

Asset Stewardship 2011/12

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Paul Raymond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Andrew Kelcey, Head of Resources, on 01743 260240.

1 Purpose of Report

This report advises of the current condition of assets owned by the Authority and changes, which have occurred in the financial year 2011/12. This is a summary of information previously provided in the form of budget working papers, capital appraisals and capital budget reports, together with additional information.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is requested to note the current asset position.

3 Property

There have been no purchases or sales of land of property.

Property needs are clearly defined within an asset management plan for property and a capital investment and revenue maintenance programme has been established in support of this plan.

The Integrated Risk Management Planning process has not identified that any sites are redundant.

A scheme to redevelop the Shrewsbury site at a total cost of £3.99m was completed.

The Service is attempting to maintain its buildings at the agreed level of 'safe, legally compliant and no further deterioration'. At this level there is no significant backlog of maintenance for these assets

Due to budget restrictions property maintenance budgets have been cut, and this is apparent through deterioration, particularly to external decorations.

These savings are manageable in the short-term, but review will be required if the Authority's assets are not to deteriorate in the longer term.

4 Operational Vehicles

Three 3000 litre pumping appliances were ordered at the end of the financial period and were delivered in August 2012. They are now in use at Bishops Castle, Cleobury Mortimer and Newport.

Four Toyota Hilux 4x4 pickups have been purchased as Incident Support Units, replacing 3 no. Ford Ranger pickups and a station van. These were further adapted to provide 'Fire Fogging' fire fighting capability after a successful trial at Tweedale.

All vehicles are maintained in accordance with Chief Fire Officers Association best practice guidance and there is no backlog of maintenance for these assets.

5 Non-Operational Vehicles

There have been no changes to the light vehicle fleet.

6 Other Assets

There have been no significant changes in our other assets. There is no backlog of maintenance for these assets.

7 Financial Implications

This report is the annual review of the Fire Authority's assets to ensure that they are being used cost effectively.

8 Legal Comment

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

9 Equality Impact Assessment

This report is purely an update on Authority's assets and so the recommendations within the report have no impact on people. An initial Equality Impact Assessment has not, therefore been completed.

10 Appendix

Summary of Fire Authority Property Assets

11 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Summary of Fire Authority Property Assets

Retained Stations

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Albrighton	Yet to be refurbished. Generally good condition but does not have adequate office facilities, showers or disabled access	☹	Part	Tower	None	
Baschurch	Yet to be refurbished. Does not have adequate office facilities, showers or disabled access	☹	Part	Tower	None	
Bishop's Castle	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower built 2010	Some grassed land, which could be made available, but is subject to restrictions including Tree Preservation Orders.	
Bridgnorth	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower built 2011	None. Note: the adjacent ambulance station has recently been sold in to private ownership.	Regularly used by Youth Offending Teams and community safety partnerships.

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Church Stretton	Refurbished and meets most needs, but additional office and storage accommodation to be provided.	☺	Full	None (tower not in use) Planning Permission obtained for replacement	None	
Cleobury Mortimer	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Yes	Tower, confined space	Site is larger than required, but when assessed in 2007 cost of works to release exceeded value	
Clun	Refurbished and meets most needs, but additional training, office and storage accommodation to be provided.	☹	Full	None (tower not in use) Planning Permission obtained for replacement	None	
Craven Arms	Refurbished and extended in 2008 to provide accommodation for a specialist pumping unit.	☺	Full	Tower built 2011	Site was considered larger than required, but when assessed in 2007 cost of works to release exceeded value. Space has now been used to improve training facilities.	
Ellesmere	Refurbished and meets most needs, but additional office and storage accommodation to be provided.	☺	Full	Tower	None	

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Hodnet	Yet to be refurbished. Does not have adequate office facilities, showers or disabled access	☹	Part	Tower	None	
Ludlow	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	BA building, RTC compound	None	Occupied by West Midlands Ambulance Service for a fee of £6,000 pa. Occupancy to end January 2013
Market Drayton	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower	None	Occupied by West Midlands Ambulance Service for a fee of £8,500 pa. Occupancy to end January 2013
Minsterley	Fully refurbished and meets needs. Additional garage provided for four wheel drive pump.	☺	Full	Tower	None	
Much Wenlock	Refurbished and meets most needs, but additional training, office and storage accommodation to be provided.	☹	Full	None (no tower) Planning Permission obtained for replacement	None	Local Broadplace centre, providing community internet access.

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Newport	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower	None	
Oswestry	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	BA building	None	Used for community activities, including whist drives etc.
Prees	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	BA building	None	
Wem	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower built 2011	None	
Whitchurch	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	None (tower not in use) Planning Permission obtained for replacement	None	

Wholetime Stations

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Shrewsbury (Station, Headquarters and Workshops)	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Yes	BA building	None	

Telford (Station and Training Centre)	Meets basic needs but is very poor standard. Refurbishment planned for 2012/13	☹	Part	BA building, Tower, RTC compound. Real Fire facilities on site	Large areas of the building are underutilised. Investigations into possible use of this space have identified this as not being cost effective.	
Tweedale	Fully refurbished and meets needs. Heating costs are excessive following conversion from RDS station and capital funding has been identified for improvement works.	☺	Full	Tower	Large grassed areas around the building, but of limited development potential due to low land values in this area, forming part of Telford's Green Network and need to relocate the station on the site. Note: the adjacent ambulance station has recently been sold in to private ownership.	
Wellington	Meets basic needs but is very poor standard. Minor refurbishment currently underway, but this will not address a number of fundamental issues, including access.	☹	No	Tower	None	