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This circular is	For information	No response required	
This circular is	Relevant to the National Framework		
Status	This circular provides information on grant funding totalling £21.7m awarded to FRAs in relation to the New Dimension project and Decontamination of Body Bags, which covers the continuing grant for this financial year.		

New Dimension and Decontamination of Body Bags Grant Funding

Issued by:

Theo Holdbrook

New Dimension Policy

Addressed to:

**The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Chief Executive of the County Council
The Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority
The London Fire Commissioner
The Chief Fire Officer**

Please forward to:

**Treasurers
Directors of Finance**

Summary

This circular provides information on grant funding being awarded to Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) in relation to the New Dimension project for incident response unit (IRU) training, urban search and rescue, Fire and Rescue Service National Co-ordination Centre (FRSNCC), enhanced command support (ECS) team and decontamination of body bags.

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New Dimension and Decontamination of Body Bags Grant Funding

1.0 Background

- 1.1** The New Dimension project, a collaboration between Communities and Local Government (CLG) and the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS), has enhanced the ability of the FRS to respond to major disruptive events, whatever their cause, involving chemicals, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) materials, collapsed or unstable structures, and to displace large volumes of water.
- 1.2** Government has made over £300m investment plus on-going costs for the continuing delivery of the New Dimension capability. Most of this investment has been directly spent through national procurement of equipment, training and other areas. In line with the new burdens principle, CLG is committed to provide new burdens funding in recognition of the additional costs faced by Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) as a result of hosting, and in due course owning, New Dimension assets.
- 1.3** As part of cross-government resilience capabilities work the FRS is developing a capability to decontaminate body bags. This is being led by London Fire Brigade.
- 1.4** This Circular sets out the funding that is being awarded to FRAs for expenditure incurred, or to be incurred, in 2009/10. The areas which this Circular covers include:
- Incident response unit (IRU) training
 - Urban search and rescue (USAR) crewing
 - USAR personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - USAR timber
 - USAR canine search teams
 - USAR training facility consumables
 - USAR oxygen
 - Enhanced command support (ECS) team
 - USAR, DIM & HVP Training
 - Fire and Rescue Service National Co-ordination Centre (FRSNCC)
 - Decontamination of Body Bags.

2.0 Funding Approach

- 2.1** FSC36/2008 outlined the funding for FRAs in support of New Dimension over three years to 2010/11. This Circular describes the funding for 2009/10 in more detail, including funding for the FRSNCC, which is determined annually.

2.2 A copy of the 'New Dimension and Decontamination of Body Bags Funding Grant Determination 2009/10' (No. 31/1666), detailing amounts for individual FRAs, is attached in Annexes A & B. Payment of all funding will be arranged by CLG by the end of December 2009 via BACS.

3.0 Incident Response Unit Training

3.1 In 2004 every FRA in England was provided with at least one incident response unit (IRU) for mass decontamination, along with the necessary initial training to operate it. In 2005/06 it was agreed that annual funding would be awarded to FRAs to ensure that IRU refresher training could be undertaken, and competence on the equipment maintained. Total funding in recognition of these costs amounts to **£2,413,000** between all FRAs.

4.0 USAR Crewing

4.1 Ministers announced at Fire 2004 Conference that CLG would provide up to £16million per year from 2005/06 to help meet the cost of crewing the second phase of the New Dimension project (for the purposes of this Circular this means USAR).

4.2 Crewing costs have been established as £794,872 for a full USAR team, based on a team of 30 personnel. West Sussex FRS provides a USAR strategic reserve and will receive half of this amount. This level of funding represents an increase of 2% on last year. Total funding in recognition of these costs amounts to **£15,500,000** between those FRAs hosting USAR capabilities.

