

Portfolio Holder Community Safety Decision to be taken on or after 16 December 2011

Use of Fire Capital Grant 2011/12

Recommendation

- (1) That the Portfolio Holder Community Safety agrees the use of the Fire Capital Grant received from DCLG in 2011/12 for the purposes set out in this report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Through the Spending Review, £70m capital grant funding was allocated to Fire and Rescue Authorities in England for 2011/12.
- 1.2 Using a pro-rata distribution, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Authority received £989,808 as set out in the Fire and Rescue Authorities Capital Funding Grant Determination 2011/12 (No. 31/1867). The grant conditions state that the grant may be used “only for the purposes that a capital receipt may be used for in accordance with the regulations under section 11 of the Local Government Act 2003.” This means that the grant can be spent on any type of capital expenditure.
- 1.3 Council agreed the use of the grant by Fire and Rescue on the 29th March 2011 following consideration of the 2011/12 Service Estimates Report and therefore the grant is already within the Fire and Rescue capital programme.
- 1.4 This report sets out Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Services proposals for the allocation of this funding across a number of capital projects and seeks Portfolio Holder approval for them.

2.0 Proposed Use of the Fire Capital Grant 2011/12.

- 2.1 The proposed use of the grant relates mainly to improvements across a number of fire stations which will address health and safety, training / operational fitness and community access issues. In addition some of the grant will be used to purchase new specialist equipment and a new system for managing and tracking all equipment across the service to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The proposals are summarised in table 1, over the page.

Table 1: Proposed Use of the Fire Capital Grant

Description		Amount (£)
Rugby Fire Station	Health and Safety improvements: Provision of a dry suit / water equipment drying facility and store; improved facilities for the maintenance, servicing and cleaning of breathing apparatus. General Improvements to station command, office and fitness facilities and also station security.	84,451
Coleshill Fire Station	Health and Safety improvements: Improved facilities for the maintenance, servicing and cleaning of breathing apparatus. Improvements to training provision , including a lecture room and fitness facility. Improved Community Access: alterations to enable community access to meeting rooms, including disabled access.	48,499
Fenny Compton Fire Station	Health and Safety improvements: Provision of a dedicated breathing apparatus maintenance room.	36,290
Bidford, Shipston & Stratford Fire Stations	Improved Community Access , including disabled access at Shipston fire station. Health and Safety Improvements: Improved facilities for the maintenance, servicing and cleaning of breathing apparatus; new bay doors at front and rear of Bidford fire station. Improved training facilities at Stratford fire station, including better equipment storage.	78,347
Nuneaton & Atherstone Fire Stations	Health and Safety improvements: Improved facilities for the maintenance, servicing and cleaning of breathing apparatus. Improvements to training facilities , including the drill tower and the provision of facilities to enable ladder / working at height training and breathing apparatus training. Improved facilities for Young Firefighters. Improved Station Command Facilities , including possible community access.	61,717
Leamington Fire Station	Health and Safety Improvements: provision of a drying room for personal protective equipment.	16,408
Wellsbourne, Southam, Henley, Polesworth, and Bedworth Fire Stations	Health and Safety Improvements: facilities for the maintenance, servicing and cleaning of breathing apparatus.	72,241
Transport Department	Construction of a light industrial fabricated building to allow safety inspections and minor repairs to be carried out as well as providing secure storage for appliances.	122,098
Portable Specialist Fire Fighting Equipment.	Portable specialist firefighting equipment to meet the operational needs of a surface tank fire at Kingsbury Oil Terminal	108,150
Equipment on Fire Appliances	New high specification equipment across 22 fire appliances	145,000
Technical Support	Upgrade of Service Equipment Management System	60,000
	Fees and Contingency	156,607
	Grand Total	989,808

3.0 Timescales

- 3.1 Once the capital programme is agreed by the Portfolio Holder Community Safety, most of the schemes will start immediately and the intention is that the whole programme will be completed by March 2013.

Background Papers

1. Fire and Rescue Authorities Capital Funding Grant Determination 2011/12 (No. 31/1867).
2. 2011/12 Service Estimates. Council 29th March 2011.

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