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Dear Member of the Public

I am writing in reply to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, dated 18 September 2017.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires us to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published, and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

You requested information relating to the recent Local Business Case for fire and rescue governance options, specifically;

- Total number of responses received within the consultation period.
- Total number of responses received in favour of adopting the preferred governance model.
- Total number of responses received against adopting the preferred governance model.
- Total number of responses received neither for nor against adopting the preferred governance model.
- Breakdown (by number, format and type) in which the total number of responses was received, for example 35 emails in favour.
- Total number of responses received that were discounted and the reason(s) why.
- Details of where and by whom the responses were collated.
- Details of any independent verification of the responses that has been carried out.
- Copy of any official response received from the Fire Brigades Union, Retained Firefighters Union and/or UNISON is provided.

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states that a public authority is not obliged to release information which is reasonably accessible by other means. This exemption is absolute.

However, in the interests of complete transparency and in the spirit of assistance, the information requested can be found at <http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/fire-governance-consultation/>, however, I also provide further detail below:

- **Total number of responses received within the consultation period**
A total of 2,426 people and organisations responded during the consultation.

- Total number of responses received in favour of adopting the preferred governance model
- Total number of responses received against adopting the preferred governance model
- Total number of responses received neither for nor against adopting the preferred governance model
- Breakdown (by number, format and type) in which the total number of responses was received, for example 35 emails in favour

	Supportive	Neutral	Unsupportive	Total
Online public survey	1276	184	931	2391
Public comments through other channels	5	0	10	15
Upper tier authorities	0	0	2	2
Representative bodies	0	2	1	3
MPs	3	0	1	4
Stakeholders	3	1	7	11
Total	1287	187	952	2426

- Total number of responses received that were discounted and the reason(s) why
All responses were considered.
- Details of where and by whom the responses were collated
The main way that people responded was through an online survey. A total of 2,391 responses were received to the online survey. The majority of responses were completed directly online by individuals (2,114.) 277 responses were added by the office after people either completed a paper copy of the survey at one of 11 events (260 responses), posted a paper response (one response) or after they were completed over the telephone (16 responses).
- Details of any independent verification of the responses that has been carried out
As the statutory stakeholders did not support the proposal, the Secretary of State must obtain an independent assessment of the proposal. The proposal was submitted to the Secretary of State on 10 Oct 2017.
- Copy of any official response received from the Fire Brigades Union, Retained Firefighters Union and/or UNISON is provided.
Responses from the above organisations can be viewed in appendix 6 of the Consultation Report.

We trust that the information provided above meets your needs. However, if you are unhappy with this response, please see the enclosed 'satisfied with our service', which sets out your rights to appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner