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NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES' FIRE BRIGADES

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**To: Chief Fire Officers/Firemasters
Chief Executives/Clerks to Fire Authorities
Chairs of Fire Authorities**

Members of the National Joint Council

26th November 2003

CIRCULAR NJC/10/03

Dear Sir/Madam

REVIEW OF NJC CONSTITUTION

1. Paragraph 7.1 of the Fire Service Pay and Conditions Agreement 2003 stated:

"By 30th November 2003 a working group representative of fire service stakeholders will propose revisions to the Constitution of the NJC. The report of this working group will be presented to the appropriate fire service stakeholders for ratification during December 2003."
2. The NJC subsequently appointed Rita Donaghy, Chair of ACAS, to convene and chair the working group.
3. Apart from the organisations currently represented on the NJC for Local Authorities' Fire Brigades, the parties that have been invited to participate in the discussions are the Association of Principal Fire Officers, the National Association of Fire Officers, the Fire Officers' Association, and the Retained Firefighters' Union.
4. The first meetings were held on 11th and 12th November. The Chair met separately with each representative body and jointly with the organisations currently represented on the NJC.
5. The Chair will continue to work with the NJC Joint Secretaries to build upon progress made, and a further meeting of the working group has been arranged for 16th January 2004.
6. It has been agreed by both Sides of the NJC that the intended deadline of December 2003 set out in the Pay and Conditions Agreement be extended to 31st January 2004.

Yours faithfully

CHARLES NOLDA
EMPLOYERS' SECRETARY

ANDY GILCHRIST
EMPLOYEES' SECRETARY

RITA DONAGHY
CHAIR - ACAS