5.0 USAR personal protective equipment (PPE)

5.1 CLG has paid a grant for the ongoing maintenance of USAR PPE and the replenishment of related PPE consumables since 2006/07, in recognition of the new burden on FRAs associated with maintaining this equipment. In March 2009 CLG provided funding for a minor upgrade of the PPE to ensure that it is fit for purpose for high dust environments (see FSC 20/2009). This upgrade accrued slightly increased annual resource costs, of £18,350 between all FRAs, meaning that the grant is marginally higher than that announced in July 2008. Total funding in recognition of PPE maintenance costs amounts to **£385,340** between all USAR FRAs.

6.0 USAR timber

6.1 This is another continuation grant, in recognition of the costs to USAR FRAs of replenishing timber used in training. Total funding amounts to **£195,000** between all USAR FRAs.

6.2 As previously noted, timber bought for USAR must, as a minimum; meet the C16 specification for construction grade timber. (Guidance has been issued under separate cover by the New Dimension USAR team to provide greater detail in this respect.) CLG strongly encourages FRAs to purchase wood from sustainable sources.

7.0 USAR canine search teams

7.1 The USAR canine search teams were established in 2007/08, with a total grant of **£429,480**, for USAR FRAs to each set up their own dog team, or to contract in the equivalent. Each FRA, including West Sussex, will receive £6,195 to maintain a dog, together with their training, their handler's training and associated costs.

7.2 The funding for this year, which totals **£141,000** between all USAR FRAs, represents the level of funding required to maintain this capability. Previously additional funding was provided to Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority, as lead FRA for canine search teams, however in 2009/10 this will pass to the National Resilience Assurance Body.

8.0 USAR training facility consumables

8.1 CLG has previously funded each USAR team to have a local training facility to enable the USAR team to maintain its skills in the USAR capability: London was funded for two local training facilities. In undertaking this refresher training, CLG recognises that USAR teams use considerable quantities of consumables. Total funding in recognition of these costs is **£390,000** between all USAR FRAs. This is a continuation grant, first awarded in 2007/08.

9.0 USAR oxygen

9.1 This continuation grant provides the funding to cover the costs incurred by FRAs for supplying their own oxygen for their USAR teams, to enable the use of particular USAR equipment and medical oxygen. Total funding in recognition of these costs is **£10,847** between all USAR FRAs.

10.0 Enhanced command support (ECS) team

10.1 The ECS capability provides crews for the nine enhanced command support vehicles, which will support the incident commander in the co-ordination of resources at serious emergencies. Although the ECS vehicles are not fully operational, due to technical issues with the satellite communications, an interim capability is in place pending full deployment of the ECS vehicles.

10.2 The funding relates to provision of nine half-time trainers, based in each of the nine ECS host FRAs, and the costs incurred by the FRAs in training these ECS crews. Total funding in recognition of these costs is **£696,996** between all ECS FRAs.

11.0 Urban Search and Rescue, Detection Identification and Monitoring and High Volume Pump Training

11.1 The New Dimension project has provided FRAs across the country with USAR, DIM and HVP capabilities. Previously, CLG arranged and funded initial training for these capabilities. However FRAs are now being funded directly to ensure continuation training and maintenance of skills so that these capabilities remain operationally fit for purpose. The amounts payable to FRAs hosting these capabilities are £36,358 per USAR team, £29,168 per DIM team and £5,004 per HVP team. West Sussex, which hosts the USAR strategic reserve, is funded at 50% of a full USAR team. Total funding in recognition of these costs amounts to **£1.43million** between all FRAs.

11.2 In addition to this, and as outlined in Circular 36/2008, funding for training is also being provided to the CFOA-led National Resilience Assurance Body which is seeking to ensure that New Dimension capabilities remain fit for purpose and interoperable in the long-term. It was previously agreed that a proportion of the training funds should continue to be held centrally under the control of the National Resilience Assurance Body to provide for a number of training courses which need to be allocated nationally to ensure resilience across England. These courses are managed by the National Resilience Assurance Team, which also allows greater buying power for specialised courses and courses with small numbers of potential attendees to be viable. The National Resilience Assurance Body has negotiated directly with the Fire Service College to arrange these courses up to 2010/11. Total funding in recognition of this cost amount to **£1.63million**.

