



DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	DSFRA/13/22
MEETING	DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY
DATE OF MEETING	19 DECEMBER 2013
SUBJECT OF REPORT	“NEW DIMENSIONS” CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
LEAD OFFICER	Chief Fire Officer and Treasurer to the Authority
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the Authority’s approved Capital Programme 2013-14 be enhanced by £355,000 (to be met from dedicated New Dimensions grant funding provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government) to facilitate expenditure on national resilience assets as indicated in the table shown at paragraph of this report.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This paper seeks approval to utilise £355,000 from earmarked reserves to enhance the Authority’s approved Capital Programme 2013-14 to facilitate expenditure on national resilience assets.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	As indicated in the report.
EQUALITY RISKS AND BENEFITS ANALYSIS (ERBA)	N/A
APPENDICES	Nil.
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	Nil.

1. NEW DIMENSIONS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

1.1 In previous financial years the Authority has approved any unutilised specific grants received from the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) for National Resilience (“New Dimensions”) assets being carried forward to an ear-marked reserve for this purpose. At the end of 2012/13, this earmarked reserve stood at some £0.428m.

1.2 It is now proposed to utilise £0.355m of this earmarked reserve to enhance the Authority’s approved Capital Programme 2013-14 so as to fund capital expenditure on the Service Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability which in turn forms part of National Resilience (“New Dimensions”) assets. The areas of capital expenditure are identified in the table below and are designed to mitigate future risk within each area:

Project	Description	£m
Lecture room at Station 60 USAR	Facility to provide multiple training events to meet nationally agreed Key Performance Indicators.	0.140
Trench Training System	To enable the USAR team to maintain key skills and utilise equipment provided by CLG	0.015
Gantry and Line Training System	The proposed system will enhance local capability to work at height	0.040
Roller Shutter doors	To meet CLG audit requirements to keep National Resilience assets secure and protected from the elements	0.060
Water and Flood Rescue Equipment	Procurement of a fleet of powered boats/flood rescue platforms to respond to the increased risk of flooding	0.100
	Total Proposed enhancement to Capital Programme	0.355

1.3 By utilising the earmarked reserve the above projects can be delivered at no additional cost to the Authority, the purpose being consistent with that for which the grant funding was initially provided by CLG.

LEE HOWELL
Chief Fire Officer

KEVIN WOODWARD
Treasurer