

Purchase of Breathing Apparatus Telemetry Equipment.

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1 Summary

- 1.1 As a part of the breathing apparatus (BA) replacement programme which was completed in 2012, the introduction of telemetry equipment was included as a supplement to the newly purchased equipment. Following an extensive evaluation period this report now seeks the funding which was previously agreed for the purchase and issue of telemetry equipment to all BA sets and frontline operational appliances.

2 Introduction and background

- 2.1 As a result of the introduction of the currently used Breathing Apparatus (BA) equipment, it was agreed that the associated 'Merlin' BA Telemetry Equipment would also be procured and introduced at the earliest opportunity when the finalised technical capabilities of this equipment had been proven by the manufacturers.
- 2.2 The equipment which is in use with a large number of other Fire and Rescue Services is now, following an evaluation period deemed to be more than fit for purpose, technically sound and its introduction into HFRS is now being programmed.

3 Requirements

- 3.1 It is proposed that each of the current BA sets within HFRS will be upgraded with this telemetry equipment along with their stowage location on fire appliances which require an electrical charging point – the equipment is battery operated / supported and requires a constant charge.
- 3.2 Each frontline appliance (78 in total) will also be provided with an electronic BA entry control board which will also require a constant vehicle charging facility. These charging arrangements will be installed by HFRS Fleet Maintenance Centre personnel.

4 Procurement Process and Replacement Policy

- 4.1 Following the purchase and issue of our existing BA sets in 2012 and our declared intent to introduce telemetry equipment at a later date, the purchasing framework used remains available for procurement. The replacement policy for this equipment will align with that of the BA sets for a review/refresh at 10 years.

5 Resource implications

- 5.1 Financial Implications
The proposal / requirement to introduce the Telemetry system within HFRS to enhance and compliment our existing BA equipment is planned to take place during the 2016/17 financial year period. The issue to frontline appliances and use by

personnel following training is planned for completion by November 2012.

Funding required for all BA sets and charging provision: £553,601