

Circular number	<b>55-2006</b>	Date issued	<b>12 September 2006</b>
This circular is	<b>For information</b>	No response required	
This circular is	<b>Relevant to the National Framework</b>		
Status	<b>This circular accompanies a letter updating the latest developments in the Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) Project</b>		

# *Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) project*

## Issued by:

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Fire and Rescue Service Development Division**

## Addressed to:

**The Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority  
The Chief Executive of the County Council  
The Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority  
The Clerk to the Combined Fire and Rescue  
Authority  
The Commissioner of the London Fire and  
Emergency Planning Authority  
The Chief Fire Officer**

## Please forward to:

**Chairs of Regional Management Boards  
Regional Resilience Teams  
Regional Government Offices**

## Summary

**This Circular accompanies a letter from the Chief Fire Officers' Association and Firebuy Ltd containing information on developments in the Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) project**

## For further information, contact:

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## **1.0 Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) project**

- 1.1** DCLG endorses a joint letter (attached to this Circular), from the Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) and Firebuy Ltd, which updates Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) on the current status of the Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) project and identifies the arrangements to enable FRAs to participate in this project.
- 1.2** Work has already been carried out by both DCLG and the CFOA National Procurement Board in relation to RPE for the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS).
- 1.3** With the publication of the National Procurement Strategy for the Fire and Rescue Service 2005-2008, procurement of major operational equipment will now fall to the national body, Firebuy Ltd. They will work with CFOA in the procurement of equipment within the RPE project and on-going contract management.
- 1.4** HMFSI will continue to provide scientific and technical support to the project in the development of Stages 2, 3 and 4 as outlined in the letter.
- 1.5** CFOA, Firebuy Ltd and DCLG are working together to take the RPE project forward and there will be further updates as the project progresses.

**Pippa Brown**

**DCLG Sponsor of Firebuy Ltd**

**Fire and Resilience Directorate**