

Circular number	13/2009	Date issued	10 March 2009
This circular is	For information	No response required	
This circular is	Relevant to the National Framework		
Status	This circular notifies of publication of the FRS Equality and Diversity Report 2009.		

Fire and Rescue Service - Equality and Diversity Report 2009

Issued by:

John Dackombe

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:

**In Fire and Rescue Services:
Heads of Human Resources
Equality and Diversity Professionals
Station Managers
Training and Development Managers**

Summary

This circular informs of the publication of the FRS Equality and Diversity Report 2009, including information on national initiatives, the National Action Plan 2009 and the diversity recruitment targets for each Fire and Rescue Authority.

For further information, contact:

**John Dackombe
Fire and Rescue Service Development
Division
Communities and Local Government
1st Floor, Zone A3 Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6DE**

Direct line **020 7944 5707**
Fax **020 7944 5664**
E-mail john.dackombe@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Website www.communities.gov.uk

1.0 The Fire and Rescue Service Equality and Diversity Report 2009

1.1 The Equality and Diversity Report 2009 was published and formally launched at the Local Government Association Fire Conference on 10 March.

1.2 The Report is divided into five sections:

- **Section One** sets the report in the context of both the Fire and Rescue Service Equality and Diversity Strategy and the Audit Commission's Fire and Rescue Service Performance Assessment 2008.
- **Section Two** reports on some of the key national initiatives being developed as a positive response to the Strategy and the progress that has been achieved. It includes details of the 2008 Equality and Diversity Award winning initiatives.
- **Section Three** contains the National Action Plan. The Action Plan identifies the initiatives which national stakeholders have committed to progress in 2009/10.
- **Section Four** provides details of the local recruitment targets that have been set by each Fire and Rescue Authority.
- **Section Five** gives an overview of current performance on equality and diversity in the Fire and Rescue Service in England and of each individual Authority. It includes data on recruitment, retention and progression at local level, performance ratings for each Fire and Rescue Authority against the Equality Standard for Local Government and information on the development of Equality Schemes to meet the requirements of race, disability and gender legislation.

1.3 Chief Fire Officers will wish to ensure that the Report is circulated widely among staff. Chairs of Fire and Rescue Authorities will wish to ensure that every Fire Authority Member receives a copy.

1.4 The Report can be found on the Communities and Local Government website at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/fire/equalitydiversity2009>. Printed copies of the Report can be obtained by contacting Clive Botterill on 020 7944 5763 or e-mail: clive.botterill@communities.gsi.gov.uk.

John Dackombe

Fire and Rescue Service Development Division