

TYNE & WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item 6

MEETING: 24th JANUARY 2011

**SUBJECT: PROVISIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT
2011/12**

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND FINANCE OFFICER

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To set out the details of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2011/12; and
- 1.2 To provide a draft set of comments that can be used as a basis for a response to the Government's consultation on their Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement proposals.

2. DESCRIPTION OF DECISION

- 2.1 The Authority is requested to note the report and to agree the proposed comments summarised at section 6 of the report which can be used as the basis for a response to the Government's consultation on the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement along with any further comments members may wish to make.

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The proposals for the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2011/12 were announced on 13th December 2010, which included an indicative settlement for 2012/13.
- 3.2 The Government intends to review the current grant system with the aim of implementing a new grant distribution process from 2013/14. Work will commence in January 2011 and will be consulted upon in the summer.
- 3.3 The deadline for making a response to the provisional settlement is 5pm on 17th January 2011.

4. PROVISIONAL GRANT SETTLEMENT - SUMMARY

- 4.1 The 2 year settlement is consistent with the Government's Spending Review announcements for local government with the exception that they have increased formula grant funding by £30m in total and have also introduced a new Transition Grant of £85m for 2011/12 and £14m for 2012/13 to ensure that no Authority will incur a reduction in its Revenue Spending Power of more than 8.9% in 2011/12.
- 4.2 The Government also announced that the Settlement would see an average reduction of 4.4% in the overall funding to local government nationally. It also

announced that the above additional funding and other measures introduced within the Settlement would help protect those authorities most reliant on Government funding in the next 2 years.

- 4.3 The Government has also un-ringfenced most revenue grant funding to provide authorities with more flexibility and has cut the number of grants from around 100 to 12 in a move to simplify government grant funding. This is in line with the Spending Review 2010 where only Dedicated Schools Grant (ring-fenced to schools) and a new Public Health Grant to be introduced in 2013/14 will be ring-fenced in future. The Fire Authority has limited exposure to most of these new un-ringfenced revenue core grants which are predominantly aimed at councils. Nevertheless the Authority is to benefit from PFI grant funding that has been protected and other grant funding, yet to be announced, that relates to Section 31 New Dimensions funding initiatives and responsibilities. The Authority will also benefit from the Council Tax Freeze Grant if it elects to freeze its council tax precept for 2011/12.
- 4.4 The table below sets out the Government's national settlement for funding local government, including the fire and police services. This is more commonly known as Aggregate External Finance (AEF) and shows the level of specific and formula grant allocations for each year on a comparable basis.

	£m 2010/11 Unadjusted	£m 2010/11 Adjusted	£m 2011/12	% Change
TOTAL AEF	75,169	75,693	73,610	-2.7%
Specific and General	50,502	47,369	48,714	2.8%
NET AEF (SR10)	24,667	28,471	25,014	-12.1%
Total post-SR10 transfers		-147	-118	
NET AEF	24,667	28,325	24,896	-12.1%
Business Rates (NNDR)	21,500	21,500	19,000	
RSG	3,167	6,825	5,896	
RSG for specified bodies	45	45	33	
TOTAL RSG	3,122	6,780	5,863	
Business Rates (NNDR)	21,500	21,500	19,000	
Police Grant (incl. Met.)	4,374	4,374	4,546	
FORMULA GRANT*	28,996	32,653	29,410	-9.9%

- 4.5 The main headlines from the table shows that total government support (AEF) is reducing by 2.7% in 2011/12. However, specific grant funding has been increased in particular areas especially for schools, some social services funding and police services, which masks the real funding reductions being faced by other services. It is also disappointing that the Government has not yet announced its specific grant funding proposals for Fire Authorities, which are now expected to be released towards the end of January 2011.
- 4.6 Specific grants of £3.4 billion nationally have transferred into formula grant in 2011/12 and £2.0 billion of this total has been included separately as tailored distributions. These latter allocations are based on previous grant funding

methodologies. However, most of these grants have not been pass-ported pound for pound in the formula grant for 2011/12, in order to reflect the Spending Review 2010 reductions. This feature has had no impact on the Fire Authority's funding.

