



Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority 2006/07

Home Fire Safety Check List

ACTION NOW

- Make sure that your smoke alarm is working
- Make your fire plan with other members of your household
- Take every care to prevent fire

ACTION IF FIRE OCCURS

- If your smoke alarm goes off, don't investigate – get out!
- Stay calm and put your fire plan into operation
- If you cannot get out, protect yourself, stay put and wait to be rescued
- Don't open a door that is warm to the touch
- Don't attempt to rescue pets or valuables
- Don't go back inside until a firefighter tells you it is safe to do so

**For further advice or information please telephone
The Community Fire Safety Team
01743 260200**

If you would like a copy of this leaflet in a different format,
please call Natalie Hill, Equality and Diversity Officer, on 01743 260236



In 2006/07, the Fire Authority is investing heavily in its Retained Service.

Retained firefighters are people who have regular jobs and family commitments, but who support their local communities by responding to emergency calls as they occur.

In Shropshire, firefighters who work the retained duty system:

- make up 65% of the workforce
- crew 82% (23 out of 28) of the Authority's fire engines
- provide emergency cover to 95% of the county

We Want You!

To find out more about becoming a retained firefighter, visit

www.shropshirefire.gov.uk



The Budget Requirement for 2006/07

A budget of £18.296 million has been approved by the Fire Authority. Gross expenditure is netted off with income received (special services, government project support), leaving the following net budget requirement for the year:

	2006/07 £'000	2005/06 £'000	% change
Gross Expenditure	18,549	18,575	
Contribution to Reserves	-68	329	
Income	-185	-956	
Net Budget Requirement	18,296	17,948	+1.94
Difference	+348		

Movements in the budget requirement can be summarised as follows:

	£'000
Pay awards and inflation – provision for pay awards and price increases expected to be paid in 2006/07	+390
Income and Pensions – the firefighters pension scheme will no longer be held in the revenue account, resulting in a reduction in both budget requirement and government grant	-322
Reserves and balances – no increases were necessary in 2006/07; in addition, funds have been released to repay modernisation grant, awarded by government in 2004/05	-397
Efficiencies – efficiencies have been achieved in running the service	-336
Retained Service – there has been a significant investment in the retained service, which will benefit the service and the public	+824
Grant amendments – central government have reduced grant levels for 2004/05 and 2005/06, which must be repaid	+170
Developments net of efficiencies – additional costs, such as funding the capital programme, set off by reductions in costs	+19

Capital Programme

Capital schemes to be undertaken by the Fire Authority in 2006/07 include replacement of operational appliances and refurbishment to retained stations. The impact of new schemes is less than 62p per annum at Band D.

Funding the Budget Requirement

The Fire Authority receives grant and rates income from central government, and the balance of the budget requirement is funded from council tax.

	2006/07 £'000	2005/06 £'000
Budget Requirement	18,296	17,948
<i>Less:</i>		
General Support Grant	1,122	2,054
Business Rates	5,814	5,165
Collection Fund Surplus	111	69
Balance from Council Tax	11,249	10,660

Council Tax Bands for 2006/07

The increase in budget requirement for 2006/07 equates to a 4.52% increase in council tax. All bands and respective council tax levels, together with increases from last year, are shown in the table.

Band	Amount 2006/07 £	Increase from 2005/06	
		Per Year £	Per Week £
A	48.41	2.09	0.04
B	56.48	2.44	0.05
C	64.55	2.79	0.05
D	72.62	3.14	0.06
E	88.76	3.84	0.07
F	104.90	4.54	0.09
G	121.03	5.23	0.10
H	145.24	6.28	0.12

For further information on the above please contact:

Finance Section
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
Brigade Headquarters
St Michael's Street
SHREWSBURY SY1 2HJ

Telephone:
01743 260200
E-mail:
funding@shropshirefire.gov.uk