

FIRESA Council

The FIA's Fire Fighting Suppliers and Their Role in Fire and Rescue Evolution

The Emergency Services Show, 19th September 2019



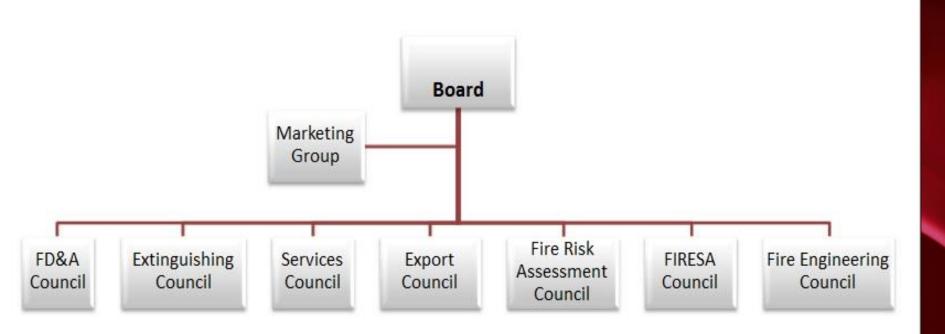
What Is The Fire Industry Association?

- Largest TA for Fire Protection and Fire-Fighting sectors
- Over 850 members
- The 'go to' organisation for government and regulators
- FIA members sit on over 150 Boards and Committees
- Dedicated to the highest standards and quality
- Formed in 2007 from merger of BFPSA and FETA
- FIRESA became a Council of the FIA in 2013





The FIA Structure





FIRESA Council

- Enacting key policy with links to FIA Board, Marketing, Liaison
- Chairman
- Vice-Chair

James Jones Lesley Routh-Jones



- Guests at Council include CFOs, NFCC, IFE
- Quarterly meetings at Fire and Rescue Service HQs open to internal/external guests



Key Evolutionary Processes

- Fire and Rescue transferred to Home Office in 2016
- Mandatory Fire and Police collaboration
- Combined Fire/Police Directorate
- National Fire Chiefs Council and Fire Commercial Transformation Programme
- HM Fire Inspectorate
- Professional Standards Body for FRS





The Suppliers' Perspective

- Looking for halt to proliferation of Frameworks/Tenders/ Mini-Tenders
- Elimination of duplication in aspects of FRS/Supplier interface
- Some uncertainties
 - What will FRS collaboration ultimately look like for Procurement and R&D?
 - What will 'Blue Light' collaboration look like?
 - What will PCC or Mayoral control bring?
 - Will budget reductions ever bottom out?



• What future products and services need to be developed?



Our Key Objectives

- Internal and External Networking
- Supplier influence on sectoral issues and decisions
- Proactive roles in FRS R&D and National Collaborative Procurement via Customer and Supplier Engagement Group
- Key partner on JIFB and the 'UK Fire and Resilience Offer'
- Links with Government, NFCC, HM Inspectorate etc
- Presence at industry exhibitions and other events
- Representation on BS, EN and ISO Standards Committees



FRS R&D Activity in England and Wales

- FIA Report produced by Kingston University published Sept 2016
- Significant R&D within each Service
- Largely unstructured and uncoordinated



- Duplication and processes inefficient and not cost-effective
- Annual R&D expenditure est. £9 m £13 m
- Centralised approach would yield cost savings and better results



CFOA R&D Survey Report 2017

- 'Every Service does R&D'
- FRSs had tested wide range of equipment inc. Thermal Image Cameras, PPE and Rescue Tools
- FRSs were evaluating many product types, notably PPE, Tools, Fog Spikes, Ultra-High Pressure and Hose
- Requests for R&D on 33 types of equipment
- Vital for informing immediate and future R&D requirements



FRS R&D Activity

• Previous duplication yields direct and indirect costs to suppliers and the FRSs



 Need to better understand innovation requirements to develop the equipment of the future



Collaborative Procurement

- Need to move away from 45 customers with differing requirements
- Significant progress but need comprehensive FRS buy-in





Summarising Some Priority Work Items

- Continuing to develop liaison with NFCC and FCTP
- Growing FIA/FIRESA Council awareness across all strata of the FRSs
- Delivering Collaborative Procurement and National R&D innovation
- Understanding and contributing to inter-FRS collaboration and mandated intra-Blue Light collaboration
- Key member of the Joint International Fire Board
- Membership Growth
- Growing vital networking opportunities for our members





To Find Out More

- Speak to us here today
- Visit the FIA web site at <u>www.fia.uk.com</u>
- Contact the FIRESA Council Secretary Dave Smith at <u>dsmith@fia.uk.com</u>
- As an inclusive and outreaching Council and Association, we want to engage with you







Fire Industry Association



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