

Letter to Chief Fire Officers

19 November 2010

Dear Colleague

HEAD OF SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE ADVISORY UNIT

As you know, Brian Fraser will be leaving the post of Head of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit (SFRAU) at the end of December 2010.

Brian is leaving at a time when the Government and many stakeholders across the Fire and Rescue community agree that, given the likelihood of many years of lower public expenditure, it is appropriate to appraise options for the future of the services. The appraisal process encompasses SFRAU as well as every other aspect of FRS provision, whether in central or local government.

Against this background Ministers have decided that they will continue to need within Government an experienced fire professional, ideally someone who has served as a chief officer, to advise officials and Ministers; and they need that person to be in place as soon as Brian Fraser departs. An open competition to fill the post on a permanent basis would not be appropriate or represent value for money in the current circumstances.

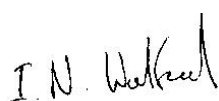
Ministers have decided therefore that the post of Head of SFRAU should be offered on a Fixed Term Appointment basis for up to 2 years to Steven Torrie, who retired as Chief Fire Officer of Central Fire and Rescue Service earlier this year. Steven is immediately available.

I am pleased to say that Steven has accepted the offer and will commence in his new role on 1 January 2011.

If you have any queries about the appointment please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am copying this letter to Conveners and to members of the Ministerial Advisory Group.

Yours sincerely



IAN WALFORD

Head of Scottish Resilience