

**TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY**

**MEETING: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

---

**SUBJECT: FACING THE FUTURE: SIR KEN KNIGHT'S REVIEW OF EFFICIENCIES  
AND OPERATIONS –TWFRA Response**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

---

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The review of efficiencies and operations in FRAs in England was released on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013. Members received a presentation on the report after their June meeting where it was agreed a response to Government would be developed.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In December 2012, the Department for Communities and local Government (CLG) announced a national review of efficiencies and operational improvements in the delivery of Fire and Rescue services in England. This was to be carried out by Sir Ken Knight, who had recently stepped down from his role as Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser to government.
- 2.2 In announcing the review, the Fire Minister acknowledged that there is good evidence of sensible efficiencies being driven by FRAs. The review sought to explore the detail behind these, understand the thinking behind the efficiencies and explore options to go further. The stated purpose of the review was *"to provide all FRAs with sight of the range of opportunities being considered, with the aim of promoting greater transparency"*.
- 2.3 The findings of the review were published under the title *Facing the Future* on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013.
- 2.4 The Fire Minister has encouraged comments from all interested parties, and although this is not a formal consultation, attached for members comment and approval is a formal response to the Minister.

**3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Members are requested to:
- I. Discuss and approve the attached response

II.