

FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION COMMITTEE

FIREFIGHTERS' COMPENSATION SCHEME

NOTE BY ODPM

We have previously advised the Committee of the need to remove the non-contributory, compensatory provisions covering death and injury that are currently in the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (FPS) and the Grey Book and place them in a free-standing Compensation Scheme. FPC(06)7 included a copy of the drafting instructions.

A draft of the Firefighters' Compensation Scheme (England) Order 2006 is attached.

Where possible, there has been a straight transfer of the rules from the FPS but, because the compensation provisions frequently interact with pension provisions, for example where a firefighter is eligible for an ill-health award as well as an injury award, there is inevitable cross-referencing between the two schemes as well as some amendments to wording. However, the provisions for compensation for death or serious injury remain as previously.

The provisions formerly included in the Grey Book are contained in Part 2, rule 3 of the draft order and while the Scheme Order comes into force from 1st April 2006, this particular provision will be back-dated to have effect from 1st April 2000. This will ensure that awards previously made by Fire and Rescue Authorities under the Grey Book will have the necessary statutory footing.

Committee members are invited to comment on the draft.

ODPM
March 2006