

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

(Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority)

3 October 2008

Present:-

Councillors Fry, Gordon (Chairman), Healey, Way and Yeomans

Apologies:-

Councillors B. Hughes and Lewis

***RC/8. Minutes**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2008 be signed as a correct record.

***RC/9. Declarations of Interest**

Members of the Committee were invited to declare any personal/personal and prejudicial interests they may have in any item(s) to be considered at the current meeting in accordance with the Authority's approved Code of Conduct.

No interests were declared.

RC/10. Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2008/09

The Committee considered a report of the Treasurer and Head of Financial Management (RC/08/7) that set out projections of income and expenditure for the first five months of the financial year against the approved Revenue Budget for 2008/09 and which detailed any significant variations against individual lines.

At this stage it was projected that spending would be £0.703m (0.99%) less than the approved revenue budget, largely accounted for by underspends on the wholetime salary budget (planned to facilitate the introduction of dual crewing of aerial appliances; the reduction in Area Managers; and also because of higher than expected retirements), retained pay costs and non-uniformed pay. The report also indicated overspends on transport related costs (arising from increases in fuel costs and insurance premiums) and equipment and furniture costs (relating to additional training consumables), although the latter overspend would be more than off-set by additional training income generated from external organisations.

Some £0.246m less than was originally budgeted for to cover debt charges in 2008/09 was predicted arising from slippage in the approved capital programme.

Given the current indicative position, the report proposed:-

- (a) that the sum of £0.153m approved for transfer from the General Reserve to assist in setting a balanced budget for 2008/09 be retained in the General Reserve; and

- (b) that, in accordance with Financial Regulations, the Committee approve the virement of £60,000 from wholetime pay costs to the equipment and furniture budget line to accelerate purchase of technical rescue and personal protective equipment (PPE) required to enhance the technical rescue (including water and rope rescue) capability.

RESOLVED

- (a) That, in light of the indicative underspend position, the Authority be recommended to retain in its General Reserve the sum of £0.153 initially approved as a contribution to help in the setting of a balanced budget for 2008/09;
- (c) That, in accordance with Financial Regulations, the virement of £60,000 from the wholetime pay budget line to the equipment and furniture budget line to enable accelerated purchase of technical rescue and personal protective equipment (PPE), be approved;
- (c) that, subject to (a) and (b) above, the report be noted.

***RC/11. Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2008/09 To 2010/11**

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Physical Assets (RC/08/8) proposing a revised capital programme for 2008/09 to 2010/11 to reflect changes in the spending profile of individual schemes initially approved by the Authority. The revised programme did not increase the overall programme and had no adverse impact on the Authority's borrowing requirement or prudential indicators.

The programme had been revised in light of actual capital spend for 2007/08 (rather than estimated spend on which it had initially been based) and also to reflect that certain projects were now further advanced enabling a more accurate forecast of spend in the current financial year.

RESOLVED that the revised capital programme 2008/2009 to 2010/2011, as set out in the Appendix to these Minutes, be approved.

The meeting started at 10.00hours and finished at 11.05hours.

**APPENDIX TO THE MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3
OCTOBER 2008**

Revised Capital Programme (2008/09 - 2010/11)

| PREV YEARS (£000) | 2007/08 (£000) | PROJECT | 2008/09 (£000) | 2009/10 (£000) | 2010/11 (£000) | Project Total incl. prev years (£000) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | |
| | | <u>Estate Development</u> | | | | |
| 52 | 609 | Exeter Middlemoor | 1,450 | 1,841 | 150 | 4,102 |
| | 61 | Exeter Danes Castle | 864 | 2,015 | 103 | 3,043 |
| | 1,019 | SHQ building | 449 | | | 1,468 |
| | 1,310 | USAR Project | 20 | | | 1,330 |
| | | Maintenance ring fenced | 714 | 714 | 714 | 2,142 |
| | | 2007/08 slippage | 525 | | | 525 |
| | | 2006/07 slippage | 99 | | | 99 |
| | | Estates 2008 - 2010 Sub Total | 4,121 | 4,570 | 967 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | <u>Fleet & Equipment</u> | | | | |
| | | Appliance replacement | 1,760 | 1,950 | | 3,710 |
| | | Specialist Operational Vehicles | 200 | 368 | | 568 |
| | | Equipment | 309 | 309 | 309 | 927 |
| | | BA cylinder replacement | 170 | | | 170 |
| | 26 | Asset Management Plan (Miquest) software | 100 | 99 | | 225 |
| | | 2007/08 slippage | 234 | | | 234 |
| | | 2006/07 slippage | 166 | | | 166 |
| | | Fleet & Equipment 2008 - 2010 Sub Total | 2,939 | 2,726 | 309 | |
| | | Overall Capital 2008 - 2010 Totals | 7,060 | 7,296 | 1,276 | |