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**NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL
FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES**

**To: Chief Fire Officers
Chief Executives/Clerks to Fire Authorities
Chairs of Fire Authorities
Directors of HR (Fire Authorities)**

Members of the National Joint Council

9 December 2020

CIRCULAR NJC/9/20

Dear Sir/Madam

Covid-19 Support Agreement – mass vaccination

1. The NJC is pleased to note the progress that has been made on the development and approval of a vaccination. We are encouraged that further vaccinations are likely to be available soon. The NJC notes the scale of the task that lies ahead to ensure that the public receives a vaccination. The NJC believes that the fire and rescue sector can make a valuable contribution as the vaccination programme is rolled out.
2. Firefighters are well trusted by the public, have relevant skills which could be built upon, and the capability to do so. Firefighters are already located in cities, towns and many rural locations.
3. While the fire sector is reliant upon other agencies in some respects, for example specialist training and equipment, following today's issue of the NJC's Covid 19 Support Agreement, both sides of the NJC commit that should there be a request from government/s or for example organisations such as NHS, LRF's or equivalents to assist with such work it will move quickly to support such a request.

Yours faithfully

**NAOMI COOKE
MATT WRACK**
Joint Secretaries