



**THE CHIEF
FIRE OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION**

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UK fire and rescue service

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20th July 2006

All Members

Dear Colleague,

Combination of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Services

You will all be aware of the extensive work that is being conducted in connection with the voluntary combination between Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Services.

This bold initiative has been inspired by concerns over the level of capacity available to meet the continuing demands of modernisation together with a desire to optimise the strengths and opportunities that exist for each organisation. It is clearly a very specific solution to a set of future needs identified by both FRS.

The current situation is that a business case has now been established and a consultation document will be circulated under the normal three month consultation process prior to a decision on Parliamentary approval.

The main purpose of my letter is to ask you all to lend positive support to the principle of this combination and to offer whatever encouragement you can, to both Paul Young and Clive Kemp during the next phase of their endeavour.

P C Toase
President