- 4.7 Area Based and specific grants in respect of mainly Children's Services have transferred into a new Early Intervention Grant worth £2.214 billion, which is a reduction of 27% compared to the 2010/11 funding level. Again this does not affect the Fire Service.
- 4.8 Formula grant is to be reduced nationally by on average 9.9% in 2011/12 and by 7.4% in 2012/13. However, the Fire Service settlement only shows reductions of 5.8% in 2011/12 and 0.7% in 2012/13. These level of reductions were expected as the Spending Review 2010 (SR10) provided for Fire and Rescue Authorities to receive 25% less formula grant funding over the entire Spending Review period and grant reductions were to be 'back loaded' meaning that the greatest reductions in formula grant would fall in 2013/14 and 2014/15. The fact the first 2 year grant settlement is showing only a total combined reduction of 6.5% means that in the last 2 years (2013/14 and 2014/15) Fire Authorities will face a further grant reduction of 18.5% over the two years 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- 4.6 The Settlement includes significant and complex changes to formula grant resulting from the Government's Formula Grant Distribution Review carried out in the autumn, which has also complicated further an already very complex Settlement. The Government has introduced a banding of floor reductions to limit the maximum amount of formula grant that a Authority can lose in each year. The authorities most reliant on Government funding are placed in Band 1 and receive the lowest reductions and the least reliant are placed in Band 4 and receive the highest reductions. These bandings, however, do not apply to Police and Fire Authorities who have received a flat floor percentage across each year. The floor for Fire Authorities has been set at 9.5% for 2011/12 and at 3.4% for 2012/13.
- 4.7 The above changes outlined in 4.1 to 4.6 will impact upon authorities differently depending upon the types and level of grants they received in 2010/11 compared to those to be received in 2011/12 onwards. This is the reason why the Government has introduced its new concept of "Revenue Spending Power" in this Settlement in an attempt to further limit the overall cash reductions in Government funding faced by some authorities. However, there is a wide ranging impact on individual authorities' funding allocations with some significant winners and losers.
- 4.8 Analysis provided by CIPFA shows that the biggest losers from the settlements are those authorities that:
 - Received Working Neighbourhoods Fund
 - Low Tax Base Authorities
 - Where grants have rolled into Formula Grant
 - Some Shire Counties

Unitary authorities with Fire Service

The main winners are:

High Tax Base authorities

Shire Districts

Shire Fire Authorities

High Tax Base Police authorities

4.9 The Government has also confirmed its intention to fund a Council Tax freeze in 2011/12 by providing funding nationally of £650m. This level of funding is being distributed as if authorities were to increase their Council Tax by 2.5%. The funding provided in each year of the Spending Review period is only paying for the freeze in 2011/12. This grant however, will, in cash terms, significantly benefit high tax base authorities, which are usually less reliant on government grant, and as such can be regarded generally as the more affluent areas of the country. This means that some of the most deprived authorities are seeing the highest losses in grants compared to some of the lowest reductions to those in the more affluent parts of the country. This impact is seen as inequitable.

4.10 The Government has not released details of its council tax capping criteria but has indicated that it will use these powers if necessary and has also indicated that a council tax veto for council tax payers will form part of their Localism Bill. This will, once it becomes law, place a limit on council tax increases and if councils exceed the Government limits then the public will be able to vote to agree or veto any increase considered 'excessive'.

5. Summary of the Impact on Tyne and Wear Fire Authority

5.1 Overall Resources (Revenue Spending Power)

5.1.1 From the table overleaf, the Authority has received an overall reduction in its spending power in 2011/12 of £2.783m equivalent to a 4.69% reduction in its overall resources and is below the 8.9% maximum amount determined by the Government before it can qualify for the new Transition Grant. In 2012/13 it is facing a further reduction of £1.095m to its revenue spending power, which is equivalent to a further reduction of 1.94%.

