



Department for Communities and Local Government

**To All Chairs, Chief Fire Officers and
Chief Executives of Fire and Rescue
Authorities**

3 December 2013

Dear Colleague,

Consultation on Bidding Process for 2015/16 Transformation Funds

The Department is today opening a six-week consultation for fire and rescue authorities on the bidding process for £75 million fire and rescue service transformation funding for 2015-16 announced through the Spending Round 2013. The bid process itself will be announced and launched in spring 2014.

The consultation, which will close on 14 January 2014 aims to both familiarise fire and rescue authorities with the single bidding process being developed for this funding and to gather opinion and feedback to make sure the bidding process operates as effectively as possible to deliver the types of transformative change identified by the Government in its Spending Round document, as well as opportunities identified by Sir Ken Knight in his recent independent review of efficiencies in the fire and rescue sector.

We would, in particular, welcome responses from the Sector and authority Treasurers. The consultation and related documents are attached. They will also be available on our web-site in due course (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-communities-and-local-government>) and we will e-mail you the direct web address for the consultation.

The bid process will be for funds previously announced by the Spending Round 2013:

£30 million of resource funding to encourage joint working between fire and rescue authorities, collaboration with other blue lights services, and help to meet up-front costs of service transformation; and

£45 million of capital to help secure efficiencies and ensure assets such as fire stations are appropriately located to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

The proposed bid process will cover both these funds.

If you have any initial queries, please contact FireTransformation@communities.gsi.gov.uk , Chris Sewell on 0303 444 3807 or Helen Richman on 0303 444 2884.

Yours sincerely,



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