



Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

MEETING	Executive Committee
DATE OF MEETING	21 September 2016
OFFICER	Mark Hemming, Deputy Director of Finance and Assets
LEAD MEMBER	Councillor Adrian Busby
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Four Year Settlement and Efficiency Plan
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>As announced last year, the Government is offering single purpose Fire and Rescue Authorities firm four-year funding allocations to 2019-20 in return for robust and transparent efficiency plans. This will provide funding certainty and stability to enable more proactive planning of service delivery and to support strategic collaboration with local partners.</p> <p>The Efficiency Plan is based heavily on the Public Safety Plan, which was compiled following significant public consultation and approved by Members at a meeting of the Fire Authority on 17 December 2014.</p> <p>The figures in the Efficiency Plan have been updated from the Medium Term Financial Plan presented to the Fire Authority on 10 February 2016 to include savings and cost pressures subsequently identified.</p> <p>Approval of the Efficiency Plan does not constitute approval of the budget. This will continue to be approved by the Fire Authority, with the budget for 2017-18 being considered at the meeting in February 2017.</p>
ACTION	Decision.
RECOMMENDATIONS	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Government's offer of a guaranteed four year settlement be accepted; and 2. the Efficiency Plan be approved.
RISK MANAGEMENT	See financial implications.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	<p>Accepting the four year settlement guarantees a minimum level of Revenue Support Grant (RSG) until 2019/20. It does not however guarantee the level of other funding streams.</p> <p>Those Fire and Rescue Authorities that choose not to accept the offer will be subject to the existing yearly</p>

	process for determining the local government finance settlement. Allocations could be subject to additional reductions dependant on the fiscal climate and the need to make further savings to reduce the deficit.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	The deadline for acceptance of the four year settlement deal is 5pm on Friday 14 October 2016.
CONSISTENCY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF COLLABORATION	No direct impact.
HEALTH AND SAFETY	No direct impact.
EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY	No direct impact.
USE OF RESOURCES	The indicative figures for RSG were factored into the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20 (see background papers).
PROVENANCE SECTION & BACKGROUND PAPERS	Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20: Report considered by the Executive Committee – 3 February 2016: http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/9214/5564/0122/ITEM_7_c_Medium_Term_Financial_Plan.compressed.pdf Revised Appendix 1 (presented to the Fire Authority – 10 February 2016): http://bucksfire.gov.uk/files/1214/5451/0771/Late_Item_Medium_Term_Financial_Plan_-_Revised_Appendix_1.pdf
APPENDICES	Appendix 1 – Efficiency Plan 2016-20
TIME REQUIRED	10 minutes.
REPORT ORIGINATOR AND CONTACT	Mark Hemming mhemming@bucksfire.gov.uk 01296 744687