



# MAKING EVERY PENNY COUNT



## BEING WELL RUN

Following our combination in 2016, we are now one of the largest fire and rescue services in England with a budget of £53.7m. We place a great importance on continuing to be a well-trusted organisation. By having clear plans and being well organised we can ensure that every pound we need is wisely invested and spent. This also helps us deal with the reduction in our funding from Government.

## MERGING MAKES SENSE

Since coming together as one organisation in April 2016 we are making considerable savings. As well as helping us cope with reductions to our Government grant, it has also helped us to protect front line services making us a stronger and more sustainable Service. Becoming more sustainable has also allowed us to continue to work effectively with other partners including local authorities, the police and the ambulance service.



## MATCHING RESOURCES TO RISK

We aim to put every penny of our budget to the best use possible. Since our grant has been reduced we have had to work even harder, thinking of innovative ways to provide the same high level of service but with less money - all the time trying to protect frontline services. We are constantly looking at how risks are changing and matching this with the right level of resources, ensuring that we have the very best technology at hand. This is part of our approach to reducing community and firefighter risks by having an integrated approach to preventing, protecting and responding to the risks they face. More information about this and our responsibilities under the Government's National Framework for Fire and Rescue Service can be found on our website or by contacting us.

## OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

We will constantly review all aspects of our service to identify ways we can improve efficiency and make our money go even further. We will continue our programme of work to ensure that we have the right people with the right skills and equipment to deliver the best and most cost effective services to you. We are now a larger Service covering nearly 2,500 square miles, so we have plans in place to reduce non-essential travel for our staff. With new technology, staff can

work more flexibly, either from the office or on the move. This will save time and money, reducing our carbon footprint and improving efficiency. Maximising and rationalising the space available in our buildings is another way we are reducing our costs. We already share facilities with the police, ambulance and councils, and will continue to realise new opportunities for sharing our buildings and generally working more closer.

## THIS WILL RESULT IN:

- A stronger, more financially stable fire and rescue service putting as much money in the frontline as we can.
- Making our budget work harder so we can withstand reduction from our central Government grant while ensuring that financial support goes where it's needed most.
- Maximising usage of buildings and minimising their running costs.
- Being more cost-effective by working more closely with other emergency services and local authorities.
- A reduced carbon footprint, fewer unnecessary journeys and more cost savings.