EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order amends Schedule 1 to the Firefighters' Compensation Scheme (England) Order 2006 in which is set out the compensation scheme for firefighters and dependants of firefighters in England ("the Compensation Scheme").

Article 3 of the Order contains transitional provisions in relation to the amendments made by article 2 and paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Schedule to this Order – they provide for the Compensation Scheme in its unamended form to continue to apply in certain circumstances.

The amendments made to rule 2 (award for or in relation to a retained or volunteer firefighter) of Part 8 (special cases) remove the right of a retained firefighter who was employed as a retained firefighter before 6th April 2006 to an injury award calculated as though he were a wholetime firefighter from the date of commencement of the Order. These changes are consequential on changes to pension arrangements for retained firefighters made by the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) Order 2014 (S.I. 2014/445).

The amendments to rule 6 (reckoning of service for purpose of awards) and rule 7 (qualifying injury) of Part 1 (general provisions) and those to rule 4 of Part 10 are consequential on the amendments to rule 2.

The various amendments which substitute "regular or retained firefighters" for a reference to "regular firefighter" correct the general terms of the Compensation Scheme which were intended to apply to retained firefighters who took up employment as a retained firefighter after 5th April 2006. The effect of the amendments made to rule 2 of Part 8 by this Order is that the general provisions of the Compensation Scheme apply to all retained firefighters who do not fall within the transitional provisions.

The amendments to Part 1(special pension) of Schedule 2 (awards for spouses and civil partners), Part 1 (child's special allowance) of Schedule 3 (awards on death: children) and Part 1 (adult dependent relative's special pension) of Schedule 4 (awards on death: additional provisions) insert a formula to calculate an award in respect of retained firefighters.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private or voluntary sectors is foreseen and the impact on the public sector is minimal.