

LEICESTERSHIRE

FIRE and RESCUE SERVICE

Status of Report: Public Agenda Item: 11

Meeting: Policy Committee
Date: 5th November 2014
Subject: Fire Transformation Fund 2015/16: Outcome of the Competitive Bid Process
Report by: The Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
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For: Discussion

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Policy Committee of the outcome of the competitive bid process for the Fire Transformation Fund 2015/16.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Combined Fire Authority's (CFA) small lot bid for £1.24 million was unsuccessful. The bid sought £1.24m to redevelop Wigston Fire Station to better match community needs as identified in the current Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) consultation together with the introduction of the Day Crewing Plus Duty System. According to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) the bid scored less than successful bids in a strongly contested bidding process.
- 2.2 The CFA were a named partner in a syndicate bid led by Essex Fire Authority and the joint bid for £220,000 was successful. The CFA has been a longstanding partner in a consortium with eight other fire and rescue authorities in collaborating on insurance matters. The consortium has been awarded £220,000 to establish an insurance pooling arrangement open to all fire and rescue authorities (FRAs) with additional secondary insurance to cover extreme events.

3. Report Detail

- 3.1 The Fire Transformation Fund for 2015/16 was created by DCLG from top sliced funds to deliver the types of transformative change identified by the Government in its Spending Round 2013 document, as well as opportunities identified by Sir Ken Knight in his independent review of efficiencies in the Fire and Rescue sector. DCLG has published a list of the winning bids on their website. This list is attached as **the Appendix**. Neither Nottinghamshire nor Lincolnshire had a winning bid.

- 3.2 The successful bids mainly focus on collaborations between FRAs and other emergency services providers. In particular Members should note the successful bid from Derbyshire of £1.5m for a project to build a new joint police and fire headquarters enabling shared support services and improved partnership working benefiting their local community.
- 3.3 Northamptonshire were successful in two bids. They will receive £0.88m for a collaboration project to replace the current fire service incident command unit vehicle with a purpose built vehicle jointly crewed by police and fire staff which they believe will lead to operational efficiencies and additional protection and prevention benefits from use for community engagement. In addition, they also receive £2.28m for a project to purchase joint rural response units (Police / Fire), improving visibility and accessibility within local communities. Expanding on-call arrangements to include Police Specials and volunteers and maximising new technology to provide a more efficient delivery model.
- 3.4 Lancashire received £0.57m for a project to convert a fire station to Day Crewing Plus by providing an on-site accommodation block - "This will enable a voluntary shift to this standby cover model, which will deliver revenue savings while protecting frontline services through this more efficient crewing arrangement." This bid is very similar to the CFA's main bid and the reasoning behind its acceptance and our rejection is being questioned with DCLG. An update on this challenge will be provided to the Policy Committee when it meets.
- 3.5 The insurance consortium continues to make steady progress in the establishment of a "pool" from 1st November 2015. A procurement exercise for a pool manager led by Devon and Somerset is currently out for tender and will be evaluated in November. The Director of Finance and Corporate Services is fully involved in this process and will serve as an initial Director of the Company appointed to administer the pool.

4. Report Implications / Impact

4.1 *Legal (including crime and disorder)*

None.

4.2 *Financial (including value for money, benefits and efficiencies)*

Payments of funds are expected to be made early in the 2015/16 financial year. As the funds are a key plank of the support which Government is giving to FRAs to help them drive efficiencies and transformation change, DCLG will want to judge the effectiveness of the funding and also to encourage project progress. DCLG would therefore welcome an update on project progress at six monthly intervals. Essex will receive the funding on behalf of the consortium and lead on the provision of progress reports.

4.3 *Risk (including corporate and operational, health and safety and any impact on the continuity of service delivery)*

The current Medium Term Financial Plan had assumed no Transformation Funding and is therefore not affected by this announcement. However, a successful bid would have had a positive effect on the funding of the capital programme and would have assisted towards reducing the outstanding deficit of £1,767,508 identified in the Organisational Change Project reported to the CFA on 25th September 2014.

4.4 ***Staff, Service Users and Stakeholders (including the Equality Impact Assessment)***

None.

4.5 ***Environmental***

None.

4.6 ***Impact upon Our Plan Objectives***

It is important to ensure that the budget set by the CFA reflects and enables progress to be made against the CFA's corporate objectives. The MTFP for 2014/17 reflects the CFA's strategic plan, "Our Plan". It also reflects national and regional strategies and policies.

5. **Recommendations**

The Policy Committee is asked to note this report.

6. **Background Papers**

- a) Letter from Penny Mordaunt MP (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State) to Councillor Stephen Corral (Chair of the CFA) dated 17th October 2014
- b) Medium Term Financial Plan 2014/17 (Policy Committee Report - 5th March 2014)
- c) Insurance Pooling (CFA Report - 11th December 2013)

7. **Appendix**

Transformation Fund – list of successful bids

Transformation Fund - Annex A

Fire and Rescue Authority	Bid Description	Award *
Avon Fire	Project to merge two fire stations into a one. Will produce ongoing efficiencies while maintaining fire cover and improving community safety provision to the public.	£1.05 M
Bedfordshire Fire	Project to deliver a more efficient and robust on-call service to meet the changing needs of the local community and service.	£0.31 M
Buckinghamshire Fire	Project to merge two fire stations and a police site into a modern joint facility. Will enable improved operational and support function collaboration.	£2.84 M
Cambridgeshire Fire	A collaborative project with both Bedfordshire and Devon and Somerset fire and rescue authorities to further develop a web cloud ready service for on-call firefighter recruitment.	£1.45 M
Cheshire Fire	To fund a safety and life-skills centre to educate those most at risk of accidental death or injury, focusing on prevention and protection as an efficient use of fire service resource to benefit the local community.	£1.95 M
Cleveland Fire	Delivering efficiencies and protecting front line service delivery via building two new community fire stations while improving crewing arrangements with recruitment of 48 on-call firefighters.	£2.80 M
Cumbria	This collaborative project will deliver a new Fire, Ambulance and Police centre in Ulverston, including Library Services and council office facilities to maximise community engagement potential. In addition a separate accommodation block will enable a day-crew plus system delivering revenue savings while protecting frontline services through a more efficient crewing arrangement.	£4.68 M
Derbyshire Fire	Project to build a new joint police and fire headquarters enabling shared support services and improved partnership working benefiting the local community.	£1.50 M
Devon & Somerset Fire	A project with both Kent and Essex fire and rescue authorities to establish a procurement hub leading towards a national procurement capability for the sector.	£0.37 M
Durham Fire	This collaborative project will build joint emergency services stations at Barnard Castle and Durham City. Barnard Castle will also house the local Mountain Rescue Team making the shared site the first "Quad-Service" in the country.	£3.78 M
Essex Fire	Essex leads a syndicate of nine fire and rescue authorities establishing an insurance pooling arrangement open to all fire and rescue authorities with additional secondary insurance to cover extreme events. Efficiencies will be achieved via reduced insurance costs, whilst continuing to maintain a robust approach to risk management.	£0.22 M
Greater Manchester	A police, fire and ambulance prevention and protection collaboration to create multi-functional teams via an on-call payment model targeting significant demand factors that impact across all three services, improving quality of life outcomes for individuals and the	£3.73 M
Greater Manchester	A collaborative protection and prevention project including Salford city council, creating prevention hubs delivering bespoke support for young people, via evidence-based interventions to improve quality of life outcomes for individuals and the community.	£0.49 M
Hampshire Fire	The provision of a new joint police and fire service headquarters; plus police co-location at fire stations and progression of fleet maintenance partnerships, enabling both efficiencies and closer collaboration.	£2.60 M
Hampshire Fire	Project to transform the way on call services are delivered by using smaller early intervention vehicles to provide more efficient use of resources, while collaborating with ambulance services to attend more medical emergencies	£1.39 M
Hereford & Worcester Fire	Project will merge existing stations into a new fire station, rationalising the estate while maintaining service level. Develop joint community safety initiatives with the police, enhance prevention and protection, establish a co-responding pilot with the ambulance service, provide support to water related incident volunteers and develop Red Cross relations.	£2.38 M
Hereford & Worcester Fire	Project to co-locate the headquarters functions of both police and fire services via an extension to the existing West Mercia Police headquarters to achieve back office efficiencies.	£1.89 M
Hertfordshire	Collaboration project with county council services to re-locate library services in four Hertfordshire villages to on-call fire stations, with resultant joint-use rationalisation efficiencies whilst establishing a community friendly platform for prevention and protection service delivery.	£0.70 M
Kent Fire	Kent will lead a syndicate, with West Sussex and West Yorkshire to upgrade the existing National Fire Service Emergency Cover Toolkit to a modern, fit for purpose risk modelling toolkit. This sector led project in collaboration with Chief Fire Officers' Association will enable the toolkit to continue to provide an enabler for change.	£0.35 M
Lancashire Fire	A project to convert a fire station to Day Crewing Plus by providing an on-site accommodation block. This will enable a voluntary shift to this standby cover model, which will deliver revenue savings while protecting frontline services through this more efficient crewing arrangement.	£0.57 M
Lancashire Fire	A blue light collaboration project to co-locate fire and ambulance services at a new fire station, with resultant joint-use efficiencies whilst maintaining fire cover response standards and providing an opportunity to develop a co-responding scheme with the ambulance service.	£2.44 M
London Fire	A collaborative project to implement data transfer between fire, ambulance and police control rooms to support joint incidents. This will raise the efficiency of resolving incidents and forms part of a long term strategy to increase London fire's ability to collaborate with its police and ambulance delivery partners.	£0.76 M

Transformation Fund - Annex A

Merseyside Fire	This project merges existing stations into three new efficient fire stations, while protecting front line services by the introduction of on-call arrangements at the three new sites. In addition the new sites will be shared with police and ambulance services enabling further efficiencies and service collaboration.	£4.47 M
North Yorkshire Fire	To build a new efficient and more effective transport and logistics facility as a local invest to save opportunity, with longer term potential to increase existing blue light back-office transport services collaboration.	£2.42 M
Northamptonshire	A collaboration project to replace the current fire service incident command unit vehicle with a purpose built vehicle jointly crewed by police and fire staff; will lead to operational efficiencies and additional protection and prevention benefits from use for community engagement.	£0.88 M
Northamptonshire	A project to purchase joint rural response units (Police/ Fire), improving visibility and accessibility within local communities. Expanding on-call arrangements to include Police Specials and volunteers and maximising new technology to provide more efficient delivery model.	£2.28 M
Northumberland	Relocating Hexham Fire station to Hexham Hospital by converting and extending an existing building, to provide ongoing efficiencies, whilst improving operational response to the local community and closer working with the ambulance service. In addition the project will include residence facilities for doctors providing on-call emergency cover at the hospital.	£0.91 M
Oxfordshire	A project with both Lincolnshire and Devon and Somerset fire and rescue authorities to recruit and train 50 on-call fire fighters to improve protection and prevention and emergency intervention to local communities.	£0.56 M
South Yorkshire Fire	Co-locating fire and police stations in Maltby with resultant efficiencies, improved community safety, and strengthened blue light service relationships.	£0.56 M
Staffordshire Fire	A collaborative project to build a new fire station operationally shared with ambulance services, combined with a life-skills centre to act as a focal point for multi-agency engagement in respect of protection and preventative programmes.	£3.96 M
Staffordshire Fire	The creation of a tri-service neighbourhood centre in the site of the existing fire station with specific space for each service plus a shared service area. The project will enhance the effectiveness and integrated nature of the local emergency services provision whilst delivering cash and organisational benefits for each of their service partners.	£1.18 M
Suffolk	Co-locating with a mixture of police, county council and ambulance services across seven building projects with resultant shared use efficiencies. The programme will bring the number of blue light shared fire stations to 12 out of a total of 35 fire and rescue service	£4.94 M
Surrey	A collaboration with the ambulance service to provide clinical and trauma training for all front line fire fighters and publicly accessible defibrillators at all Surrey fire stations, developing a scheme that can be adopted nationwide.	£0.34 M
Surrey	A project spanning Surrey and Sussex fire, police and ambulance services to deliver efficient provision and management of transport functions. This transformational project will rationalise workshop numbers and associated costs, introducing a single management	£5.96 M
Tyne & Wear Fire	This project will co-locate police and fire services at six fire stations resulting in rationalisation efficiencies while making communities safer by improved community access and collaboration.	£0.93 M
Warwickshire	Project will recruit and support 15 on-call firefighters with resultant efficiencies, protection of front line services and assisting the establishment of two new strategic locations further improving services to local communities, by enabling firefighter redeployment.	£1.84 M
Wiltshire Fire	Project to support the planned merger between Dorset and Wiltshire FRAs, in particular, extending Dorset's prevention work to Wiltshire by building a Streetwise Safety Centre and multi-agency strategic hub in Wiltshire, delivering an additional 20,000 educational visits to children and vulnerable people each year.	£5.54 M

*Award rounded to the nearest two decimal points.