

23 January 2025

		23/24 £000	24/25 £000	25/26 £000	26/27 £000	Narrative
	Reserves Analysis 23/24 to 26/27					
<i>A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing</i>	Pension Liabilities Reserve					Set up as a result of the introduction of the new Firefighters Pension Scheme on 1 April 2006, the original reserve was required to pay for unexpected sickness retirements and other payments, which remain the responsibility of the Authority's revenue account. In 2008/09, the reserve was expanded to cover other staff matters, including the costs following the Retained Firefighters & Part Time Regulations Tribunal In 2024/25, £1.3m was added to cover potential staff costs following the resignation of staff.
	Apr	687	677	1,939	1,939	
	Ill health pension charge	-10				
	Contribution from general fund		1,262			
	Mar	677	1,939	1,939	1,939	
	ICT Reserve					This reserve was established using unspent balances from 2010/11 and approved budgets for ICT projects. It is intended that this reserve will be used to manage information technology and communications issues as they arise, and ensure a consistent and managed approach to ICT investment.
	Apr	834	547	315	65	
	Capital Schemes	-287	-232	-250	-250	
Mar	547	315	65	-185		
Operational Equipment Reserve					This reserve was established to help provide some stability in this area of the revenue budget. Where a need for new equipment is identified, contributions can be made from the reserve, and any ongoing requirements for the equipment can be established.	
Apr	116	275	265	255		
To revenue for spend	-31	-50	-50	-50		
Contribution	190	40	40	40		
Mar	275	265	255	245		
Service Delivery Reserve					This reserve was set up to fund initiatives in service delivery and prevention.	
Apr	118	9	-11	-31		
Contribution to revenue	-109	-20	-20	-20		
Mar	9	-11	-31	-51		
Training Reserve					This reserve is used to fund one off additional training and developments where permanent increases in the revenue budget are not required.	
Apr	13	127	106	76		
Contribution to revenue for training	-36	-21	-30	-30		
Contribution	150					
Mar	127	106	76	46		
Buildings Maintenance Reserve					The revenue budget in this area is used to fund preventative or controlled maintenance in line with the Authority's Asset Management Plan, and also covers unexpected reactive maintenance. This reserve was created to deal with exceptional, unexpected repairs that do not require a regular revenue budget.	
Apr	300	450	400	350		
Contribution to reserve	150	-50	-50	-50		
Mar	450	400	350	300		
	Earmarked Capital Reserve					This reserve is used to fund smaller capital projects, therefore reducing the need to borrow.
	Apr	0	0	0	0	
	Prior year schemes spend					

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		23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27	
	Reserves Analysis 23/24 to 26/27	£000	£000	£000	£000	Narrative
A means of building up funds to meet known or predicted requirements	Contribution to reserve					
	Mar	0	0	0	0	
	Major Projects Capital Reserve					This reserve is made up of budgeted contributions and unspent balances from previous years. It was used to part fund the Authority's refurbishment of the headquarters, workshop and fire station at Shrewsbury, with the balance remaining to be used against future major building projects, notably the Stafford Park site in Telford.
	Apr	6,634	6,813	5,858	456	
	Capital projects	-975	-2,157	-5,402		
	Contribution from reserve and general fund	1,154	1,202			
	Mar	6,813	5,858	456	456	
	Service Transformation Programme - Staff Reserve					The STP is a high level programme of activities, which will be completed to ensure that the Service is best placed to meet the challenges it is likely to face over the coming years. Funding for projects identified as part of the programme have been taken into account in the revenue budget and the capital programme. This reserve was set up to cover the staff elements of the projects.
	Apr	869	809	509	259	
	Used for STP staff costs	-310	-300	-250	-187	
Contribution from reserve	250					
Mar	809	509	259	72		
A contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies	Income Volatility Reserve					This reserve was set up to smooth any volatility or fluctuations in the funding received against estimates in the Service Plan.
	Apr	687	687	687	687	
	Mar	687	687	687	687	
	Extreme Incidents Reserve					Costs for incidents attended by retained firefighters have now been budgeted for at average levels in the revenue account; this reserve will cover the costs of increased activity incurred as a result of adverse weather conditions.
	Apr	219	219	219	219	
	Mar	219	219	219	219	
	General Reserve					The current balance on this reserve represents unearmarked risks, and has been used in 2023/24 to fund back pay for holiday pay on overtime.
	Apr	577	456	577	577	
	Contribution revenue - holiday pay	-121	121			
Mar	456	577	577	577		
Grand Total	11,069	10,864	4,852	4,305		
Revenue budget	23,473	24,146	24,753	24,754		
% of revenue budget	47%	45%	20%	17%		