

# Fire Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11

## Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Paul Raymond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260203 or Ged Edwards, Programme Manager on 01743 260208.

### 1 Purpose of Report

This report seeks Member approval of the proposed contents and layout of the Fire Authority's Corporate Plan 2010/11.

### 2 Recommendations

The Committee is requested to agree the contents and proposed layout of the Corporate Plan, as set out in this report.

### 3 Background

In 2008 following the enactment of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (and subsequent changes to Best Value legislation), the Fire Authority's statutory duty to produce an annual best value performance plan was removed.

However, in pursuance of delivering a community focused service, the Fire Authority at its July 2009 meeting endorsed, as part of its integrated strategic planning process, the continued preparation and publication of an annual Corporate Plan and supporting Annual Report.

Members, at the February 2010 Fire Authority meeting, agreed to delegate approval of the final Corporate Plan to this committee.

## 4 Corporate Plan

Officers, at a strategic planning workshop held in October 2009, considered and reviewed the existing Corporate Plan and concluded that 2010/11 should be a consolidation year. As a consequence the existing core values, service aims, improvement priorities should remain unchanged. In addition a number of major projects have also been incorporated into the plan.

It is proposed to continue with the single wall mounted poster format which will be placed in prominent positions at all stations/departments. A web-based online version will also be available for external stakeholders. The proposed layout of the Corporate Plan and its contents are included as appendices to this report.

## 5 Financial Implications

There is provision within existing budgets for the production of the plan

## 6 Legal Comment

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 removed the requirement for best value authorities to compile and publish an annual Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP). However, the department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) saw the BVPP as the mechanism by which fire and rescue authorities (FRAs) publish, amongst other things, details of their outturn performance for the preceding year.

FRAs were also required to certify in their BVPPs that individual contracts entered into comply with best value requirements, including workforce requirements in the Code of Practice and the accompanying statutory guidance.

The CLG, in March 2008, stated<sup>1</sup> that it will be for the discretion of FRAs as to how to publish or otherwise make available the information set out above, advising that FRAs should, however, ensure that it is available to relevant stakeholders, for instance employee representatives in the case of the compliance certification. FRAs should also continue to make available to their auditor the performance data.

No further guidance has been issued from CLG in respect of annual BVPP's.

The above requirements were met by this Fire Authority during 2008 and 2009 and it is anticipated that these will be included within the 2009/10 Annual Report.

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<sup>1</sup> CLG FRS Circular 09/2008. *Best Value Performance Plans for 2007/08*

## 7 Equality Impact Assessment

The Equality Impact Assessment was attached to the report which went to the Fire Authority on 10 February 2010.

## 8 Appendices

### Appendix A

Corporate Plan 2010/11 – General Layout

### Appendix B

Corporate Plan 2010/11 – Contents.

## 9 Background Papers

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority:

- 3 July 2009 - Report 16 Integrated Strategic Planning Process 2010/11
- 3 July 2009 - Report 19 Annual Report 2008/09
- 10 February 2010 - Report 11 Fire Authority Corporate Plan 2010/11

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk), the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balanced Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	
Capacity		Member Involvement	
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment	*	Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings		Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial		Staff	
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	*
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information		Equality Impact Assessment	*

**Corporate Plan 2010/11 – General Layout**



# Our Corporate Plan 2010/11



### Our Core Values

**Service to the Community**  
We value service to the community by:

- Working with all groups to reduce risk
- Treating everyone fairly and with respect
- Being answerable to those we serve
- Striving for excellence in all we do

**Diversity**  
We value diversity in the service and the community by:

- Treating everyone fairly and with respect
- Providing varying solutions for different needs and expectations
- Promoting equal opportunities in employment and progression within the Service
- Challenging prejudice and discrimination

**People**  
We value all of our employees by protecting and promoting:

- Fairness and respect
- Recognition of merit
- Honesty, integrity and mutual trust
- Personal development
- Co-operative and inclusive working

### Our Improvement Priorities

We will improve the way we communicate by:

- Improving our internal communications
- Improving our external communication
- Increasing the time to communicate effectively

