



Report of the 7 July Review Committee

Findings and Recommendations

The First Hour – establishing what happened

*We recommend that the **Metropolitan Police Service**, London Fire Brigade and London Ambulance Service provide us with an update on the rollout of digital radio systems within their services in November 2006, May 2007 and November 2007, so that we can monitor progress towards full implementation of TETRA-based radio communications across London's emergency services.*

The Metropolitan Police Service can report that a programme of borough migration to TETRA based radio communications (Airwave) is proceeding on schedule. A total of twenty-five (25) borough operational command units (BOCU's) have migrated to Airwave representing 78% of all London boroughs. The remaining boroughs will migrate to Airwave as detailed below:

Bexley	5 Jun 2007
Bromley	19 Jun 2007
Havering	10 Jul 2007
Waltham Forest	24 Jul 2007
Redbridge	7 Aug 2007
Richmond	11 Sep 2007
Kingston	25 Sep 2007

It is also relevant to highlight that although these seven boroughs still operate on the analogue radio system 'MetRadio', officers also carry an Airwave handset for interoperability. This will cater for circumstances when there may be a requirement to communicate with staff at a 'live' Airwave borough, a cross border incident being an example.

To date, the MPS has issued over 35,000 handheld radios to personal.

In terms of ability to communicate on the London Underground; three ERV's (Mercedes vans) and one engineering vehicle (Landover) are available for deployment and four more became available in December 2006. These will be deployed in the event of a major incident in a deep underground station. The permanent Airwave solution in the London Underground has now commenced and is expected to be completed by the end of next year.