

REPORT OF THE  
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority  
PART II

**237. HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY BUDGET 2012/13**

1. The Fire Authority at its meeting on 9 February 2012 approved a budget of £70.5m for 2012/13. The Authority has accepted the Government's offer of a 'Council tax Freeze' Grant, which is worth the equivalent of a 3% increase in council tax for fire authorities, and therefore the council tax remains at £61.38 for a Band D property.

2. The Authority received a small increase in formula grant for 2012/13. However, the Authority is planning for a 12.5% reduction in grant in both 2013/14 and 2014/15. The position for future capital funding remains unclear.

3. In preparation for this the Authority has added to reserves to meet a 'worst case scenario' and has agreed that both the current year's underspend and budget surplus for 2012/13 be added to the capital payments reserve.

4. Union, business and community representatives were consulted on the proposals. They understood the challenges faced in the future and were supportive of the approach being taken to address them. There were no particular concerns over the levels of council tax increases in future years (up to 2.5% p.a.).

**238. IMPACT OF THE 2012 OLYMPICS ON HAMPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

1. The Authority received an update report on the current preparations being made by Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, in partnership with other agencies and Fire and Rescue Services, to support response activity during the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Up to nine million tourists are expected to visit during the games period, and whilst the County is not hosting specific events, Hampshire is likely to be affected by:

- Traffic moving between events.
- Additional tourists looking for accommodation.
- Associated activities and team training camps.
- External requests for operational assistance.

As part of the planning within HFRS, an Olympic Working Group has been established and is meeting on a monthly basis. It has divided its preparation work for the Olympics into five main areas, namely Arrival of International Teams; Torch Relay (including culture events); Olympic Route Network; Local and Specialist

Response and Regional Response.

2. This report arises from consideration of the report to the Authority on 9 February, 2012. Further details can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm](http://www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm) by typing in the reference number:

- Update on the impact of the 2012 Olympics on Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (search item reference 3650)

### **239. JOINT WORKING IN HAMPSHIRE**

1. The Authority received an interim update report from the programme delivery board on the opportunities for joint working arrangements between Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Constabulary and Hampshire County Council. The report identifies a number of emerging opportunities and the progress on understanding the arrangements necessary to enable effective joint working. The strategic business case is to be presented to the three authorities in April, 2012 for formal consideration of the future direction of the project. This is a key milestone in terms of decision making for the project and will ensure the progress and momentum achieved to date is maintained. As the next HFRA meeting is not until 6 June, 2012, the Authority has delegated decision making in relation to the strategic business case for the joint working in Hampshire project to its Finance and General Purposes Committee.

**COUNCILLOR ADRIAN EVANS**  
**On behalf of the Chairman**