12.0 Fire and Rescue Service National Co-ordination Centre (FRSNCC)

12.1 The FRSNCC was established in 2005 to co-ordinate New Dimension assets, monitoring their availability and facilitating their mobilisation to serious incidents, such as HVPs to floods. It is hosted by West Yorkshire FRS.

12.2 The funding for West Yorkshire FRA to operate the FRSNCC this year is **£473,012**.

13.0 Decontamination of Body bags

13.1 This continuation grant covers the ongoing costs to London Fire Brigade in developing a capability to decontaminate body bags containing contaminated fatalities, and allows for the continuation of the project team putting this capability in place. This capability is not part of New Dimension. Total funding in recognition of this cost amounts to **£60,000**.

Theo Holdbrook

New Dimension Policy

Annex A:

THE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITIES (NEW DIMENSION AND DECONTAMINATION OF BODY BAGS) GRANT DETERMINATION 2009/10 (No. 31/1666)

Shahid Malik, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government (“the Minister”), in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 31 and 32 of the Local Government Act 2003, makes the following determination:

Citation

- 1) This determination may be cited as the New Dimension and Decontamination of Body Bags Grant Determination 2009/10 (No. 31/1666).

Purpose of the grant

- 2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them.

Determination

- 3) The Minister determines as the authorities to which grant is to be paid and the amounts of grant to be paid are listed in the Annex to this determination.

Part 1: Incident Response Unit Training

- 4) Part 1 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities undertaking training on Incident Response Units.
 - 5) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 1 of the grant the amounts listed in Column A of the table in Annex A.
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Part 2: Urban Search and Rescue Crewing

- 6) Part 2 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in employing personnel to staff Urban Search and Rescue equipment.
 - 7) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 2 of the grant the amounts listed in Column B of the table in Annex A.
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Part 3: Urban Search and Rescue Personal Protective Equipment

- 8) Part 3 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in maintaining Urban Search and Rescue personal protective equipment.
 - 9) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 3 of the grant the amounts listed in Column C of the table in Annex A.
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Part 4: Urban Search and Rescue Timber Body Bags Grant Funding

- 10) Part 4 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in replenishing timber for Urban Search and Rescue training and operations.
 - 11) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 4 of the grant the amounts listed in Column D of the table in Annex A.
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Part 5: Urban Search and Rescue Canine Search Teams

- 12) Part 5 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in connection with the provision of search dogs in support of Urban Search and Rescue operations.
 - 13) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 5 of the grant the amounts listed in Column E of the table in Annex A.
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Part 6: Urban Search and Rescue Training Facility Consumables

- 14) Part 6 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in connection with the replenishment of consumables for Urban Search and Rescue local training facilities.
 - 15) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 6 of the grant the amounts listed in Column F of the table in Annex A.
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Part 7: Urban Search and Rescue Oxygen

- 16) Part 7 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in replenishing oxygen for Urban Search and Rescue training and operations.
 - 17) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 7 of the grant the amounts listed in Column G of the table in Annex A.
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Part 8: Enhanced Command Support Trainers

- 18) Part 8 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities in employing personnel to train enhanced command support crews.
 - 19) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 8 of the grant the amounts listed in Column H of the table in Annex A.
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Part 9: Urban Search and Rescue, Detection, Identification and Monitoring and High Volume Pump Training

- 20) Part 9 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing authorities undertaking training on Urban Search and Rescue, DIM and High Volume Pump.
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- 21) The Minister determines as the amounts of grant payable to each of the authorities under Part 9 of the grant the amounts listed in Column I of the table in Annex A.

