

Efficiencies 2013/14 and Forward Budgets

Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact Rachel Musson, Treasurer, on 01743 252007, or Joanne Coady, Head of Finance, on 01743 260215.

1 Purpose of Report

This report looks at progress in identifying efficiencies for the period 2013/14 to 2017/18.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to recommend to the Fire Authority that it include £50,000 for planning the 2013/14 budget, and that it continues to seek out efficiencies as part of the budget setting process in later years.

3 Background

The Authority has a policy of maximising efficiency gains, i.e. achieving more for the same cost, or the same for less cost. In recent years, it has budgeted for efficiencies and achieved the disaggregated targets set by Government. It has also complied with the Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency, which has placed requirements on local authorities to make information available to the public. Compliance with the Code should demonstrate how value for money has been achieved in public bodies, and should also highlight inefficiency.

4 Approach to Efficiencies

A review for possible efficiencies has continued to form part of the Authority's budget setting process. Although a formal efficiency return is no longer required, it seems prudent to continue to budget for, and identify, efficiencies as part of the budget setting process, in order to demonstrate the Authority's ongoing commitment to achieving value for money.

5 Work to date

To date potential efficiency savings have been identified as follows:

	2013/14 £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000
Ordnance survey mapping costs – current service provided at no cost	50	50	50	50	50
	50	50	50	50	50

6 Financial Implications

The financial implications are as outlined in 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

There are no appendices attached to this report.

10 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.