

Scottish Resilience

Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit

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Chief Officers

19 February 2010

Dear Chief Officer

DEAR CHIEF OFFICER (SCOTLAND) LETTER 3/2010 COLLECTION OF STATISTICAL DATA FROM SCOTTISH FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

I wrote to you on 20 March 2009 regarding the Annual Statistical Return to SFRAU. The letter stated that we would not be sending out a request for annual statistics at the end of March 2009 as usual. Instead, we would be reviewing the whole data collection process with a view to streamlining and rationalising it. This is based on a shared ambition to reduce the resources required to react to the requirements for data, and time it takes to produce information from the data to inform Scottish Government and the public.

SFRAU and Scottish Resilience colleagues are currently looking at what data was previously collected and how we can rationalise and reduce the number, frequency and variety of data requests made to Scottish Fire and Rescue Services from Scottish Resilience. This is taking longer than anticipated and we appreciate your patience until we have finished this review process, which is likely to be in 2011. At that stage we will be able to advise you of the data which we will require to be collected on an annual basis. This will be based on policy requirements and consultation with relevant stakeholders.

However, in March/April 2010, we will issue a reduced statistical return request for 2009/10, which will cover workforce strength/ethnicity/gender and fire safety. It would also be appreciated if you could provide retrospective data for these areas for the year 2008/09, where possible.

Yours faithfully

BRIAN FRASER

Head of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Advisory Unit