

Performance against Best Value Performance Indicators April 2009 to June 2009

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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1 Purpose of Report

To inform Members of the Brigade's performance against nationally prescribed Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 June 2009.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the new reporting style and content in respect of performance; and
- b) Consider the information provided and give comments, where appropriate, for amendments to future reports to aid the regular assessment of performance.

3 Background

The previously published Fire and Rescue Service National Framework 2006-08 set out the BVPIs for fire and rescue authorities. Performance against the nationally prescribed BVPIs enabled the Government and Audit Commission to monitor the performance of all fire and rescue services. Moreover, performance against BVPIs allowed the Fire Authority to determine on a regular basis the success (*or failure*) of its aims and priorities in meeting the needs of the community as specified within the Corporate Plan. Such information is also invaluable in supporting the identification of priorities for future performance improvement strategies.

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 abolished the requirement for best value authorities to prepare a Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) and as a consequence the need to report performance information and set future performance targets. However Communities and Local Government (CLG), in March 2008^[1], stated that it will be for the discretion of Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) as to how to publish performance information.

The current National Framework 2008-11 specifies (Para 4.14) that the Audit Commission's new performance framework focuses on delivery of LAA targets and continued progress in securing improvements in local services through collective action. The 198 national indicators replace the current suite of BVPIs for Local Government and Fire and Rescue Authorities. Whilst the Framework states (Para 4.14) that 2007/8 will be the last year of reporting against BVPIs, recent correspondence from the Audit Commission indicates that BVPI data (as cited in the 2006-08 National Framework) is still to be collated.

Of the set of 198 indicators, two apply to Fire and Rescue Authorities. This Authority's performance against the new indicators is set out in Appendix E as NI33 and NI49.

4 Report Content

The style and layout of this report has been amended to align it to the model adopted by the Audit Commission within its Performance Information Profile Tool. Amendments have been made to some of the performance indicators to give more relevance to the information used in performance management. These were approved at the Strategy and Resources Committee 5 March 2009.

This report therefore documents performance against BVPIs for the first, quarter (April – June) of 2009/10 and contains a range of tables providing data (where available) on:

- Performance for previous years (where available);
- The introduction of a ↑ or ↓ symbol indicating an improvement or decline in performance over a one and three year period (where known);
- The Target for 2009/10;
- Performance for the most recent quarter;
- A prediction of outturn for 2009/10;
- A prediction (↑ or ↓) of success or failure against the Target of 2009/10;
- Comments.

[1] CLG FRS Circular 09/2008. Best Value Performance Plans for 2007/08.

For clarity, performance indicator calculations are based on the following data which has been updated for the reporting year in line with the guidance set out by the department for Communities and Local Government (CLG):

	Figure	Source
Population of Shropshire	452600	Registrar General Mid Year June 2007.
Domestic Dwellings in Shropshire	190879	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) 2007.
Non-Domestic Dwellings in Shropshire	15357	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) 2007.

Appendix C Equality & Diversity – only limited data is available at the time of compiling this report, therefore this appendix has been left unpopulated. There is also some delay from CLG in confirming how to progress and what to report against as targets.

Data used to populate incident performance indicators has, for the first time, been derived from the CLG Incident Recording System. Reference to any significant impact has is noted within the report.

5 Performance

Performance is summarised and recorded within the following appendices:

Appendix A

2008/09 Estimated Outturn (not actual for all indicators and is unverified).

Appendix B

Equality and Diversity.

Appendix C

Resilience (Local Performance Indicators).

Appendix D

Local Attendance Standards – Life Risk Fires, Road Traffic Collisions and Water Incidents.

Appendix E

National / Local Agreements.

Appendix F

Environment (Current overall environment impact).

Appendix G

Accidents on duty and those related to sickness absence.

Appendix H

Other requested Indicators. This appendix will be used to give further analysis details where requested by either Members or Policy Group.

Appendix I

Key Financial Health Indicators.

6 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

7 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

8 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. This is a factual report based on historical statistical data, with no recommendations for change and therefore has no direct impact on people. An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has not, therefore, been completed.

9 Appendices

Appendix A 2008-09 Estimated Outturn.

Appendix B Equality and Diversity.

Appendix C Resilience (Local Performance Indicators).

Appendix D Local Attendance Standards – Life Risk Fires, Road Traffic Collisions and Water Incidents.

Appendix E National / Local Agreements.

Appendix F Environment.

Appendix G Accidents on duty and those related to sickness absence.

Appendix H Other requested Indicators.

Appendix I Key Financial Health Indicators.

10 Background Papers

Fire Service Circular 60 - 2004 (December 2004) Guidance for Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) 2005/06.

Fire Service Circular 14 - 2005 (March 2005) Revised Guidance for Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) 2005/06.

Fire and Rescue Service National Framework Documents 2005/6, 2006-08 and 2008-11.

Target Setting 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 – Strategy and Resources Committee 5 March 2009

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	*