



Mr G Thompson  
Chief Fire & Rescue Officer  
Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service  
1 Seymour Street  
LISBURN  
Northern Ireland  
BT27 4SX

26 March 2018  
Via email

Dear Gary

### **National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Operating Principles**

I am writing to confirm that the following modifications of the NFCC Arrangements and Operating Principles effective from 1 April 2017 will apply in relation to the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS):

1. In accordance with the derogation provisions on pages 9 and 10 of the Operating Principles, a permanent derogation shall be granted to NIFRS and its representatives from the obligation to comply with the decisions of the NFCC and to support the priorities, actions and functions of the NFCC where these relate to "England only" matters, for example, the National Fire and Rescue Framework for England.
2. Prior to the 2019-20 financial year, the NFCC will review the relationship between voting rights and payments from Fire and Rescue Services to the NFCC. This review will consider the appropriate contribution of Fire and Rescue Services which do not directly benefit from the NFCC's role under the National Fire and Rescue Framework for England.
3. NFCC Term of Reference (h) will be carried out in Northern Ireland with sensitivity to the different legal and political landscape and only following prior approval of the Department of Health provided via the Northern Ireland Chief Fire & Rescue Officer.
4. A review of the NFCC Operating Principles and the CFOA Articles of Association, to take place by 31 October 2018 at the latest, will address the separation of the NFCC and CFOA commercial activities.

It would be helpful if you could sign the acknowledgement below to confirm the agreement of NIFRS to the NFCC Operating Principles as modified.

Yours sincerely

Roy Wilsher  
Chair  
National Fire Chiefs Council

cc Steven Adams  
Phil Loach  
Huw Jakeway