

## NEWS RELEASE



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### **Northgate calls for quality information to underpin Scottish fire and rescue framework**

Effective decision-making relies on an integrated approach to the use of information and resources, claimed Northgate Information Solutions today.

In a response to the Scottish Executive consultation on the draft fire and rescue framework for Scotland, Northgate called for the knowledge and data contained in integrated risk management plans (IRMPs), human resource functions and performance measurement systems to be used in combination and shared effectively. For this process to be effective, the quality of underlying data is critical.

Northgate's response recommends:

- additional support from the Scottish Executive for fire and rescue authorities in undertaking thorough analyses of data quality and available resources;
- consideration by the Scottish Executive of incentives for authorities to share information and front and back office systems;
- the intelligent use of information technology to free up resources and encourage information sharing and multi-agency working.

### **Speaking today, David Meaden, Managing Director of Northgate Public Services, said:**

"Local knowledge and information is critical both to fire prevention and to responding quickly and appropriately to emergencies. So too is local deployment of resources backed up by effective risk management strategies. It is essential that Scotland's fire and rescue service can rely on accurate and timely information.

"We believe there is a strong case for additional support from the Scottish Executive to allow a thorough analysis of data quality, helping Scotland's fire and rescue service to transform service delivery through the intelligent use of information."

-ENDS-

### **For further information:**

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## **Notes to editors**

1. Northgate is a technology company with a difference. It is committed to high quality public services and understands the public sector. That knowledge is core to its business. Northgate's task is to enhance public sector value through intelligent use of people and information technology systems and to share in the economic and social benefits that this brings.
2. Northgate works with fire and rescue, police and ambulance services, helping them to reassure local people by improving response times and co-ordinating services. We work in partnership with over half of UK fire brigades, including developing innovative solutions for analysing patterns of risk.