



Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH
FIRE AUTHORITY
Working together to improve community safety

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority is responsible for providing an efficient and effective fire and rescue service. It does this through:

- Agreeing a dynamic annual plan, incorporating proposals in the service improvement plan, which is matched with an annual budget.
- Monitoring and reviewing performance and spending against its plans.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service was rated by government assessors as a 'good' service which is consistently improving. For the last three years it has also been rated 'good' for value for money and it is one of the lowest financing fire and rescue services in the country.

Background

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to embrace major change in order to further improve the service it provides. Some of the issues being progressed by the authority are:

- Continuing improvement and focus in the delivery of community safety.
- Collaborative regional working, for example, on joint control rooms; procurement, firefighter recruitment, financial systems and firefighter training, in order to deliver a more cost effective and efficient service.
- Implementation of the authority's service improvement plan.

This is in addition to continuing to provide an emergency response to fires, road traffic collisions and other incidents.

Priorities for 2009/10

The fire authority's five year plan is the primary means by which these changes will be achieved, ensuring improved efficiency and services, and saving more lives. The scheduled improvement projects and objectives for 2009/10 have been considered when preparing the 2009/10 budget forecasts.

Budget

The fire authority has proposed a budget requirement of £29.174 million for 2009/10. The Band D council tax has been set at £56.34 a year. The increase is £1.89 over that set for 2008/09, equivalent to four pence a week. The proposed budget will ensure that all of the authority's responsibilities can continue to be satisfied. A medium term financial plan has been prepared for 2009/10 to 2012/13.

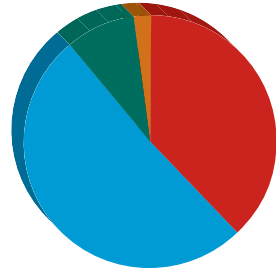
These increases will address inflation costs but will also allow the authority to deliver an even better fire and rescue service to the communities it serves by:

- Continuing to improve community safety and engagement activity, especially in areas where higher numbers of fires occur or in areas with a higher proportion of people who are most at risk of fire such as the elderly and vulnerable.
- Improving the service's information technology to ensure that its systems can cope with the increasing utilisation of IT in a modern fire and rescue service.
- Increasing the service's training and development capability to ensure that it is best positioned to respond safely and effectively to a major incident like those that have been experienced across the country in recent years.



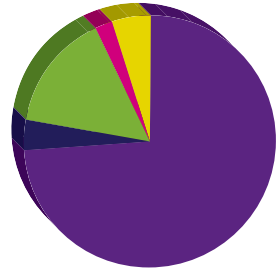
Where the money comes from

Business Rates	11,296	38%
Council Tax	15,196	51%
Revenue Support Grant	2,607	9%
Other Income	496	2%



What the money is spent on

Employees	22,002	74%
Premises	1,150	4%
Supplies and Services	4,423	15%
Transport	642	2%
Capital Financing	1,378	5%



Capital spending

The fire authority's capital programme includes:

- the purchase of fire appliances and other operational vehicles
- property maintenance and improvements
- operational equipment
- information technology and communications equipment

Reserves

The fire authority will have estimated general reserves of £1.675 million (5.7 per cent of net budget) at the end of 2008/09, to fund excessive operational costs that might arise from extreme weather conditions, to mitigate against business continuity events (e.g. pandemic flu) and the potential expenditure associated with the planned upgrade of the authority's property portfolio.

Information

You can see copies of the fire authority's corporate plan and service improvement plan on its website www.cambsfire.gov.uk

Contacts

If you need more information about the fire authority, please contact:

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