



**Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Service**

*Report to:*  
**The Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Board**

---

**SUBJECT: POLICE AND FIRE SERVICE REFORM – PROPOSALS FOR TRANSFER OF PROPERTY, RIGHTS, LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS**

**1. BACKGROUND**

1.1 At its meeting on 1 February 2013, the Board considered a report on the arrangements for the transfer of property rights etc. from Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Board to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS). As part of that consideration, the Board asked for a further report on the future of the Fire Service Museum at Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Headquarters.

**2. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK**

2.1 Schedule 6 to the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 provides for Scottish Ministers to arrange the statutory transfer of Property, Rights, Liabilities and Obligations from Joint Fire and Rescue Boards and Unitary Authorities to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service or to local authorities, as appropriate through a Transfer Scheme

2.2 In the case of heritable properties, the Transfer Scheme will constitute a valid and legal link in title which the recipients of heritable property (Scottish Police Authority, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Local Authorities) can use to formalise the title when they need so to do, e.g. upon sale of the property at some future point.

2.3/

2.3 In essence assets etc. which support the functions of the Service transfer to the SFRS. Any exceptions to this require to be agreed with the SFRS.

### **3. FIRE MUSEUM**

3.1 The fire museum was established in the 1960's and is currently housed in the LBFRS Headquarters as an operating museum in support of our community education arrangements.

3.2 The museum is currently staffed by volunteers and is open to the public most days. There are some 4,000 to 5,000 visitors per annum.

3.3 The collection whilst focused on Lothian and Borders area also includes exhibits from across Scotland.

3.4 Current running revenue costs for the museum are estimated at £12,000 per annum, principally for property costs.

3.5 The facility has developed as an integral part of our Community Education strategy and is reflective of fire service culture.

3.6 The view of the Chief Officer of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service is that the museum will be a valuable asset for the SFRS and will continue to be an important part of the Services approach to community engagement. As such he is keen to retain the museum as part of the Service going forwards. In those circumstances, and in light of the terms of the arrangements for transfer of property etc., the museum will transfer to the SFRS.

3.7 At this time the Museum will continue to operate from its current location.

### **4. RECOMMENDATION/**

#### **4. RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 The Board is asked to note that in terms of the transfer of Property, Rights, Liabilities and Obligations (PRiLO) the Museum of Fire will transfer from the Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue Board to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

**DAVID MILLAR  
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER  
MARCH 2013**