Summary of meeting between SFRS and DFM (24 October 2018)

SFRS attending: Pat Watters (SFRS Board Chair), Alasdair Hay (Chief Fire Officer), Iain Bushell (Deputy Chief Fire Officer)

- DFM opened the meeting and reflected on Pat Watters imminent retirement as SFRS Board chair.
- Pat Watters and Ali Hay outlined an ambition to transform SFRS. To date SFRS had delivered against the aims of reform but there needs to be sufficient funding to deliver service transformation. SFRS reform to date had been delivered with the FBU, and was a success of PSR.
- DFM acknowledged the SFRS journey of reform and asked SFRS to consider the broader benefits of SFRS reform to the public.
- Pat Watters recognised the relevance of reform and gave the example of casualties as a result of slips, trips and falls and the potential benefits of a preventative approach.
- Alasdair Hay referenced joint partnership work with SAS in relation to Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest trials as a success. In relation to continued transformation this would be a negotiation with the FBU and therefore SFRS need to know what the budget will be.
- DFM said there are a range of financial challenges. The PfG signals the importance of PSR and being careful to consider the future in making decisions is also important.
- Alasdair Hay referenced the Grenfell tragedy the need to have a fire and rescue service with the ability to respond. By having a preventative approach it will protect the service in being able to respond to events.
- Discussion continued in relation to what evidence there is of delivery of public services. This is included reference to co-location of services and being able to demonstrate the benefits of prevention.
- Meeting concluded with DFM and SFRS thanking each other for the opportunity to discuss PSR and SFRS transformation today.

[REDACTED] (Safer Communities Division)

