

Circular number	25/2010	Date issued	17 June 2010
This circular is	For information	No response required	
This circular is	Relevant to the National Framework		
Status	For information		

Standard Operating Procedures Guide for Multi-Agency Airwave Interoperability

Issued by:

Les Griffiths

Senior Fire and Rescue Service Advisor

Fire and Resilience Directorate

Addressed to:

**The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority
The Chief Executive of the Fire Authority
The London Fire Commissioner
The Chief Fire Officer**

Please forward to:

Summary

This circular provides guidance to Services on the development and implementation of Standard Operating Procedures Guide for Multi-Agency Airwave Interoperability

For further information, contact:

Les Griffiths
Senior Fire and Rescue Service Advisor
Eland House (3/C5)
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

Direct line **0303 444 2840**
Fax **0303 444 2403**
E-mail les.griffiths@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Website www.communities.gov.uk

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This circular gives access to the “Standard Operating Procedures Guide for Multi-Agency Airwave Interoperability”. This is the document from which each Service will create and implement their own individual protocols and procedures for multi-agency Airwave interoperability consistent with the national standards.
- 1.2 Airwave is currently available to all Ambulance NHS Trusts, Fire and Rescue Services and Police Forces and the document aims to instil national consistency in order to maximise the benefits, which the investment in Airwave offers.
- 1.3 Success will ultimately be measured through the revision of policy, its demonstration at multi agency exercises and overall operational usage. Implementation will require a champion from your Service, at a senior level, who has the authority to manage the change required to procedures and policies. To ensure consistency across the Services and between regions, this will be coordinated through your Local Resilience Forum.
- 1.4 It is important to emphasise that whilst all three Services will have anticipated the move to interoperable radio communications using Airwave and the burden should not be too onerous, the impact on each of meeting the training requirements will be different; with some more able to complete the task quicker than others. The same will be true when training and exercising are extended to include the broader Airwave user community. Thus, at the local level, collaboration is essential to make sure implementation can be achieved at a pace that is mutually acceptable to all the partners.

2.0 Further information

- 2.1 This publication from the Multi Agency Interoperability Programme can be downloaded from the NPIA website at;

<http://www.npia.police.uk/en/15946.htm>

Les Griffiths

Fire and Resilience Directorate