

8 February 2024: These documents supersede their respective counterparts in the Executive Committee Agenda Item 7 report (Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024/25 to 2028/29)

Revised Appendices

The following tables replace the versions of Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 originally published. They have been updated following confirmation from the billing authorities of amounts receivable from national non-domestic rates (NNDR) and council tax (the statutory deadline for both was 31 January) and confirmation of the new pension grant funding to mitigate the increased cost in employer contributions in the Firefighters' Pension Scheme. The substantive changes of note are:

- The expenditure budget has increased from £38.194m to £39.391m, an increase of £1.197m due to the increase in employer pension contribution costs in the Firefighters' Pension Scheme. To mitigate these additional costs the Service has been provided with a Fire Pensions Grant of £1.107m. For future years a reduction in this grant similar to the pressure seen with previous pension grant allocations has been forecast.
- The Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) for 2024/25 has been revised downwards from £10.500 to £10.061m (a reduction of £0.439m) following the receipt of updated NNDR figures. For 2024/25 this reduction is offset with a one-off grant of £0.598m received as part of the minimum funding guarantee. Future years' SFA forecasts have been updated to reflect this reduction in NNDR funding. Previous figures used were an estimate and more accurate figures are provided when billing authorities confirm them, usually after the 31 January.
- The previous pension grant line of £1.208m has been merged into the SFA line on a flat cash basis as this grant going forward will be included as part of the SFA funding streams. This brings the total SFA figure for 2024/25 to £11.269m.
- The Council Tax surplus figure from 2023/24 has been revised upwards from £94k to £101k (an increase of £7k) as the billing authorities had revised their projections.
- The Services Grant allocation had also improved slightly by £3k when the final settlement was published.
- Taking into account all these changes, the Revenue Contribution to Capital budget in Appendix 1(a) and 1(b) for 2024/25 to 2028/29 has been revised in order to balance the budget. Total usable reserves at the end of 2028/29 are now forecast to be £7.877m (a reduction of £2.008m from the figures in the original paper).

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Revised Appendix 1a

The model below is based on the assumptions detailed in Sections 3 and 4 and all significant budget movements have been subjected to Officer and Member scrutiny as noted in Section 6 in the MTFP report. The funding and expenditure assumptions have been updated following billing information being provided by the respective billing authorities and grant confirmation from the Home Office.

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Revenue Expenditure	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Base Budget	0	36,450	39,470	39,970	41,377	42,998
Inflation Adjustment	0	1,065	1,622	1,239	1,284	1,328
Corporate Core	1,063	-241	255	245	0	0
Statutory Accounting	1,459	-1,007	0	0	0	0
Delivery, Corporate Development & Planning	24,751	2,925	3	25	25	8
Human Resources	540	72	0	0	0	0
Finance & Assets	6,767	383	-120	-55	0	0
RCCO Adjustment	1,870	-177	-1,261	-47	311	249
Net Budget Requirement	36,450	39,470	39,970	41,377	42,998	44,583
Council Tax	-24,859	-26,091	-27,299	-28,563	-29,884	-31,269
Council Tax (Surplus)/Deficit	-335	-101	-150	-150	-150	-150
Services Grant	-199	-36	0	0	0	0
Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA)	-11,338	-11,269	-11,700	-11,900	-12,200	-12,400
Fire Specific Grants	-989	-933	-57	0	0	0
Pension Grant Funding (Now included in SFA)	-1,208	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Pensions Grant	0	-1,107	-764	-764	-764	-764
Minimum Funding Guarantee	0	-598	0	0	0	0
(Use of)/Contribution to Reserves	2,478	665	0	0	0	0
Total Funding	-36,450	-39,470	-39,970	-41,377	-42,998	-44,583

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Revised Appendix 1b – Reserves Position

Usable Reserves	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000	2025-26 £000	2026-27 £000	2027-28 £000	2028-29 £000
General Fund	-1,625	-1,625	-1,625	-1,625	-1,625	-1,625
Other Earmarked Reserves (excl. Control Room)	-3,798	-4,463	-4,463	-4,463	-4,463	-4,463
Revenue Contribution to Capital	-5,796	-4,652	-4,006	-3,399	-2,501	-1,789
Total Usable Reserves	-11,219	-10,740	-10,094	-9,487	-8,589	-7,877

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Revised Appendix 2 – Capital Programme

The table below summarises the capital programme from 2023/24 through to 2028/29 and is based on the revenue contribution to capital levels shown in the revised Appendix 1:

Capital Programme	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000	2025-26 £000	2026-27 £000	2027-28 £000	2028-29 £000
Property	1,139	701	469	407	219	250
Hydraulic Equipment	65	70	75	80	85	90
Operational Equipment	90	95	100	105	110	115
Operational Red Fleet Vehicles (Fire Appliances)	750	887	0	311	326	343
Operational Red Fleet Vehicles (Specials)	0	440	350	0	760	760
Operational White Fleet Vehicles	37	0	0	0	0	0
BA and Associated Equipment	0	90	0	0	0	0
ICT	156	160	85	90	95	100
Slippage (Approved July 2023 Executive Committee)	1,100					
In-year Movements	270					
Current Year Slippage Forecast	-394	394				
Forecast Overspend	33					
Total Expenditure	3,246	2,837	1,079	993	1,595	1,658
Funding B/Fwd	-3,359	-5,796	-4,652	-4,006	-3,399	-2,501
In Year Funding	-5,683	-1,693	-433	-386	-697	-946
Funding (Available)/Deficit	-5,796	-4,652	-4,006	-3,399	-2,501	-1,789

Note 1 – Figures highlighted in BLUE are currently only indicative and are not being considered at this stage of the process.

Note 2 – Figures highlighted in GREEN indicate capital bids submitted for this stage of the process.

Note 3 – Figures highlighted in GOLD contain amounts that have been previously approved, plus capital bids submitted for this stage of the process

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Revised Reserves Forecasts

