

## Capital Update on Activity and Finance

### Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact John Redmond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260205 or Ged Edwards, Planning, Performance and Communications Manager, on 01743 260208.

### 1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of all the capital schemes within the Brigade and their current status. The report also requests the Committee to recommend to the Fire Authority variations in the capital schemes.

### 2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the progress so far on current schemes; and
- b) Approve and recommend to the Fire Authority variations to capital schemes, as set in section 5 of the report, namely:
  - Cancel the heating system at Tweedale scheme; and
  - Increase the command and control pods and vehicles scheme from £50k to £150k.

### 3 Background

Updates on finance and activity within capital schemes are reported to the Fire Authority's Strategy and Resources Committee.

This report provides an update on current schemes.

### 4 Progress

This report covers the reporting period April to August 2015. Detailed progress on schemes carried forward from 2014/15 or earlier and on this year's schemes (2015/16) is shown within the appendices.

Schemes that are part of the Service Transformation Programme will be monitored by the Service Transformation Programme Board.

New schemes for 2015/16 include:

- Heating system at Tweedale
- Command and control pods and vehicle
- Fit-out of major Incident room
- Mobile data terminals replacement
- Replacement of three appliances
- Radio battery replacement
- Replacement of hydraulic equipment
- Underground compartment fire training facility
- Information technology infrastructure
- Replacement of compressor and charging table at Telford

## **5 Amendments to Schemes**

### **Heating System at Tweedale**

The scheme for the heating system at Tweedale was originally delayed for two years, pending clarification of the future crewing model at Tweedale. No decision has yet been made and this now forms part of the wider Telford Central review. Members are requested to approve and recommend to the Fire Authority the cancellation of this scheme and that any works needed, as a result of the review, be considered as part of the larger Telford Central Improvements.

### **Command and Control Pods and Vehicles**

The original provision for £50k was for replacement of two medium-sized vans and did not include the hardware and software required to replace and upgrade the incident command capability to modern standards. The Service is currently undertaking a collaborative project with Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service to procure replacement vehicles, field communication equipment and an incident command system. It is intended that this collaborative approach will provide resilience across the two Services. A budgetary provision of £150k per vehicle is in line with market costs. The Committee is, therefore, asked to agree and recommend to the Fire Authority that the budget for this scheme is increased.

## **6 Financial Implications**

The financial implications are as outlined within the report.

## **7 Legal Comment**

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

## **8 Equality Impact Assessment**

Officers have considered the Service's Brigade Order on Equality Impact Assessments (Personnel 5 Part 2) and have decided that there are no discriminatory practices or differential impacts upon specific groups arising from this report. An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has not, therefore been completed.

## **9 Appendices**

### **Appendix A**

Non-exempt Update to August 2015 on Schemes carried forward from 2014/15 and prior and on Schemes for 2015/16

### **Appendix B**

Paper 10 Exempt Update to August 2015 on Schemes carried forward from 2014/15 and prior and on Schemes for 2015/16

## **10 Background Papers**

There are no background papers associated with this report.

**Schemes carried forward from 2014/15 and prior**

Name of Scheme	Balance carried over into 2015/16	Spend to end of July 2015	Balance	What is the Scheme End Date?	Senior Responsible Owner and Project Manager or Point of Contact	Update
<b>Capital Training Improvements 2013/14 and Training Improvements cfwd from 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10 and Training Facilities 2010/11</b>	£123k	£0k	<b>£123k</b>	December 2015	Andy Perry	Church Stretton and Whitchurch training towers have now been erected and are in the process of being finished off. Work on Clun's tower will begin next month. The Service is still waiting for BT before work can begin on Much Wenlock.
<b>Fire Alarms on Stations</b>	£15k	£5k	<b>£10k</b>	December 2015	Andrew Kelcey	The scheme is being used to fund the installation of fire alarms as part of the Albrighton, Baschurch and Hodnet refurbishments.
<b>Light Vehicle Replacement</b>	£41k	£0k	<b>£41k</b>	Unknown	John Das Gupta	Vehicles continue to be purchased as and when needed, rather than on an automatic rolling replacement. No further vehicles have been purchased since last reported.
<b>Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Service Memorandum of Understanding (H&amp;W MOU) - Corporate Gazetteer</b>	£58k	£18k	<b>£40k</b>	Unknown - to be reviewed after appointment of Geographical Intelligence Officer (GIO)	Andy Johnson Louise McKenzie	The appointment of another GIO has been postponed until the confirmation of the Project Manager for this piece of work. The system has been installed and set up but is not currently linked up and is stand alone. Technical support has been given to SEED on how the command and control system can be integrated with the gazetteer.
<b>Thermal Imaging Cameras</b>	£25k	£0k	<b>£25k</b>	March 2015	Andrew Kelcey	The scheme provides funding to replace thermal imaging cameras that are beyond economic repair. No further purchases have been made since last reported.

Name of Scheme	Balance carried over into 2015/16	Spend to end of July 2015	Balance	What is the Scheme End Date?	Senior Responsible Owner and Project Manager or Point of Contact	Update
Video conferencing	£44k	£10k	£34k	September 2015	Sally Edwards	The Service has received the hardware, however this is yet to be installed. The platform for video conferencing (Skype for Business) has yet to be deployed and this is planned for September.
IT infrastructure	£70k	£14k	£56k	Ongoing	Sally Edwards	Mobile device management software has been purchased to assist with asset management.
Light pumping unit (to replace the light pumping unit and prime mover schemes and brought forward to 2014/15 as agreed at the April meeting of the Fire Authority)	£194k	£21k	£173k	September 2015	Andrew Kelcey	The vehicle is in build at Angloco, where the finishing touches are being added to storage and communications equipment. Delivery is anticipated during September 2015.
Improvements at Wellington (appliance bay doors, dormitories and heating system)	£123k	£0k	£123k	Heating system to be reviewed in December 2016	Andrew Kelcey	It was agreed at the last meeting that the viability of the scheme and the business case for the heating system would be reviewed in 18 months.
Retained station works (it was agreed at the July meeting of the Fire Authority that the 3 schemes over 3 years of £300k each would be brought forward into one scheme)	£861k	£58k	£803k	Baschurch and Albrighton December 2015	Andrew Kelcey	The building works at Hodnet are complete; work is underway at Baschurch; and work is due to start at Albrighton in September / October. A feasibility study is being completed for Clun to assist with the decision whether to refurbish and extend or to demolish and rebuild. The end date for this will depend upon the option chosen.
WAN Update	£94k	££0k	£94k	Ongoing	Sally Edwards	Work to upgrade the WAN is continuing.

## Schemes for 2015/16

All schemes for 2015/16 are set out at Appendix B, which is an exempt paper and appears at item 10 on the agenda.