

TRANSITION FUND UPDATE



PRESENTED TO: **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

DATE OF MEETING: **28 SEPTEMBER 2016**

OFFICER PRESENTING REPORT: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT;
CONOR BYRNE**

1. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of bids which have been approved from the Transition fund and expenditure to the end of quarter 1 of 2016/17.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee **NOTE** the report.

3. BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 As part of the 2015/16 Budget, the Fire Authority approved the setting up of a £2 million Transition Fund in order to redesign the service to achieve the new strategic direction and balance the budget in the medium term.

3.2 Categories of possible expenditure include:

- Additional temporary staff to manage and deliver projects
- Redundancies
- Leadership programme
- Investment in collaborative initiatives, such as co-responding
- Investment to generate income, including the new trading company
- Investment in areas related to the new policy direction, such as purchasing equipment, training etc
- Pump-priming new initiatives that will be funded by commissioning bodies in the longer-term

3.3 Each bid for transition funding has been considered by the Corporate Management Team (CMT). Bid submissions and CMT's approval decisions are shown in **Appendix A**.

3.4 It should be noted that some bids have been rejected by CMT as not suitable for financing from the transition fund, as they do not meet the required criteria. Where the proposed project was nevertheless felt to be of value, funding from existing budgets has been approved instead.

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL, RISK MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with the assurance that expenditure from the Transition Fund is only being spent with a view to achieving the new strategic direction.

5. COMPLIANCE WITH STANDING ORDERS / FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

5.1 This report complies with the requirements.

6. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS

6.1 Commitment 5 – We will ensure that Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service provides good value for money.

7. ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE PARTNERSHIP FOR COMMON SENSE

7.1 No direct implications.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Fire Authority, 23 February 2015

9. COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS

9.1 Chief Fire Officer

The Chief Fire Officer was consulted during the preparation of this report.

9.2 Head of Finance and Procurement

Report author.

9.3 Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer was consulted during the preparation of this report.

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Date of Report: 16 September 2016