We will improve our competence by:

- Developing our managers and leaders
- Improving our core and specialist skills
- Improving our performance

We will improve our capacity to do things by:

- Balancing our available resources to meet demand
- Maintaining our Service under all circumstances
- Reducing bureaucracy and costs



**Shropshire and Wrekin  
Fire and Rescue Authority**

### Budget

**Where do we get the money from?**

**How the money is spent**

Around 70% of the total budget is spent on our staff: firefighters on the vehicles and related duty systems, control staff, and non-answered support staff. The remaining balance is spent on the supply and maintenance of operational equipment, uniforms, supplies and services, information and communication technology, and leading the capital programme.

This year's programme includes the next stage in a major project to refurbish the Service's fire stations, workshops and headquarters in Shrewsbury, as well as the replacement of the engines and protective equipment for firefighters.

### Our Aims

**Aim 1:** Reduce the risk to life and material loss from fires, road traffic collisions and other emergencies in the community

**Aim 2:** Protect life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies

**Aim 3:** Secure the highest level of safety and welfare/wellbeing for all staff and Authority Members

**Aim 4:** Provide a sustainable service that demonstrates quality and best value in service provision

**Aim 5:** Provide a service committed to the highest levels of equality and diversity

### Corporate Plan 2010/11 – Overview

Never before has the nation's Fire and Rescue Services faced so much uncertainty and new challenges as those presented to us in 2010/11. As with all public sector organisations, we face the threat of reduced budgets coupled with a general election that could result in a new change agenda for the public sector.

Despite the potential for both financial and political change, the 2010/11 Corporate Plan focuses upon the consolidation and delivery of our three existing priorities – communications, compliance and capacity that collectively serve to support our key aims and underpinning core values. Notwithstanding the latter, we will of course implement the outcomes arising from previous RMP initiatives resulting in the refurbishment of Shrewsbury Fire Station, Headquarters and Workshops, introduction of deficit support teams and ALP relocation. We will also continue to support the roll-out of Regional Control Centres, and as an interim arrangement, relocate our existing Fire Control to Telford Central Fire Station.

To determine our long-term strategy for beyond 2010/11, a new strategic planning and consultation process that integrates the RMP process with broader initiatives will be implemented leading to the development of a 5-year strategic plan to further increase public value within our communities.

Committed to our success is a collective approach, and we look forward to working with you as 'one team' to address the uncertainty and challenges that face us all.

**Clr Stuart West**  
Chairman  
Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

**Paul Raymond**  
Chief Fire Officer

### Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service – at a glance

- SPRS serves a population of approximately 450,000 people and protects over 192,000 domestic and 16,500 commercial properties
- SPRS employs approximately 650 staff, operating from 23 sites
- Shropshire is England's largest inland county occupying approximately 3,400 square kilometres
- During 2009/10, SPRS was once again ranked by the Audit Commission as one of the country's best performing fire and rescue services
- SPRS achieved Level 4 of the Equality Standard for Local Government and is 'moving towards excellence' in the Fire Service Equality Framework which has now replaced it







For further information about this Corporate Plan visit our website at [www.shropshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk)

**Corporate Plan 2010/11 – Contents.**

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We value all of our employees by practicing and promoting:

- Fairness and respect
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- Personal development
- Co-operative and inclusive working.

**Service to the Community**

We value improvement at all levels of the Service by:

- Accepting responsibility for our performance
- Being open-minded
- Considering criticism thoughtfully
- Learning from our experience
- Consulting others.

## **Our Aims**

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## Corporate Plan 2010/11 - Overview

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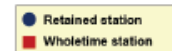
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## Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service – at a glance

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- SFRS serves a population of approximately 450,000 people and protects over 192,000 domestic and 15,500 commercial properties
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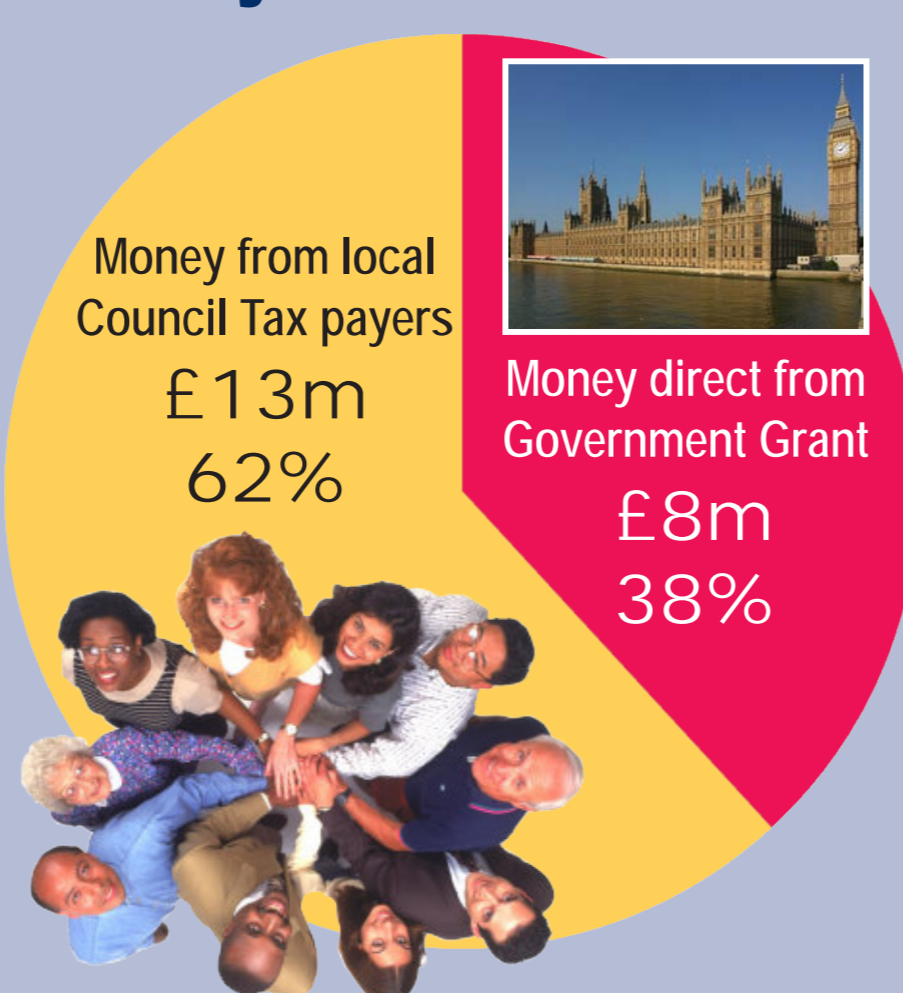
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Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority

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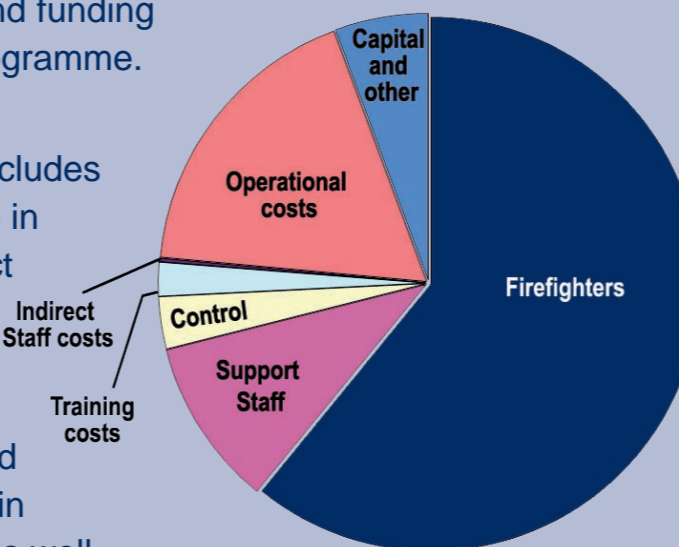


### How the money is spent

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