

# *Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme*



# ESMCP v ESN

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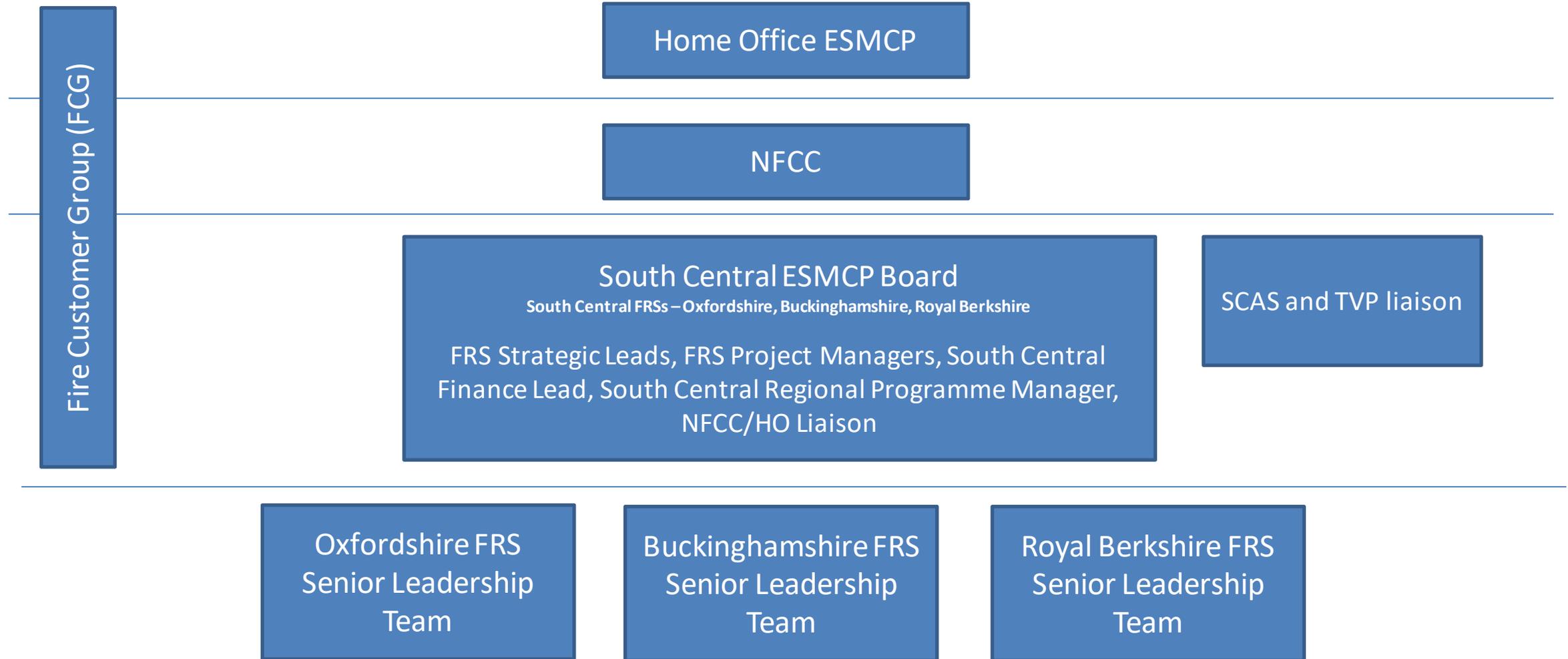
- **Airwave** - our existing radio communications system, provided by Motorola
- **ESN** - Emergency Services Network - this is the name given to the network which will replace Airwave.
- **ESMCP** - Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme - this is the name of the Home Office project.

# Why Change?

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- Airwave is expensive when compared with other services
- Airwave cannot provide broadband data services, so will not be able to support future technology
- EU legislation required a re-competition
- Contract was due to expire Dec 2019

# Local Governance



# Full Business Case (FBC)

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- Original Business Case released in 2015
  - All current Airwave users strongly advised to sign up to the ESMCP
  - Sign-up packs advised that ESN would be cheaper to FRAs than continuing with Airwave
  - Sign-up packs indicated that full national transition to ESN expected for completion by Jan 2020
- Revised drafts FBC released for consultation April 2021
- Accepted, with caveats, by the Fire Customer Group on 17 June 2021 that the Full Business Case would meet the sector's operational requirements

# Current Programme Approach

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- Product Driven Adoption
- Customer Focussed
- Change Programme
- Service Roadmap Adoption
- Airwave Offboarding

# As at June 2021

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- Full Business Case (FBC):
  - Revised drafts released for consultation April 2021; approved with caveats by Fire Customer Group on 17 June 2021; government sign-off July 2021
  - Timescales extended - transitions to ESN to commence Spring 2024; Airwave switch-off Dec 2026
  - ESN costs projected to be £0.9Bn lower overall than Airwave, but
  - Local FRS cost increases likely due to loss of section 31 grants
  - Net Impact could be as high as £150k for each FRS - further refinement is required
  - The programme SRO will raise with Treasury, aiming to ensure that no local FRS is worse off as a result of migrating to ESN
  - Local FRS should monitor this closely as a potential financial risk
  - Any adverse impact unlikely to manifest before 2024/25 financial year

# As at June 2021

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- Big ticket issues:
- Network resilience - current Airwave resilience too expensive to replicate for ESN
  - Coverage - especially in-building - not covered in government contract with EE and cost responsibility unclear
  - Potential timescale and resource clashes for FRSs' implementations of technology changes for ESMCP v. business-as-usual works (e.g. Control contracts/refresh)
  - Ongoing degradation of legacy technology
  - Potential budget implications of expense of ESN to FRAs, for the long term
  - Lack of clarity on any additional ESN delivery costs to be met by FRAs
  - Lack of confidence in the ESMCP ability to deliver