

Project Briefing – June 2017

PSB Project Objective

The PSB project team have been in place since April. The project objective over the next six months is to develop a business case which will include a range of options for the operation of a standards body. This will be supported by information about the current standards landscape in order to help define the scope of the standards the body will oversee once established along with a standard setting process and appropriate governance.

PSB Project Team & Governance

The team are working closely with the Home Office. This is to ensure that their work is complementary to what will be the emerging inspectorate arrangements as part of the fire reform agenda outlined by the Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service.

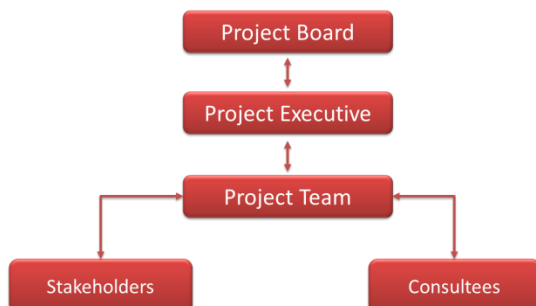
The project board is chaired by the Home Office and will provide oversight and approval processes for the duration of the project.

The board membership has been agreed by the Home Office as:

- David Lamberti (Chair)
- Chloe Dunnett (Home Office)
- Peter Holland (CFRA)
- Roy Wilsher (NFCC)
- Rebecca Knox (LGA)
- Dave Curry (Project Executive)
- Geoff Howsego (NFCC Sector Improvement Committee)
- Alex Marshall (College of Policing)
- Des Tidbury (DA Wales) Advisor
- Martyn Emberson (DA Scotland and NI Advisor)

Chris Bigland is leading the project team and will report via Dave Curry to the project board.

