

## **DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY ANNUAL MEETING 2009 – PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE OF DATE**

On 5 November 2008 the Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Elections) Order 2008 (made by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers conferred by Section 37A of the Representation of the People Act 1983 [as amended]) came into force. The effect of this is, amongst other things, to change the date of the 2009 local elections from the first Thursday in May to Thursday 4 June 2009 (to coincide with the date of the European Parliamentary general election).

Both Devon and Somerset County Council have elections next year and - as a consequence of the above change in election date – have changed the dates of their Annual Meetings (at which, amongst other things, they would appoint representatives to this Authority) to:-

- Somerset County Council – Wednesday 24 June 2009;
- Devon County Council – Thursday 25 June 2009.

Neither Plymouth nor Torbay has elections and consequently the dates proposed for their Annual Meetings are unaffected.

Given the above, it is proposed that the Annual Meeting for this Authority should be changed to **10.00hours on Tuesday 14 July 2009**. This date would allow sufficient time for this Authority to be notified of any Membership changes and does not appear to clash with known information relating to dates of constituent authority meetings.

It is further proposed that the original date proposed for the Authority's May meeting be changed from **Wednesday 27 May** to **10.00hours on Wednesday 6 May 2009**, given the proximity of the original date to the date of elections. Again, this proposed change does not appear to clash with known information relating to dates of constituent authority meetings.

### ***RECOMMENDATIONS:-***

- (a) that the Annual Meeting of the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority in 2009 be held **Tuesday 14 July 2009, commencing at 10.00hours at Service Headquarters;**
- (b) that the May 2009 meeting of the Authority be re-arranged to take place **at 10.00hours on Wednesday 6 May 2009 at Service Headquarters.**