

**EXECUTIVE NOTE TO**  
**THE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES (FRAMEWORK) (SCOTLAND)**  
**ORDER 2012**

**SSI 2012/146**

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers contained in section 40(4) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure. The instrument extends only to Scotland.

**Policy Objectives**

The purpose of the Transitional Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2012 is to provide guidance and support to Fire & Rescue Authorities (FRAs) (including Joint Fire and Rescue Boards) on the priorities and objectives for the eight Fire & Rescue Services. It sets out Scottish Ministers' expectations of FRAs in contributing to the fire reform agenda to ensure a smooth introduction for the new Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, whilst maintaining current fire and rescue outcomes. It revokes and replaces in full the *Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2005*.

**Consultation**

In line with the requirements of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, the Scottish Government consulted all of the FRA and the relevant employee representative organisations. It also wrote to local authorities, the Ministerial Advisory Group and its fire reform sub group and equality and diversity organisations seeking comments on the draft transitional framework. 14 responses were received and all of them were generally positive about the framework.

**Impact Assessments**

An equality impact assessment (EQIA) has been completed on the Fire and Rescue Services (Framework) (Order) 2012. The EQIA accompanied the framework document during the consultation. While the Order itself has no specific equality impact issues, the framework seeks to address a number of equality matters relating to the fire services and the communities they serve. The EQIA is attached.

**Financial Effects**

A Business and Regulatory Impact assessment (BRIA) has been completed and accompanied the framework during the consultation. The impact of the policy on business is negligible. The BRIA is attached.

Scottish Government  
Safer Communities Directorate

April 2012