Part 10: National Co-ordination Centre

- 22) Part 10 of the grant is in recognition of extra costs facing West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority in connection with its function of co-ordinating specialist fire and rescue services resources in England.
- 23) The Minister determines that a grant of £473,012 will be paid to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority. The grant is listed in Column J of the table in Annex A.

Part 11: Decontamination of Body Bags

- 24) Part 11 of the grant is in recognition of the continuing costs to London Fire Emergency Planning Authority of developing a capability to decontaminate body bags.
- 25) The Minister determines that a grant of £60,000 will be paid to Greater London Authority. The grant is listed in Column K of the table in Annex A.

Conditions on the grant under s31(4) and s32

- 26) Any grant paid to the Greater London Authority under this determination must be transferred by the Mayor to the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority.

Treasury consent

- 27) Before making this determination, the Minister obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of Shahid Malik, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Department for Communities and Local Government
December 2009

Annex B

Schedule of Authorities

Authorities	Part 1 grant (Column A)	Part 2 grant (Column B)	Part 3 grant (Column C)	Part 4 grant (Column D)	Part 5 grant (Column E)	Part 6 grant (Column F)	Part 7 grant (Column G)	Part 8 grant (Column H)	Part 9 grant (Column I)	Part 10 grant (Column J)	Part 11 grant (Column K)	TOTAL GRANT PAYABLE
Avon Fire Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£70,529			£958,310
Bedfordshire and Luton Combined Fire Authority	£36,398											£36,398
Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£36,358			£924,139
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Cheshire Fire Authority	£72,812								£5,004			£77,816
Cleveland Fire Authority	£36,398								£29,168			£65,566
Cornwall Fire and Rescue Authority	£72,812								£5,004			£77,816
Council of the Isles of Scilly	£10,402											£10,402
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Cumbria County Council	£36,398							£77,444	£5,004			£118,846
Derbyshire Fire Authority	£72,812								£5,004			£77,816
Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority	£109,225	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555	£77,444	£46,365			£1,084,417
Dorset Fire Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
East Sussex Fire Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Essex Fire Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£41,362			£929,143
Gloucestershire County Council	£36,398							£77,444	£5,004			£118,846
Greater London Authority	£363,980	£3,179,484	£79,044	£40,000	£24,776	£80,000	£2,220		£233,790			£4,063,294

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority	£72,812								£39,175	£60,000		£111,987
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555	£77,444	£70,529			£1,035,754
Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority	£72,812	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555	£77,444	£41,362			£1,043,001
Hertfordshire County Council	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Humberside Fire Authority	£36,398								£34,171			£70,569
Isle of Wight Council	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Kent and Medway Towns Fire Authority	£72,812	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555	£77,444	£70,529			£1,072,168
Lancashire Combined Fire Authority	£72,812	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£41,362			£965,557
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£23,299	£20,000	£555		£65,526			£970,411
Lincolnshire County Council	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£41,362			£929,143
Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£70,529			£958,310
Norfolk County Council	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£41,362			£929,143
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398							£77,444	£10,007			£123,849
Northamptonshire County Council	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Northumberland Fire Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398							£77,444	£5,004			£118,846
Oxfordshire County Council	£36,398								£34,171			£70,569
Royal Berkshire Fire Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402

Rescue Authority												
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398								£34,171			£70,569
Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£72,812								£34,171			£106,983
Suffolk County Council	£36,398							£77,444				£113,842
Surrey County Council	£36,398								£34,171			£70,569
Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398								£65,525			£953,306
Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398								£5,004			£41,402
West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority	£109,225	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£10,000	£302		£70,529			£1,031,137
West Sussex County Council	£36,398	£397,436	£9,881	£5,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£18,179			£483,391
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority	£36,398	£794,872	£19,761	£10,000	£6,195	£20,000	£555		£70,529	£473,012		£1,431,322
Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority	£36,398											£36,398
Total	£2,412,860	£15,500,000	£385,340	£195,000	£141,000	£390,000	£10,847	£696,996	£1,430,000	£473,012	£60,000	£21,695,055