

Appendix 1

National Framework consultation - Questionnaire

2. Delivery of Core Functions

Identify and assess:

It requires, correctly, that FRSs should work with others to mitigate the risks identified in the Community Risk Register. This may require FRSs to do work to mitigate risks that are not fire and rescue related. This appears to conflict with paragraph 2.6 which requires us to not do work that is at the expense of our core fire functions

Prevent and protect:

Paragraph 2.6 – we could find ourselves turning down opportunities to work together on the basis that it doesn't have a positive impact on our core fire functions. Any time spent doing something for another organisation could be construed as time that we could be spending on our core functions.

Respond:

Paragraph 2.11 places a realistically unachievable requirement on us to maintain national resilience assets during strike action. The NFCC has written to the minister for clarity.

Integrated Risk Management Plan:

No mention of Primary Authority Scheme (PAS) in any of section 2 – the promotion of PAS nationally would standardise FP and could lead to satisfying para 2.8 – “what works best and what is most cost effective”

3. Inspection, Accountability and Assurance

Inspection:

Paragraph 3.5 suggests LGA and NFCC could provide advice and support following inspection. It might be that either body does not have the capacity to support the requests that may follow inspection.

Accountability

4. Governance

NFCC – The role of the NFCC seems to be enhanced by the Framework, a number of paragraphs indicate 'must' and 'should' rather than 'may' or 'might', there is concern over the capacity of the NFCC to support potential expectations.

5. Achieving Value for Money

Collaboration:

The duty seems to in part conflict with paragraph 2.6. The framework needs to be clearer about the relationship of core duties and a collaboration.

6. Workforce

Professional Standards Body:

Paragraph 6.4 - we **must** implement the standards, even though they are still being developed. This may remove flexibility for us as employers and could impact our duties under the H&S Act.

Fitness principles – Fitness standards were approved and adopted nationally, FRA (especially CFA) will not have many opportunity to absorb firefighters who do not maintain the fitness standards with the restrictions that the national occupational standards impose. To permit a minimum period of 6 months on a standard that is required to perform the role will mean an increased burden and unplanned costs especially as the workforce average age increases.

7. National Resilience

Paragraph 2.11 places similar expectations a realistically unachievable requirement on us to maintain national resilience assets during strike action. The NFCC has written to the minister for clarity on the legal status of any local action that may remove an individual's right to withdraw labour.