

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

Council Tax Information 2022/23

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority is nationally recognised for delivering a top performing fire and rescue service, which constantly reviews how its services are delivered, to ensure that it runs effectively and efficiently for the public of Shropshire.

More than 75 per cent of the Service's budget is spent on employing staff – its most valuable resource. The remainder is spent on essential supplies and services, transport, property and information and communications technology, as well as funding capital programmes.

More than 75 per cent of our funding comes from council tax, with the remainder funded from business rates and government grant.

We want to continue to improve how we deliver fire cover and support to businesses and residents throughout Shropshire, while also investing any savings to minimise borrowing for larger projects such as refurbishment of stations and the replacement of fire engines.

In 2022/23, officers will begin a number of reviews to answer the following questions:

- How do we make our on-call service more sustainable?
- How do we ensure that we have the right equipment and vehicles in the right place, at the right time?
- How do we make best use of operational technology?
- How do we ensure that we are making the most of our money and our people?
- How do we work better with our partners and our neighbours?
- How do we know that we are getting it right?

Chairman of Shropshire Fire Authority, Councillor Eric Carter said: "We believe that the modest council tax increase agreed for 2022/23 will allow us to continue to protect and support the public, both now and in the future.

"We want to ensure that our funds are spent in the most effective way. We are always striving to improve the service you receive and prepare for changes in technology and community priorities."

The Service has outlined its Community Risk Management Plan for 2021-2025, which shows how we are committed to making Shropshire safer.

What influences our plans?

- Defining risk
- The diversification in agriculture
- Economy
- Environmental impact
- Housing
- National risk
- Population and demographics
- Transport etc.

Chairman Eric Carter added: "The proposals we are putting forward will help us to deliver the objectives laid out in our CRMP 2021-2025. This includes increasing engagement and reaching out the communities we serve in new ways and evaluating our resources.

Where Do Our Funds Go?

Funding for 2022/23		2022/23 Revenue Budget	
Council tax	£18.4m	Firefighter pay	£13.5m
Business rates	£3.5m	Support staff pay	£3.5m
Revenue support grant	£1.7m	Control pay	£0.8m
Other govt grants	£0.8m	Operational expenses	£4.8m
		Capital expenses	£1.4m
		Training and recruiting	£0.4m
Total	£24.4m	Total	£24.4m

Council Tax Bands for 2022/23

The increase in budget requirement for 2022/23 equates to a 1.99% increase in council tax. All bands and respective council tax levels, together with increases from last year, are shown in the table.

Band	Amount 2022/23 £	Increase from 2021/22	
		Per Year £	Per Week £
A	70.85	1.38	0.03
B	82.65	1.61	0.03
C	94.46	1.84	0.04
D	106.27	2.07	0.04
E	129.89	2.53	0.05
F	153.50	2.99	0.06
G	177.12	3.45	0.07
H	212.54	4.14	0.08

For further information about the financial performance of the Fire Authority, please contact:

Finance Section
Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service
Brigade Headquarters
Shrewsbury SY1 2HJ

Telephone 01743 260200
Email funding@shropshirefire.gov.uk