That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Convener and Depute Convener, to formulate the Council's response.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Under the provisions of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, Scottish Ministers are required to review the Framework from time to time to ensure that it reflects the priorities, objectives and guidance required by Fire and Rescue Authorities in connection with carrying out their statutory responsibilities.
- 3.2 The Head of Scottish Resilience: Fire and Rescue Services has issued the second draft Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2009 for public consultation and is seeking responses from stakeholders by 20 September 2009.
- 3.3 The draft document refers to National Outcome 9: "We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger" and National Outcome 11: "We have strong resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their

own actions and how they affect others.” As both of these National Outcomes come under the remit of the Community Planning Safer and Stronger Strategic Group, the document has been referred to this Group for comment. Copies of the consultation document have also been passed to Councillors J. Divers, R. Shepherd and M. McConachie who are the Council representatives on the Grampian Joint Fire and Rescue Board.

- 3.4 Due to the short-timescale for response, it is recommended that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Convener and Depute Convener, to formulate the council’s response based on the comments received from the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group and any from the Council representatives.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- (a) **Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**
Response to this consultation relates to the local key priority as detailed under National Outcome 11 in the SOA “that our community will be resilient to emergencies”
- (b) **Policy and Legal**
None
- (c) **Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**
None
- (d) **Consultations**
Head of Scottish Resilience: Fire and Rescue Services consultation on the second draft Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2009 (ongoing until 20th September 2009)

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 **The Scottish Government draft of a second Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2009, which has been developed in partnership with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) has been issued for consultation and comments on the draft Framework are invited by the deadline of 20 September 2009.**
- 5.2 **The Council may wish to consider any response to the draft Framework following consideration by the Safer and Stronger Strategic Group as detailed in the report.**

ITEM:

PAGE: 3

Author of Report: Moira Patrick, Principal Committee Services Officer

Background Papers: The Head of Scottish Resilience: Fire and Rescue Services Boundary Commission for Scotland letter dated 14 May 2009 regarding consultation on the draft of a second Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2009.

Ref: