

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

16 FEBRUARY 2015

1. **MONITORING OF FINANCES**

Joint report of the Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer

RECOMMENDED

THAT the report be noted.

2. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

2.1 This report deals with the monitoring of the finances of the Authority in the current financial year and covers revenue expenditure and the Capital Programme.

2.2 Expenditure is compared with a profile of the Authority's budget.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 **Revenue Expenditure**

3.1.1 Appendix A compares the revenue budgeted to the end of January 2015 with the actuals to that date. Devolved budgets are managed by the Department responsible for incurring the expenditure as opposed to corporate budgets, which are managed by the named Department on behalf of the Brigade as a whole.

3.1.2 The Authority's 2014/2015 Council Tax requirement is £34.710 million and the revenue budget is £103.017 million. As part of the Authority's 2015/16 budget setting process, the current year's budget has been revised and reflects an estimated transfer to earmarked balances of £3.832m. Actual spend to January 2015, including commitments, is £81.385 million compared to a projected budget of £81.410 million. An overall favourable variance of £0.025 million.

3.1.3 Appendix B provides statistical data relating to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

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3.2 **Capital Expenditure**

3.2.1 The Authority's approved capital programme for 2014/2015 is £5.309 million. Profiling of expenditure has been updated to reflect current forecasts for the year. A scheme analysis is shown in Appendix C. Expenditure to the end of January 2015 is shown as £2.941 million.

3.2.2 The main variance relates to the deferral of MDT upgrades/replacements to 2015/16 pending the outcome of the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme.

4. **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

In preparing this report, an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out because the matters contained in this report do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues which should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitoring Officer.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

These are contained in the body of the report and the attached Appendices.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Authority's Budget and Precept Report – February 2014
Authority's Budget and Precept Report – February 2015
Finance Office Budget Monitoring Files

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PHIL LOACH
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

MIKE GRIFFITHS

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APPENDIX A

REVENUE MONITORING SUMMARY TO JANUARY 2015

	LATEST BUDGET 2014/2015 £'000	PROFILED BUDGET £'000	ACTUALS + COMMIT -MENTS £'000	VARIANCE TO PROFILED BUDGET £'000
DEVOLVED BUDGETS				
CORPORATE MANAGEMENT	3,155	2,814	2,812	-2
<u>SERVICE SUPPORT</u>				
PEOPLE SUPPORT SERVICES	2,635	2,207	2,178	-29
OPERATIONAL TRAINING	3,916	3,054	3,029	-25
EMERGENCY RESPONSE	2,753	2,274	2,265	-9
FINANCE & RESOURCES	4,733	3,839	3,807	-32
I.C.T	3,730	2,910	2,876	-34
<u>SERVICE DELIVERY</u>				
OPERATIONS	7,257	5,543	5,372	-171
CORPORATE BUDGETS				
<u>SERVICE SUPPORT</u>				
OPERATIONAL TRAINING	180	81	66	-15
EMERGENCY RESPONSE	-149	-106	-116	-10
FINANCE & RESOURCES	19,647	16,379	16,355	-24
PEOPLE SUPPORT SERVICES	2,573	2,136	2,114	-22
<u>SERVICE DELIVERY</u>				
PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCE	48,380	40,321	40,296	-25

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RESPONSE & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	364	297	313	16
OPERATIONS - OTHER	11	21	18	-3
<u>APPROPRIATIONS/EARMARKED</u>	3,832	(360)	-	360
TOTAL	103,017	81,410	81,385	-25
GRANT FUNDING	-68,307	-54,537	-54,537	0
GRAND TOTAL	34,710	26,873	26,848	-25

FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION SCHEMES

NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION	2014/2015 PROJECTION			ACTUAL POSITION AS AT JANUARY 2015		
	1992 FPS	2006 FPS	TOTAL	1992 FPS	2006 FPS	TOTAL
Members of FPS at 1 st April 2014	1,156	380	1,536	1,156	380	1,536
New Members During Year	-	36	36	-	36	36
Transfers from Other Pension Schemes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers to Other Pension Schemes	-	(2)	(2)	-	-	-
Normal Retirements/Deferred/Leavers	(69)	(3)	(72)	(51)	(20)	(71)
Ill-Health Retirements	(3)	-	(3)	(1)	-	(1)
Members of the Fire Pension Schemes as at 31 st January 2015				1,104	396	1,500

CAPITAL MONITORING STATEMENT 2014/2015

Scheme	Year 2014/2015	Latest Budget £'000	Actuals to Jan 2015 £'000	Forecast £'000	Variance £'000
<u>LAND & BUILDINGS</u>					
Asbestos Removal	Ongoing	43	15	43	-
Drill Tower/Training Facility Upgrades	10 of 10	220	7	140	-80
Windows and Door Replacements	Ongoing	185	0	185	-
Roof Replacements	Ongoing	144	0	93	-51
Boiler Replacement Programme	Ongoing	330	158	333	3
Rewires	Ongoing	65	0	0	-65
Haden Cross Fire Station	2 of 2	1,758	1,763	1,799	41
High Rise Training Facility - Oldbury	2 of 2	3	6	6	3
HQ Building Modifications	1 of 1	72	66	72	-
Dignity at Work	1 of 1	500	8	410	-90
<u>VEHICLES</u>					
Vehicle Replacement Programme	Ongoing	953	503	1,004	51
Hazmats/Environmental Units	1 of 1	80	0	88	8
Command Support Vehicle Conversion	1 of 1	60	0	60	-
<u>ICT & EQUIPMENT</u>					
Thermal Image Cameras	7 of 7	123	8	123	-
Solar Panelling – Phase 2	1 of 1	136	116	119	-17
Other Equipment	1 of 1	118	117	118	-
Remote Aerial Unit	1 of 1	72	49	49	-23
Oracle Licensing	7 of 7	25	0	25	-
Fire Control C&C Upgrade	2 of 2	54	48	54	-
Pensions System Replacement	1 of 1	50	69	89	39
MDT Upgrade/Replacements	1 of 1	318	8	50	-268
Grand Total		5,309	2,941	4,860	-449
<u>RESOURCES AVAILABLE</u>					
Prudential Borrowing		0		0	-
Capital Grants/Contributions		4,636		4,636	-
Capital Receipts to be Applied		0		0	-
Direct Revenue Financing/Earmarked Reserves		673		224	-449
TOTAL		5,309		4,860	-449
SURPLUS(-)/DEFICIT(+)					

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