

Annual Efficiency Statement - Forward Looking 2007/08

Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact Keith Dixon, Treasurer on 01743 260202.

1 Purpose of Report

This report submits the 2007/08 Forward Looking Annual Efficiency Statement (AES) for scrutiny by the Committee prior to submission, as required by 12 April 2007.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to submit its Forward Looking AES based on the Appendix to this report.

3 Background

The Fire Authority has a policy of maximising cashable efficiencies and has an aim of delivering its share of the national Fire Service average by 2007/08, which would be £930,000. It also acknowledges, however, that authorities, such as our own, with a history of driving out efficiencies and delivering best value may find delivering efficiencies more difficult than those with a more recent history of modernisation.

4 2007/08 Efficiencies

Annual cashable efficiencies submitted in November, covering the period up to 31 March 2007 totalled £713,000, although this will be reviewed when the final submission is made in June. Efficiencies identified during the 2007/08 budget process total £100,000, i.e. the Fire Authority will have found a total of £813,000 efficiencies, a current shortfall against the national average target of £117,000.



The efficiencies can be categorised as required by Government as follows:

	£ 000
Other Integrated Risk Management Planning Savings	
i Reissue of Fire Kit	20
Collaboration	
ii Shared use of Market Drayton with the Ambulance Service	9
Reduced Ill-Health Retirements	
iii Redeployment rather than ill-health retirement	16
Other Human Resources Savings	
iv Retained Support Officer appointments	25
Procurement	
v Hydrant Maintenance	20
vi Whole-time recruit training	10
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There will be an opportunity to record further savings through national procurement. There will also be non-cashable savings, e.g. through the agreement with Hereford and Worcester over Gold Command Cover. These can be added together with any other efficiencies that can be obtained either when the actual 2006/07 efficiencies are reported or else the 2007/08 planned efficiencies are monitored next November.

5 Financial Implications

The financial implications are as outlined in this report.

6 Legal Comment

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

7 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.

8 Appendix

Efficiency Gains Planned in 2007/08

9 Background Papers

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

Strategy and Resources Committee, 16 November 2006, Report 5

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	*



Efficiency Gains Planned in 2007/08

Category	Annual Cashable Efficiency Gains	Cumulative Cashable Efficiency Gain	Cumulative Non-cashable Efficiency Gain
	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000
Revised shift system / Crewing arrangements	-	259 -	12 -
Other Integrated Risk Management Planning Savings	20 -	122 -	
Collaboration	9 -	9 -	
Reduced ill-health retirements	16 -	16 -	
Sickness reduction	-	-	-
Other Human Resources savings	25 -	90 -	
Better procurement	30 -	160 -	5 -
Corporate Services	-	73 -	
Other	-	84 -	
	100 -	813 -	17 -