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Change 2011/12		Change 2012/13	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m	%
Council Tax Precept	23.749	23.749	23.749	0.000	0	0.000	0
Council Tax Freeze Grant	0.000	0.596	0.596	0.596	100	0.000	0
Formula Grant	35.570	32.191	31.096	-3.379	-9.50	-1.095	-3.40
Total Spending Power	59.319	56.536	55.441	-2.783	-4.69%	-1.095	-1.98%

5.1.2 The reduction to the overall resources position for the Fire Authority in 2011/12 of 4.69% is almost at the national average position for all local government of 4.4% quoted by Eric Pickles, the Communities Secretary. However, this position does need to be put into context. The changes need to be seen in the light of changes to authorities' individual positions across the country. Tyne and Wear is made up of some of the most deprived areas in the country, e.g. Gateshead is ranked 52nd, Newcastle 37th, North Tyneside 102nd, South Tyneside 38th and Sunderland is ranked 35th. As such the Authority has a fairly low council tax base compared to the more wealthy, mainly shire areas, which have much higher council tax bases, this indicates that Tyne and Wear is more reliant on government funding as a result. Analysis provided by SIGOMA showed the scale of changes in overall resources compared to the authorities' Index of Multiple Deprivation scores, although this was limited to a district or unitary authority level. However, the details provided helped show that some of the most wealthy areas have fared the best from this Settlement and those in mainly deprived areas with a low comparable tax base have fared the worst. This is due in the main to how the Council Tax Freeze grant has been allocated by providing more cash based funding based on an Authority's 2.5% increase on their council tax. The higher the tax base in wealthy areas the more grant they receive whereas in the most deprived areas their tax base is low and as a result will receive less grant in proportion to their needs. The Authority is considered to be a low tax base authority which means it will have fared comparatively worse than some other Fire Authorities, which have a high council tax base, such as some shire counties. This view is borne out by CIPFA (see paragraph 4.8). It is anomalous that this position results from a Settlement where the Government's declared policy aim was to protect authorities more reliant on Government funding.

5.2 Formula Grant

5.2.1 The Authority's formula grant allocation for 2011/12 has reduced in cash terms by £3.379m to £32.191m compared to the 2010/11 grant allocation of £35.570m which represents a reduction of 9.5% (the floor for Fire Authorities). The grant allocation of £31.096m in 2012/13 has seen a grant reduction of

£1.095m equivalent to a 3.4% reduction (again at the floor). These reductions would have been significantly worse had the floor protection not been put in place, as the Fire Authority was the worst affected by the formula grant changes implemented by the Government resulting from their Formula Grant Distribution Review consultation carried out in the autumn. Appendix 1 shows the details and scale of the grant reductions for each year. This is a league table position the Authority did not expect or want.

5.2.2 The level of grant reductions is of great concern in that the Fire Service was to incur lower cuts in grant in the first 2 years of the Spending Review period, which is the case, and yet the Authority still finds itself facing combined cuts in formula grant of 12.9%. This is almost double the cut in grant compared to the national average (6.5%). The reductions faced are significantly higher in the first 2 years when the cuts were supposed to be lower, which was intended to give Fire Authorities time to plan and implement changes to accommodate further more significant cuts in the latter 2 years of the Spending Review. This therefore places the Authority in a very challenging position earlier than it would have preferred and could have been anticipated, particularly for the Metropolitan Fire Authorities who have fared the worst and borne the brunt of this Settlement.

5.3 Impact of Changes to the Formula Grant Distribution System

5.3.1 The level of reported formula grant reductions of 9.5% in 2011/12 and 3.4% in 2012/13 are below the national average reductions across all local government categories. However, because of the changes to the formula and data used in the provisional settlement, the Authority is now a recipient of floor damping funding of £3.489m in 2011/12 and £2.764m in 2012/13. This indicates that the combination of changes to the formula and revised data used in the proposed formula has significantly and adversely affected the Authority's grant allocations, as in the past it has received grant funding above the floor and as such was a net contributor towards the cost of the floor funding in the last Spending Review period.

5.3.2 There was also a consensus of views across all Metropolitan Fire Authorities that the options for change in the Fire Service formula were detrimental to the grant allocations to Metropolitan Fire Authorities in particular and that grant allocations should not be changed at a time of sweeping cuts in formula grant over the next 4 years. The changes, set out in 5.3.3, below unfortunately have still been implemented despite these concerns and helps explain why the Metropolitan Fire Authorities average reductions of 9.45% in 2011/12 and 2.99% in 2012/13 are almost at the floor in each year's settlement. The gainers from the formula changes introduced are, as expected, the Shire Fire Authorities who have also benefitted more generally from the Council Tax Freeze Grant.

5.3.3 Initial analysis has identified the following areas of change relating to the Fire Service, all of which have had a very significant and adverse impact on the Authority's grant entitlement:

- the regression expenditure base for this formula will be updated (FIR1);

- the Government has not agreed that annual cashable efficiency savings should be added to the updated expenditure data used to determine the coefficients;
- an updated fire risk index and a separate positively weighted population density indicator will be used (FIR4);
- there will be an increase of 10% in the size of the Relative Needs blocks and a decrease of 10% in the size of the Central Allocation

5.3.4 The amount of floor damping reduces from £3.489m to £2.764m in 2012/13, a reduction of £0.725m. If floor damping continues to reduce annually at the same rate it will disappear in another 3 to 4 years i.e. around 2016/17. The Government however has indicated that it intends to adopt a new distributional system for grant funding from 2013/14 so it is not possible at this stage to come to any definitive view on the future for floor damping or how the Fire Service will fare in the last two years of the Spending Review period although it will still have to achieve 18.5% of the 25% cuts required.

5.4 Changes in Specific Grants

From the Settlement the following position with regard to specific grants has been established:

- The PFI Grants are to be protected and will remain at the levels already notified to the Fire Authority (these will total £3.358m in 2011/12 and 2012/13).
- Section 31 New Dimensions and Fire Link grant funding has yet to be announced and the Authority currently receives £0.904m and £0.044m respectively from these grant funding streams.

The Government however announced on 20th December that Regional Control Centre grant worth £0.396m to the Authority is to end.

5.5 Council Tax Freeze Grant

The Authority is to receive £0.596m in each year of the Spending Review period to compensate the Authority for the loss of council tax precept income in respect of a council tax freeze in 2011/12, if it elects to do so.

The Authority is concerned that this funding has been allocated using the Tax Base data for each authority which sees the high tax base authorities receiving higher allocations than those with a fairly low tax base as is the case with this Authority. It seems perverse that the richer authorities are to receive more cash funding than those with the greatest need.

6. DRAFT COMMENTS ON THE SETTLEMENT

The following comments have been drafted for consideration by members and can be supplemented if agreed with any additional comments members wish to make.

- 6.1 The Authority is extremely concerned at the very high level of formula grant reductions it is facing at a time when the Settlement was to be back end loaded to give Fire Authorities time to both plan and then implement changes in order to achieve significant budget reductions to the service in the latter 2 years of the Spending Review period (2013/14 and 2014/15). The Settlement shows that Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority is incurring 12.9% reductions in grant funding when the average for the Fire Service nationally is only 6.5%. This position is unreasonable and inequitable and the members of the Fire Authority would request that the Government makes changes to the Provisional Settlement for both years so that Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority receives an improved and much fairer distribution of formula grant in both 2011/12 and 2012/13.
- 6.2 The changes to the formula have had a significant adverse effect on the grant allocation of the Authority (and was the worst affected Fire Authority in the country by the changes in both Settlements) and it is recognised that these changes alone are the main reason for the very poor grant settlement received, which is unfortunately consistent across all of the Metropolitan Fire Authorities. The Authority would urge the Government to reconsider the formula changes introduced and to freeze the previous grant formula methodology in line with the consensus of views across all Metropolitan Fire Authorities that the options for change were detrimental to the grant allocations to Metropolitan Fire Authorities and that grant allocations should not be changed at a time of sweeping cuts in formula grant over the next 4 years. These representations, made by all Metropolitan Fire Authorities, were not accepted, but now that the impact of these changes is known, it is now inevitable that these unexpected front loaded cuts in grant will impact on front line services unless grant funding is increased.
- 6.3 The scale of the grant losses, even with floor protection, is of great concern for this Authority, which suffers a loss of formula grant of 9.5% in 2011/12 and 3.4% in 2012/13, whereas the overall funding for the Fire Service has reduced on average by 6.5% over the two year period. If the remaining Fire Service national grant reductions of 18.5% (making up the overall 25% decrease set out in the Spending Review) is implemented then grant could reduce further by possibly 9.25% nationally in both 2013/14 and 2014/15. If this is the case then the Authority is facing further significant grant reductions, primarily because of the adverse impact of the formula grant changes to the Fire Service formula.

