

Wilkinson W (Wendy)

From: SFRS Board Support <SFRS.BoardSupport@firescotland.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 August 2017 08:05
To: Wilkinson W (Wendy)
Subject: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Transformation

Dear Wendy

The creation of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has delivered significant benefits, improved outcomes and provided us with the foundations to begin looking at service transformation.

Transformation will allow the Service to do so much more for the communities we serve while ensuring it can operate within ever tightening fiscal conditions.

Over recent months, the SFRS Board has developed a vision of what that transformation might look like and have now started a conversation on what that will mean and how we would look to deliver it in a safe and planned way.

We all recognise that the world around us is changing. With new and emerging risks from terrorism and severe weather, to out of hospital cardiac arrest and the need to care for an ageing population in their homes, the SFRS needs to transform to prevent and respond to these risks.

We must transform how we deliver our service as well as the skills, equipment and personnel we have at our disposal. By transforming, we can do so much more for the people of Scotland, and do more to take demand out of the system. Indeed, this is something we very much *want* to do.

We do, however, recognise the intense budgetary pressures being experienced across the public sector – pressures you will understand only too well. While we will continue to make the case for the funding we require, we understand there are no assurances of additional funding. As a minimum, we are seeking Scottish Government funding to allow us to transform the Service, release efficiencies and deliver improved outcomes.

As one of our key partners, we would value your views on how transformation of SFRS can allow us to work more effectively together to improve the safety and wellbeing of communities. We will open a full public consultation in the coming months, but I am keen that our personnel engage early with you as your insight and views will be invaluable as we develop our transformation vision.

I truly believe that, with transformation, the SFRS can do so much more for the people of Scotland and we ask for your support to help us deliver that change.

I look forward to engaging further as we move forward on our journey.

Best regards



Pat Watters C.B.E.

Pat Watters CBE surname
Chair, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Board