



PFCC
POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX

Decision Sheet

Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

Report reference number: 110/18

(Please contact Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for a reference number)

Government security classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/Official - Sensitive):

Title of report: Reserves adjustment to the 2017-18 Accounts

Area of County/Stakeholders affected: Users of the published Accounts

Report by : Glenn McGuinness – Acting Chief Finance Officer

Date of report: 26th July 2018

Enquiries to: Glenn McGuinness

1. Purpose of report

To formally record agreement of a change to the draft Accounts for 2017-18. This to the reverse an entry to reduce earmarked reserves by £1.2m to fund additional capital financing charges.

2. Recommendations

a. That an entry in the draft accounts for 2017-18 to release £1.2m from earmarked reserves to fund additional capital financing charges be reversed.

b. A revised set of Accounts then be prepared and agreed with our external auditors for publication by 31st July 2018.

3. Benefits and Costs of Proposal

The Fire and Rescue Service is in the process of formulating an initial reserves strategy for publication. In addition, the strategic position on reserves will become much clearer once we have completed The Fire and Rescue Plan and financial projections 2020 to 2024.

Any decisions on the use of reserves are better dealt with as part of our medium term planning 2020 to 2024 when we will be better informed on future reserves strategy.

4. Background and proposal

The original proposal to release £1.2m from earmarked reserves to fund additional contributions to capital financing was made last year, since that time the net expenditure outturn for 2017-18 was better than forecast. In addition, we are currently reviewing our reserves strategy and will have a much clearer view on reserves once we have completed the Fire and Rescue Plan and financial projections 2020-2024.

For these reasons the release of £1.2m from reserves has been subject to further consideration resulting in a recommendation to reverse the treatment in the draft Accounts and reinstate earmarked reserves of £1.2m.

5. Strategic Priorities

This recommendation will ensure that any decision on reserves is properly aligned to the Fire and Rescue plan 2020 to 2024 and also our published reserves strategy.

6. Operational Implications

There are no operational implications.

7. Financial Implications

Dealt with above.

8. Legal Implications

None

9. Staffing and other resource implications

None

10. Equality and Diversity implications

None.

11. Risks

None

12. Governance Boards

This matter was discussed at a meeting of the Audit Committee on 6th July 2018 under the agenda item for the presentation of the draft Accounts for 2017-18.

At this meeting it was agreed that the accounting treatment relating to the release of £1.2m from earmarked reserves to fund additional capital financing charges would be reviewed.

13. Background papers

Draft Accounts for 2017-18 as presented to the audit committee.

Decision Process

Step 1A - Chief Fire Officer Comments

(The Chief Fire Officer is asked in their capacity as the Head of Paid Service to comment on the proposal.)

I am content with the report and approve the recommendations.

Sign:  26 July 2018

Step 1B – Consultation with representative bodies

(The Chief Fire Officer is to set out the consultation that has been undertaken with the representative bodies)

Step 2 - Statutory Officer Review

The report will be reviewed by the Essex Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority's ("the Commissioner") Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer prior to review and sign off by the Commissioner or their Deputy.

Monitoring Officer

Sign: ...

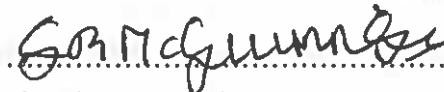


Print: ...David Lawson.....

Date: 26th June 2018.....

Chief Financial Officer

Sign: ...



Print: GLENW McGUINNESS

Step 3 - Publication

Is the report for publication? YES/NO

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (*state 'none' if applicable*)

.....
.....

If the report is not for publication, the Monitoring Officer will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Step 4 - Redaction

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1 Of Decision Sheet YES/NO

2 Of Appendix YES/NO

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

.....
.....

Date redaction carried out:

If redaction is required, the Chief Financial Officer or the Monitoring Officer are to sign off that redaction has been completed.

Sign:

Print:

Date signed:

Step 5 - Decision by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign: 

Print: R. C. HESTY

Date signed: 26/7/18

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

.....
.....

Sign:

Print:

Date signed: