



Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority Chair's Report of the Meeting held on 15 February 2023

Capital Programmes, Treasury Management Statement and Capital Strategy

The Fire Authority confirmed its 2023/24 to 2027/28 capital programmes, and approved its Capital Strategy for the same period, together with its Treasury Strategy Statement for 2023/24.

Adequacy of 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 2023/24 budget and adequacy of the reserves.

Revenue Budget 2023/24

The Fire Authority considered recommendations made by its Strategy and Resources Committee in relation to the revenue budget for 2023/24.

The Committee had recommended, and the Fire Authority approved, a precept increase of 4.6% in 2023/24.

Revenue Budget: 2023/24 Precept

The Fire Authority agreed:

- A net budget requirement of £26,562,703
- A total precept of £19,277,587 to be levied on the billing authorities
- A Council Tax resulting in a basic amount of Council Tax at Band D of £111.16
- The amount payable by billing authorities for 2023/24, as follows:

Council	Precept £
Shropshire Council	13,128,672
Borough of Telford & Wrekin Council	6,148,915
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	19,277,587

Annual Plan 2023/24

The Fire Authority has agreed the proposed format of its Annual Plan 2023/24. Authority to agree the setting of corporate performance indicators and associated tolerances has been delegated to the Fire Authority's Strategy and Resources Committee, which will consider and agree this issue at its meeting on 22 March 2023.

Responsibility for agreeing the final layout and wording of the Annual Plan 2023/24 has been delegated to the Chief Fire Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Fire Authority.

Annual Review of Charges for Special Services 2023/24

The Fire Authority could not consider any amendments to its special service charges as the uplift to them is based on the firefighter pay award which is still under negotiation.

The Fire Authority delegated agreement of the amendment to the special service charges to the Chair and/or Vice Chair of the Fire Authority and the Chief Fire Officer in order that these can be agreed once the national pay negotiations have concluded.

Amendments to the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24

The Fire Authority has conducted its annual review of the Pay Policy Statement and agreed changes to reflect the non-uniform pay award and the pay increase for senior officers as agreed by the Brigade Managers' Employment Panel in February 2022.

The amended Statement, as agreed by the Fire Authority will now be published as required under the Localism Act 2011, with updates being made as further pay awards are agreed.

Fire Alliance Update

The Fire Authority received an update on the future of the Alliance between Shropshire and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Services.

The initial Alliance Programme contained four specific projects; of these ICT, Community Risk Management Planning and Procurement are now business as usual and are embedded within both Services. The focus of the Alliance will now be on the fourth project: Fire Control.

This is a joint project, based on collaborative and partnership working, to increase resilience and capacity across both Services' Control Room functions. The first phase of the project is the joint procurement of a Command and Control system. The Fire Authority will receive regular updates as the Project progresses.



Eric Carter
Chair
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
February 2023

Background Papers

Agenda and Papers for the meeting of Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority held on 15 February 2023

The agendas and reports (except for 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 '15 February 2023' and the various reports and appendices will be listed

If you have any difficulty with the website, please contact Lynn Ince, Executive Support Officer, on 01743 260225.