

Decision Notice

DN 06/2020 Date 25/02/2020

2020/21 Fire Budget, Medium Term Financial Plan and Associated Papers

The Commissioner has decided to approve the 2020/21 fire and rescue budget and financial plans, based on a fire precept of 1.99%, or £1.42, for a Band D property which was supported by the Police, Fire and Crime Panel following a public consultation. This Decision Notice concludes the budget process and the papers attached to the proposal provide the detail of the financial plans for North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service for 2020/21 to 2023/24.

Background

This Decision Notice outlines the Commissioner's Fire Budget and Capital Plans for 2020/21 and the Medium Term Financial Plans to 2023/24, fulfilling the Commissioner's statutory duty to set a budget prior to the 1st March for the following financial year.

The Revenue Budget for 2020/21 is based on the approved 1.99% or £1.42 increase in precept for a Band D property for 2020/21 and sets out how the £35,261k of revenue funding to be received by the Commissioner in 2020/21 will be spent. The decision also sets out a capital programme of just over £2.35m for 2020/21 and provides details of how this will be spent.

On transfer of governance of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service the Commissioner inherited a £2.5million budget deficit. Work has now successfully concluded to identify efficiencies to address this shortfall without impacting frontline services, and with this budget the Commissioner is setting a stable medium term financial plan on which plans for future development can begin to be made.

To support this decision are the following attached papers:

- 2020-21 Budget and Capital Programme and MTFP to 2023/24 (Fire)
 - This report includes the Reserves Strategy at Appendix B
- Annual Treasury Management Strategy
 - This report includes the Annual Investment Strategy; a Minimum Revenue Provision Policy; a Capital Strategy

Decision Record

The Commissioner has decided to approve the Fire Budget and Capital Plans for 2020/21 as attached to this Decision along with the Medium Term Financial Plans to 2023/24, and agrees to the allocation of resources set out within this decision and the associated appendices, and also the detailed recommendations contained within all of the attached papers.



Julia Mulligan
Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire

Statutory Officer Advice

Legal, Management and Equality Implications

The Commissioner's Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer has advised that, having read this Decision Notice and having considered such information as has been provided at the time of being asked to express this view, he is satisfied that this DN does not ask the Commissioner to make a decision which would (or would be likely to) give rise to a contravention of the law.

Financial and Commercial

The Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer and S151 Officer has recommended that the Commissioner approves the Budget and Capital Plans for 2020/21 as attached to this Decision along with the Medium Term Financial Plans to 2023/24. In doing so the Commissioner will have set a balanced medium term financial plan and addressed the £2.5m imbalance that she inherited on the transfer of the Governance of the Fire Authority just under 18 months ago. The finances of the Fire and Rescue Authority are now in a stable position and the ambitions for the future delivery of fire and rescue services within North Yorkshire can begin to be developed.