



For Immediate Release

14 November 2006

**HEDRA AWARDED EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD
CONTRACT**

Leading management consulting, solutions and service company Hedra plc today announced that it has been awarded a contract to deliver consultancy services to East Midlands Regional Management Board – representing Fire and Rescue Services in the East Midlands region.

The project ‘Review of Integrated Common Services’ is a feasibility study and business case for sharing services including Finance, HR, IT, Training, Occupational Health, Procurement and Fleet Management across East Midlands Fire and Rescue Services. The purpose of sharing services is to increase the effectiveness of support services and ultimately improve front line Fire and Rescue Services.

The review follows the recommendations and requirements of the Fire and Rescue White Paper 2003 and the East Midlands is the first region to undertake such a review. It is anticipated that there will be much interest from Fire and Rescue Services across the UK.

The feasibility study and business case will be assessed by East Midlands Regional Management Board – a joint committee of Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Fire and Rescue Authority, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue (Lincolnshire County Council), Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue (Northamptonshire County Council), and Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham Fire and Rescue Authority. The review will be completed by December 2006.

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Speaking for the East Midlands Regional Management Board, Paul Woods, Chief Fire Officer for Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service said: “Hedra were selected because of their significant experience of shared services in the public sector and the board were impressed by their understanding of the challenges ahead”

Commenting on the award of the contract, Andrew Fearne, Hedra's Head of Emergency Services said: "We are very excited to be working on the East Midlands review. The review will allow East Midlands to improve its capability in common services with the ultimate objective of improving its services to the public. We are delighted to have been selected to work on this significant project."

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Notes to Editors

About Hedra plc

Hedra plc is a consulting, solutions and service company. We are the largest consultancy specialising in UK public services, with a significant private sector capability. Our clients include central government, local government, NHS, Ministry of Defence, aerospace, utilities and energy and a wide range of public service agencies. Our capabilities include business change and transformation, customer services, corporate services, procurement and supply chain, information management and systems engineering services. We help organisations to set corporate direction, build their organisational capacity and deliver solutions that drive effectiveness and efficiency. Our commitment is to deliver outcomes and benefits that drive superior performance.

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