

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire Authority will lose a further £4.6m in grant in 2015/2016 as the Government continues to reduce public spending. The Authority has identified savings in excess of £4m which has enabled it to limit the increase to the council tax payer to 1.99% which is less than two pence per week for the average household in West Yorkshire.

The indications are that funding by Government will continue to reduce with the Fire Authority forecasting further grant loss of around £10m in the next three years, which will require further savings to be identified in the region of £13m.

The Authority continues to reform service delivery through the implementation of the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). As a result, new fire stations at South Kirkby and Rastrick will have been constructed by the end of 2014/2015. In addition, two new fire stations in Leeds and one in Wakefield will be completed in 2015/2016. These changes, delivered through our IRMP, will ultimately enable the Authority to close eight existing fire stations delivering significant efficiency savings.



Councillor Judith Hughes
Chair
West Yorkshire Fire
and Rescue Authority

Chief Fire Officer Simon Pilling said:

“In 2010 the Authority approved a proactive and innovative approach to developing and modernising the way emergency response is delivered across West Yorkshire. This has enabled the Authority to continue to make efficiency savings, whilst still providing a first class service to the county, which represents value for money.”

Councillor Judith Hughes, Chair of the Fire Authority, added:

“This small increase will enable the fire authority to balance the budget in the current year and at the same time provide additional resources for future years.

Despite this increase we continue to maintain one of the lowest cost-per-head of population fire and rescue services in the country whilst at the same time investing in modernisation to deliver long term efficiency savings and effective provision of services.”



Simon Pilling
Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive
West Yorkshire Fire and
Rescue Service

What will the Fire and Rescue Authority cost

	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	Per head £
Gross expenditure	87,771	84,250	
Contribution to balances	373	289	
Income	-2,577	-2,388	
Budget Requirement	85,567	82,151	36.89
Revenue support grant	-27,962	-23,399	-10.51
Top up grant	-15,278	-15,078	-6.77
Business rates	-7,795	-7,870	-3.53
Collection fund	-312	-366	-0.16
Council Tax Requirement	34,220	35,438	15.92

What are the changes from last year

	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000
Revenue budget	87,690	85,567
Inflation	1,502	-223
Government grants		103
Changes in quantity or quality of service	-3,128	-3,298
Difference in fees and charges	101	86
Changes in use of reserves	-598	-84
Council Tax Requirement	85,567	82,151