



AGENDA ITEM: 14

NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

19 September 2016

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-17

Report by Dawn Docx, Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Interim Treasurer

Purpose of Report

- 1 To obtain approval from Members for North Wales Fire and Rescue Service's in year capital adjustments in line with project demands.

Introduction

- 2 In the past the capital programme paper to the Authority has concentrated on progress against North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's estates programme. With the completion of the Ambulance and Fire Resource Centre at Wrexham, the estates programme is nearly at an end and we are moving into the maintenance phase.
- 3 It is now timely to draw members' attention to other aspects of the capital programme.
- 4 Each year North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority approves its capital budget for the following year at its meeting in December. This budget includes capital funding not only for estates but also for the vehicle replacement programme and any large scale information communication and technology or operational equipment projects.
- 5 Part way through the year it can become apparent that the capital estimates may be inadequate or not yet required because the timescales of projects have had to change due to external factors. It is therefore prudent for the Fire and Rescue Authority to be given the opportunity to realign its capital budget by means of virements.

- 6 This report has been prepared to obtain approval for mid-year virements of capital to cover funding for the following transformational projects.

Information

- 7.1 Command and control project - the command and control system is to be replaced in preparation for the emergency services mobile communication programme (ESMCP). Initial project costs were estimated to be £600k; however, following the tender process and signing of the supplier contract, costs are in the region of £1.2m. Current capital allocated to the project is £630k. To fund part of the additional costs it is proposed to vire £477,633 from the Fleet capital programme. This figure was allocated towards funding for an aerial appliance which is not yet needed. A further injection of capital amounting to £92k will be required during the 2016-17 financial year.
- 7.2 Breathing apparatus set replacement - in 2015 the Service completed two projects ahead of schedule; the all-Wales procurement of replacement fire helmets and hose. This released capital sums of £83,613 and £18,029 respectively. It is recommended that the capital allocated against these projects is vired to the breathing apparatus set replacement programme, as the budget currently allocated to the project is insufficient.
- 7.3 Tri-service collaboration initiatives have placed extra demands on the requirement for appropriate vehicles for both the wholetime duty system (WDS) rural firefighter and the co-responding pilot. In order to support these initiatives, it is recommended that £150k be vired from the special appliance to capital provisions.

Recommendation

- 8 That Members note the contents of the report and approve the requested movements of capital funds.