



By allowing us to complete a fire safety check in your home, you have helped us to become one of the best performing Fire and Rescue Services in England

Source: Audit Commission, 2007

## Home Fire Safety Check List

### ACTION NOW

Make sure that your smoke alarm is working

Make your fire plan with other members of your household

Take every care to prevent fire

### ACTION IF FIRE OCCURS

If your smoke alarm goes off, don't investigate – get out!

Stay calm and put your fire plan into operation

If you cannot get out, protect yourself, stay put and wait to be rescued

Don't open a door that is warm to the touch

Don't attempt to rescue pets or valuables

Don't go back inside until a firefighter tells you it is safe to do so

*To receive a free home safety check and smoke alarm, or for further advice or information, please telephone*

**The Community Fire Safety Team**

**01743 260200**

If you would like a copy of this leaflet in a different format, please call Natalie Hill, Equality and Diversity Officer, on 01743 260236



# Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority 2007/08



In 2007/08, the Fire Authority will continue with its commitment to make improvements in the Retained Service.

#### Achievements to date include:

- Investments in Community Fire Safety - over 7,000 smoke alarms have been fitted in rural areas
- Appointment of Retained Project Manager, and eight Retained Support Officers who are situated around Shropshire
- Additional funds committed for training and development
- Hugely increased numbers of people applying to join the Retained Service - **but we still need more.....**

## We Want You!

To find out more about becoming a retained firefighter, visit

[www.shropshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk)



## The Budget Requirement for 2007/08

A budget of £18.296 million has been approved by the Fire Authority. Gross expenditure is netted off with income received (special services, government project support), leaving the following net budget requirement for the year:

	2007/08 £'000	2006/07 £'000	% change
<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	19,410	18,549	
Contribution from Reserves	-88	-68	
Income	-263	-185	
<b>Net Budget Requirement</b>	19,059	18,296	
<b>Difference</b>	763		4.17

Movements in the budget requirement can be summarised as follows: **£'000**

<b>Pay awards and inflation</b> – provision for pay awards and price increases expected to be paid in 2007/08	598
<b>Pensions</b> – necessary increases in both the firefighters and local government pension schemes	107
<b>Grant amendments</b> – 2006/07 budget included repayments for reduction in grant levels - now repaid	-170
<b>Efficiencies</b> – Efficiencies have been identified in a number of areas of the service	-100
<b>Relocation of Fire Engine</b> – staffing costs associated with moving a whole time appliance from Telford to Tweedale.	160
<b>Growth areas</b> – funds have been added to deal with both fire and road safety, and also equality and data quality	120
<b>Reserves and balances</b> – net movements in contribution from reserves	-20
<b>Developments net of efficiencies</b> – additional costs, such as funding the capital programme, set off by reductions in costs	68

## Capital Programme

Capital schemes to be undertaken by the Fire Authority in 2007/08 include replacement of operational appliances and refurbishment to retained stations. The impact of new schemes is less than £1.15 per annum at Band D.

## Funding the Budget Requirement

The Fire Authority receives grant and rates income from central government, and the balance of the budget requirement is funded from council tax.

	2007/08 £'000	2006/07 £'000
<b>Budget Requirement</b>	19,059	18,296
<i>Less:</i>		
General Support Grant	1,034	1,122
Business Rates	6,161	5,814
Collection Fund Surplus	82	111
<b>Balance from Council Tax</b>	11,782	11,249

## Council Tax Bands for 2007/08

The increase in budget requirement for 2007/08 equates to a 3.90% increase in council tax. All bands and respective council tax levels, together with increases from last year, are shown in the table.

Band	Amount 2007/08 £	Increase from 2006/07	
		Per Year £	Per Week £
A	50.30	1.89	0.04
B	58.68	2.20	0.04
C	67.07	2.52	0.05
D	75.45	2.83	0.05
E	92.22	3.46	0.07
F	108.98	4.09	0.08
G	125.75	4.72	0.09
H	150.90	5.66	0.11

**For further information on the above please contact:**

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