

Asset Stewardship Report 2011

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, Resources Manager, 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 2010/11. 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 or 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.

There has been a further capital investment of £65,000 in property, which has enabled the construction of a garage and station refurbishment at Minsterley.

A scheme to redevelop the Shrewsbury site at a total cost of £3.99m is nearing completion.

Maintenance expenditure continues at the agreed level of *'safe, legally compliant and no further deterioration'*. At this level there is no backlog of maintenance for these assets and the general condition continues to improve as a result of the capital investment. Refurbished stations are being maintained at this improved level.

Due to budget restrictions further capital investment has been suspended and property maintenance budgets are being cut. 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

A hybrid pumping appliance and water carrier was delivered in 2011 and is now in use at Oswestry. The public value review process has considered proposals to extend our standard appliance life planning from 12 to 15 years and this will be implemented from 2012.

A Ford Ranger Incident Support Unit was hit by another vehicle and written off in 2011, for which an insurance payment has been received. It has been replaced by a new Toyota Hilux as part of a wider project to replace three 51 registration Rangers (including the written-off vehicle). The Rangers are to be retained in the short term to provide additional winter resilience.

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 further 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

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	Regularly used by Youth Offending Teams and community safety partnerships.

* Disability Discrimination Act

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.	

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA* Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Ellesmere	Refurbished and meets most needs, but additional office and storage accommodation to be provided.	☺	Full	Tower	None	Has been used by Market Towns Initiative Manager, but not currently used.
Hodnet	Yet to be refurbished. Does not have adequate office facilities, showers or disabled access	☹	Part	Tower	None	Regularly used by Youth Offending Teams.
Ludlow	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Breathing Apparatus (BA) building Road Traffic Collision (RTC) compound	None	Jointly occupied by West Midlands Ambulance Service for a fee of £6,000 pa.
Market Drayton	Fully refurbished and meets needs	☺	Full	Tower	None	Jointly occupied by West Midlands Ambulance Service for a fee of £8,500 pa.
Minsterley	Fully refurbished and meets needs. Additional garage provided for four wheel drive pump.	☺	Full	Tower	None	

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA* Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Much Wenlock	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	Local Broadplace centre, providing community internet access.
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	

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Shrewsbury (Station and Headquarters)	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 investment options are being considered.	☺	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.	
Wellington	Meets basic needs but is very poor standard. Refurbishment planned for 2011/12	☹	No	Tower	None	

Location	Suitability for purpose		DDA Compliant	Training Facilities	Surplus Assets	Other Uses
Workshops	All areas of inadequate standard. Being redeveloped as part of the Shrewsbury site. Service currently being provided from temporary accommodation at Sundorne Road, Shrewsbury.	☹	No		None	