

12 July 2011

Paul Hancock
Chief Fire Officer
Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Sadler Road
Winsford
CW7 2FQ

Our Ref: 110712-C-NW Collaboration
Your Ref:

cc
CFO Dominic Harrison
CFO Peter Holland
CFO Steve McGuirk
CFO Tony McGuirk
Dominic Whelan

Cllr Gary Strong
Cllr David O'Toole
Cllr Fred Walker
Cllr Tony Newman
Cllr David Topping

Dear Paul

Firstly, can I thank you and your colleagues representing the fire authorities of the North West for your business case provided to us on the 5th July and also for your continued interest in pursuing a collaborative control based in the Warrington Control Centre.

We have reviewed your business case and plans and I am pleased to be able to confirm that we can provide the funding commitment that you seek. I understand that final decisions are still required from the authorities involved in this project and very much hope that this funding commitment signals our strong support for a collaborative approach which makes good use of the Warrington Control Centre.

In summary we will meet all of the costs of the building up until the point at which you expect to go-live in Q1 2014, thereafter DCLG expects to provide an ongoing contribution equivalent to 66% of the rent costs. Should the North West fire authorities decide to progress with the collaboration we will work with you to develop the detailed documentation including a lease Transfer Option that provides you with financial and legal protection for future lease liabilities.

In addition DCLG will provide a total of £9.8m of funding to support your collaboration plans set out in your business case. We expect this to meet your project management, restructuring and systems costs and for payment of this funding to be made this year and next, in accordance with the breakdown you indicate in Table 5 of your business case.

With regards to the other areas you identify where support would be welcomed we will ensure that sufficient CCI ports (SAN H equipment) are made available within the

Department for Communities and Local Government
Zone 3/B5
Eland House
Bressenden Place
LONDON
SW1E 5DU

Tel 0303 444 1367
Email neil.o'connor@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Warrington Control Centre to serve the needs of the North West fire authorities, with capacity to allow for further expansion of your consortium at a point in the future. Finally, we will also make available for your use and ownership furniture and office infrastructure contained within the Taunton Control Centre.

We look forward to working with you and your team in supporting this project and securing the significant improvements in the resilience and efficiency of the control service that you set out in your business case.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N O'Connor', written in a cursive style.

NEIL O'CONNOR

Director

Fire, Resilience and Emergencies