

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority

Chair's Report of the Meeting held on 14 February 2018

Capital Programmes and Prudential Guidelines

The Fire Authority confirmed its 2018/19 to 2022/23 capital programmes, and approved its Prudential Guidelines, the Treasury Strategy for 2018/19 and the Minimum Revenue Provision 2018/19.

Adequacy of Provisions and Reserves and Robustness of Budget

The Fire Authority agreed the reserves, recommended by its Strategy and Resources Committee, and noted the Treasurer's assurances covering the robustness of the 2018/19 budget and adequacy of the reserves. In addition the Fire Authority agreed that a risk based review of reserves be undertaken by officers.

Revenue Budget 2018/19

The Fire Authority considered recommendations made by its Strategy and Resources Committee and Strategic Planning Group Members' Working Group in relation to the revenue budget for 2018/19.

The Committee had recommended, and it was agreed by the Fire Authority, a precept increase of 2.99% in 2018/19.

Revenue Budget: 2018/19 Precept

The Fire Authority agreed:

- A net budget requirement of £21,641,238
- A total precept of £15,445,463 to be levied on the billing authorities
- A Council Tax resulting in a basic amount of Council Tax at Band D of £97.34
- The amount payable by billing authorities for 2018/19, as follows:

Council	Precept £
Shropshire Council	10,619,365
Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council	4,826,098
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	15,445,463

Annual Plan 2016/17

The Fire Authority agreed the outline format and contents of the Annual Plan 2018/19.

In addition the Fire Authority delegated responsibility to its Strategy and Resources Committee to agree the Service Targets 2018/19, which support the Fire Authority's four Strategic Aims.

Annual Review of Charges for Special Services

The Fire Authority has completed its annual review of the tariff for special services charges and agreed an increase of 1% with effect from 1 April 2018, in line with the 1% pay increase awarded to firefighters during 2017/18.

Amendments to the Pay Policy Statement 2018/19

The Fire Authority has conducted its annual review of the Pay Policy Statement and agreed minor changes to bring it up to date. The amended Statement has now been published and will be reviewed annually, following notification of national pay decisions determined in respect of Gold, Grey and Green Book staff each year.

Gender Pay Gap Report

The Fire Authority has published an annual Gender Pay Gap report on both the Service's website and the government website as required under the Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Information Regulations 2017).

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service's mean gender pay gap is 8% which is significantly lower than the reported national average of 18%

In addition the Service is working on a number of retention and attraction initiatives to address the gap through recruitment strategies and reviews of internal processes.

Shropshire Fire Risk Management Services Ltd

The Fire Authority has placed Shropshire Fire Risk Management Services Ltd into hibernation following reduced trading since 2016.



Eric Carter
Chair
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
May 2018

Background Papers

Agenda and Papers for the meeting of Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority held on 14 February 2018

The agendas and reports (with the exception of exempt or confidential items) for all Fire Authority meetings and those of its Committees appear on the Brigade's website:

<https://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk/>

To access reports go to the Fire Service's website and follow the steps below.

- Click on 'About Us' at the top of the page
- Click on 'Fire and Rescue Authority'
- Click on 'Meetings' in the list on the right hand side of the screen
- Click on '14 February 2018' and the various reports and appendices will be listed

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