

THAMES VALLEY FIRE CONTROL SERVICE



SUBJECT	TVFCS COST APPORTIONMENT REVIEW
PRESENTED TO:	TVFCS JOINT COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	MONDAY 8TH JULY 2024
LEAD OFFICER	AREA MANAGER JIM POWELL
EXEMPT INFORMATION	NONE
ACTION	TO NOTE

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides detail to the Joint Committee on the review of cost apportionment specified in the TVFCS Steady State Legal Agreement and sets out the suggested apportionment for each FRS following the review.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee **NOTE** the revised cost apportionment figures, shown in the table in section 3.9, which will be applied to the TVFCS 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28 Revenue budgets.

3. REPORT

- 3.1 The TVFCS Steady State Legal Agreement sets out an apportionment model to be used to determine the percentage of the TVFCS Revenue budget paid by each FRS.
- 3.2 The TVFCS Steady State Legal Agreement states in Schedule 8 Paragraph 2.1 that the Cost Apportionment Model be reviewed.

- As soon as practicable after each third anniversary of 31 March 2014 (with the first review occurring on 31 March 2017); and

- At any time when reasonably requested by two or more of the Fire Authorities

Schedule 8 Paragraph 2.2 states that, upon a review pursuant to paragraph 2.1, the Cost Apportionment Model shall be revised to reflect the average figures for Population, Tax Base and Incidents attended over the preceding three completed financial years.

- 3.3 It was previously agreed by the Joint Committee that, due to the delay in the original 'Go Live' date of TVFCS, the first review of the Cost Apportionment Model be delayed until after the 3rd Anniversary of the TVFCS 'Go Live', with the initial review occurring in March 2018. Subsequent reviews take place on the third anniversary of that date.
- 3.4 TVFCS went 'Live' on 21st April 2015. The levels of cost apportionment were first reviewed in 2018 and then again in 2021. A revised cost apportionment breakdown was agreed by the TVFCS Joint Committee in July 2021 and applied to the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 revenue budgets. The apportionment of cost during this period and data used to calculate the 2021 breakdown are shown below.

Steady State Cost Apportionment Model Data for 2018/19 to 2020/21 (Mean average for each element across period)								
	RBFA		OCC		BMKFA		Total	
		%		%		%		%
Population	914,675	37.8%	692,024	28.6%	813,120	33.6%	2,419,818	100%
Tax Base	£347,752	38.4%	£251,460	27.8%	£305,541	33.8%	£860,343	100%
Incidents Attended	7309	34.7%	5932	28.2%	7824	37.1%	21,735	100%
Average % (population tax base & incidents attended)		37.0%		28.2%		34.8%		100.0%

- 3.5 For the purpose of reviewing the current levels of cost apportionment, tax base and incident data for the full financial years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/2024 has been used.

- 3.6 Population data for the relevant years is taken from information published by the Office for National Statistics (Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland).
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalescotlandandnorthernireland>
- 3.7 Information relating to the numbers of incidents attended has been provided by the Thames Valley Data Group, which is made up of staff from each FRS who are responsible for the production of performance data. The data used is derived from the national Incident Reporting System (IRS) which is used by the Home Office to produce incident statistics.
- 3.8 Information on Tax base is provided to each FRS by its precepting Local Authorities.
- 3.9 The table below shows the relevant figures and the final percentage cost apportionment for each of the Thames Valley FRS.

Steady State Cost Apportionment Model Data for 2021/22 to 2023/24 (Mean average for each element across period)								
	RBFA		OCC		BMKFA		Total	
		%		%		%		%
Population	955,190	37.5%	737,108	29.0%	852,542	33.5%	2,544,840	100%
Tax Base	£358,114	38.2%	£264,107	28.2%	£315,079	33.6%	£937,300	100%
Incidents Attended	7824	36.7%	6250	29.3%	7257	34.0%	21,331	100%
Average % (population tax base & incidents attended)		37.5%		28.8%		33.7%		100.0%

A breakdown of figures on an annual basis is included as **Appendix A**

4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE TVFCS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

- 4.1 This report complies with Schedule 8 of the Thames Valley Fire Control Service Steady State Legal Agreement (Cost Apportionment Model) Schedule 8 Paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The revised cost apportionment figure contained within this report will have implications to the individual FRS with regard to the funding of the TVFCS Revenue budget for three financial years.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None.

9. PRINCIPAL CONSULTATION

- 9.1 TVFCS Joint Coordination Group
- 9.2 Thames Valley Data Group
- 9.3 Thames Valley FRS finance leads

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None.

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix A – Cost Apportionment breakdown by year.
- 11.2 Appendix B – Forecast Revenue Budget from Medium Term Financial Plan

12. CONTACT DETAILS

- 12.1 GM Simon Harris – Head of TVFCS