

REPORT OF THE
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority
PART II

348. DEVELOPING A COMMERCIAL APPROACH

1. The Fire Authority at its meeting on 5 December 2012 received a report of the Chief Officer exploring the opportunity to establish a more commercially focussed organisation to exploit future opportunities in the fire sector market for income generation.

2. The importance of creating financial stability for the Authority in the context of reduced grant from central government was explained. There was broad support for pursuing the options available and it was noted that more detail would become available. It was agreed that the development of a commercial organisation be progressed and the Finance and General Purposes Committee would consider this and make a recommendation to a future meeting of the Authority.

349. DRAFT BUDGET 2013/14

1. The Authority received a report of the Chief Officer and the Treasurer, regarding the draft budget for the Authority for 2013/14.

2. Members discussed the broad financial position and the impact of a Council Tax freeze grant, with reference to the hypothetical scenarios set out in the report. It was noted that a full discussion would be possible when the actual grant figures and scenarios were available.

3. The Authority agreed that the draft budget (updated to take into account the actual grant notified) be presented at the formal budget consultation meeting in January 2013. Furthermore that the final budget and council tax be set at the Authority's meeting scheduled for 14 February 2013 following the consultation.

COUNCILLOR KEITH CHAPMAN
On behalf of the Chairman of
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority

This page is left intentionally blank