

Creating a Diverse Fire and Rescue Service

[Etc. Venues, Prospero House, 241 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1GA](#) | 26 February 2019

10.15	Registration & Morning Refreshments
11.00	Chair's Introduction — Maria Tonks , <i>Diversity and Inclusion Specialist</i>
11.05	Understanding Recent Reforms and the National Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Government's agenda for a diverse FRS workforce - Join the Team: Become a Firefighter• Changing perceptions: changing the image of a modern-day firefighter• Improving cultures: developing a more inclusive service• How information will be targeted towards different communities• The role of apprenticeships in increasing diversity• Emphasising that fitness is not a barrier to recruitment <p>⇒ Nicola Thurston, <i>National Fire Chiefs Council Lead for Equality & Inclusion</i></p> <p>⇒ Dr Sarah O'Connor and Dr David Baigent, <i>Researchers and Consultants, Fitting-In.com</i></p> <p>⇒ Pat Carberry, <i>LGBT Section Secretary, Fire Brigade Union</i></p> <p>⇒ Kathryn Billing, <i>Services Strategic Lead for sexual orientation and/or gender self identity, Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service</i></p>
13.15	Networking Lunch
14.00	The FRS Workforce in Practice: Learning from Success <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examples of effective recruitment strategies to create a workforce fit for purpose• Introducing taster sessions for minority groups• Providing insight into the role• Using fitness sessions, and pre-recruitment courses to change perceptions of what it takes to be a firefighter <p>⇒ Divya Patel, <i>Inclusion Manager</i> and Chris O' Connor, <i>Head of Community Safety, Operations Directorate, London Fire Brigade Headquarters</i></p> <p>⇒ Matt Sismey, <i>Organisational Development and Inclusion Manager & Firefighters</i> Laura Wilton and Sonny Roberts, <i>Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service</i></p>
15.30	Chair's Summary & Event Close

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Please note that all speakers and the agenda are subject to change without notice. For more information contact Customer.Services@westminster-briefing.com | 020 7593 5657