

# Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority



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

- agreeing a strategic plan and annual budget, and
- monitoring and reviewing performance and spending against its plans.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service was rated by external assessors as a 'good' service and, as one of the lowest financing fire and rescue services in the country, it provides good value for money.

## Background

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to embrace major change at the present time. Some of the major issues being faced by the Authority are:

- continuing improvement and focus in the delivery of community safety
- collaborative regional working on, for example, joint control rooms, procurement, firefighter recruitment, fleet management 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 2007/08

The Fire Authority's Service Improvement Plan is the primary means by which these changes will be achieved, ensuring improved efficiency and services, and saving more lives. The proposed recommendations of the Authority's Service Improvement Plan for 2007/08 have been considered when preparing the 2007/08 budget forecasts.

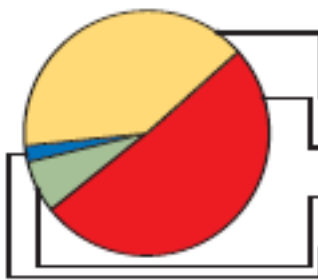
## Budget

The Fire Authority has approved a budget requirement of £26.255 million for 2007/08. The band D council tax has been set at £52.38 a year. The increase is £1.98 over that set for 2006/07, equivalent to 4p 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 2008/09 to 2011/12.

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

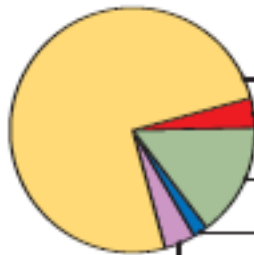
- continuing to improve fire prevention activity, especially in areas of high fire activity or with people most at risk of fire such as the elderly and vulnerable
- increasing the Service's rescue capacity by ensuring fire engines have the best equipment to deal with incidents such

### Where the money comes from



Business Rates	£10.65m	40%
Council Tax	£13.81m	51%
Revenue Support Grant	£1.79m	7%
Other Income	£0.49m	2%

### What the money is spent on



Employees	£19.97m	75%
Premises	£0.99m	4%
Supplies and Services	£4.13m	15%
Transport	£0.59m	2%
Capital Financing	£1.06m	4%

as road traffic collisions, including those involving heavy goods vehicles

- continuing to bring its fire stations up to modern-day standards, ensuring they are accessible to everyone in the community.

### Capital spending

The Fire Authority's Capital Programme includes:

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

### Reserves

The Fire Authority will have estimated general reserves of £1.57 million (6% of net budget) at the end of 2006/07, to fund excessive operational costs that might arise from extreme weather conditions, to mitigate against the threats of trade disputes 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 Integrated Risk Management Plan on our website visit [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk). You can also pick up hard copies from our headquarters.

### Contacts

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