Project Structure



Project Team



Project Briefing – June 2017

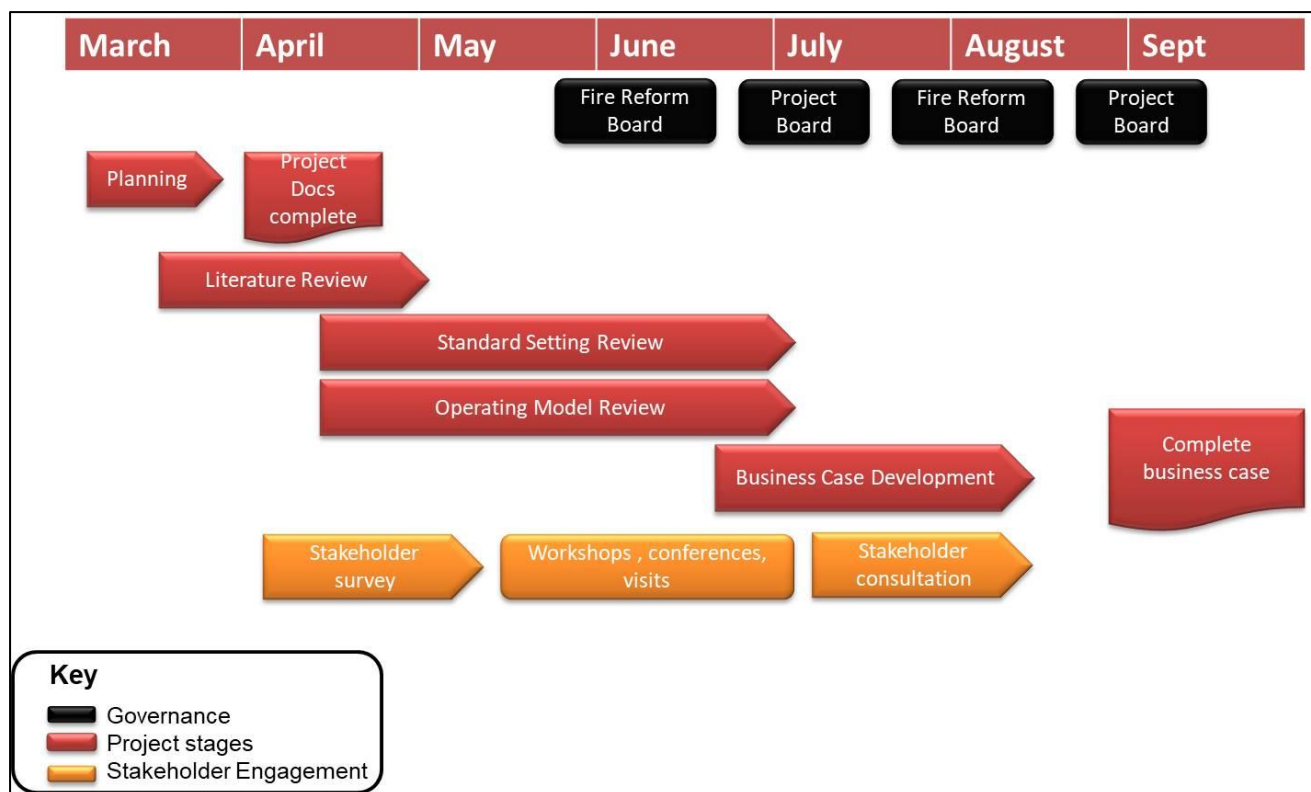
Progress to date

Initial planning work is complete, and key outputs and milestones have been drafted which include:

- Establishing the current standards landscape, identifying the standards and qualifications in use now against business functions of a FRS;
- Options for a standard-setting model including scrutiny and approval; and,
- Options for operating models for the proposed body including funding and staffing options.

Project Plan

Below is the high level project plan with milestones.



Project Scope

The project team will:

- Identify and collate existing standards
- Recommend a scrutiny and approval mechanism for new and existing standards
- Explore and recommend models for how the body will operate, be funded and staffed
- Consult and engage with stakeholders throughout the project

The project team will not:

- Develop or amend any standards (This will be a role for the newly established body post September)
- Establish the professional standards body
- Create a work plan for the body
- Appoint or recruit staff

Project Briefing – June 2017

PSB Information Gathering and Surveys

As well as consolidating the research already collated through the initial stakeholder working group, the priority for the team is to establish an understanding of the current standards and qualifications adopted by fire and rescue services.

The team developed a series of online surveys which ran during April and early May to help collate information about the standards and qualifications services currently align to. They have also engaged with a number of other stakeholders to inform this piece of research. This data is now being analysed and various reports will be derived from it for both the business case and for services information.

Communications & Engagement

The need to engage with all stakeholders throughout the project is acknowledged and initial stakeholder identification and analysis has been conducted. The result of this has allowed the team to plan communications for all stakeholders.

A dedicated email address has also been established; to encourage two-way communications with the team (PSBProject@ukfrs.com).

As the main “end users” of the standards work once established, each service has been asked to provide a Single Point of Contact (SPoC) to the team to aid communication and a PSB Community has been established on the CFOA/NFCC website. The community and SPoCs will be primary ways for the team to share information about the project over the coming weeks and months.

Engagement activities have commenced which has included:

- Writing to all CFOs and NFCC Coordination Chairs
- Attending and presenting at various events and conferences reaching both the services and stakeholders within the wider fire sector
- Hosting an initial research workshop to test and develop thinking on the standard setting process

A number of further engagement opportunities have been identified which include but are not limited to:

- A “tour” of team meetings hosted by various stakeholders with an open-door opportunity for hosts to challenge and contribute
- Visits to the Devolved Administrations
- Research workshops and liaison with the Stakeholder Working Group as part of ongoing consultation

Project Briefing – June 2017

Next Steps

The project team will be primarily focussed on the collation and analysis of the standards and qualifications data throughout June.

They will also be completing research into the options for both standards setting and operating models for the proposed body. This will include the gathering of information and feedback from stakeholders through the variety of engagement activities planned.

Further consultation on the models will be carried out during June and July to help inform the development of the business case.

The team welcome any questions or feedback via the dedicated email address:

PSBProject@ukfrs.com