It is however noted that a new system of grant distribution may be introduced from 2013/14 and it is hoped that the current anomalous position is corrected in any new distribution system. If it is not, then the Fire Authority is potentially facing further large annual grant reductions of at least 9.25%, but probably greater reductions in these last two years of the Spending Review, if the system is not changed because of the impact of the formula changes introduced.

- 6.5 The Fire Authority finds itself in a position from the Settlement that is very difficult to accept considering the Authority has already embraced the modernisation agenda and is now facing larger grant reductions as a result of the Government's failure to recognise this position in the formula grant review and has also ignored the combined opposition by all of the Metropolitan Fire Authorities to the changes they have implemented. Indeed if a new, more equitable, distribution system is not in place from 2013/2014 onwards then the scale of the cuts that will arise through the use of the existing formula grant distribution mechanism will be such that there will undoubtedly be a detrimental impact on the front line services provided by this Authority.
- 6.6 The Authority would also request that the Council Tax Freeze grant is allocated more fairly and that the current method of basing this on the council tax base measure is unreasonable and unfair as this benefits the most affluent areas of the country to the detriment of the more deprived areas. The grant should be based on need and to equalise resources, not merely increasing cash grant to those with the highest council tax bases (who are the least dependent on government funding). The current rationale or methodology is flawed and is seen as perverse and that issue must be addressed to redistribute funds to where they are most needed.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Members are asked to note the report and agree the proposed comments in response to the consultation on the Provisional Revenue Support Grant Settlement for 2011/12.

Appendix 1

Grant Settlement – Floor Protection in 2011/2012

Fire Authority	2010/2011	2011/2012					
	Adjusted Formula Grant	Raw Grant	Change	Formula Grant Change Before Floor Damping	Total Grant	Formula Grant Change After Floor Damping	Floor Amount
	£m	£m	£m		£m		£m
Tyne and Wear Fire	35.57	28.70	-6.87	-19.31%	32.19	-9.50%	3.49
Shropshire Fire	8.27	6.85	-1.42	-17.17%	7.48	-9.50%	0.63
Merseyside Fire	46.30	38.71	-7.59	-16.40%	41.91	-9.50%	3.20
South Yorkshire Fire	36.77	30.81	-5.96	-16.21%	33.28	-9.50%	2.47
West Midlands Fire	80.81	67.86	-12.95	-16.02%	73.14	-9.50%	5.27
Nottinghamshire Fire	25.01	21.14	-3.87	-15.46%	22.63	-9.50%	1.49
Cleveland Fire	22.38	18.98	-3.40	-15.20%	20.26	-9.50%	1.28
Cambridgeshire Fire	14.44	12.33	-2.12	-14.65%	13.07	-9.50%	0.74
Greater Manchester Fire	75.33	66.89	-8.45	-11.21%	68.18	-9.50%	1.29
Durham Fire	14.53	13.00	-1.52	-10.49%	13.15	-9.50%	0.14
Avon Fire	24.88	22.55	-2.32	-9.34%	22.54	-9.40%	-0.01
West Yorkshire Fire	57.49	52.31	-5.18	-9.02%	52.21	-9.18%	-0.09
Buckinghamshire Fire	11.45	10.53	-0.92	-8.05%	10.47	-8.54%	-0.06
Derbyshire Fire	19.67	18.14	-1.53	-7.79%	18.03	-8.37%	-0.11
North Yorkshire Fire	12.97	12.45	-0.52	-3.99%	12.21	-5.86%	-0.24
East Sussex Fire	14.67	14.12	-0.55	-3.75%	13.84	-5.70%	-0.29
Humberside Fire	27.17	26.15	-1.02	-3.76%	25.62	-5.71%	-0.53
Wiltshire Fire	9.59	9.34	-0.25	-2.60%	9.11	-4.95%	-0.22
Bedfordshire Fire	11.39	11.18	-0.21	-1.84%	10.88	-4.44%	-0.30
Berkshire Fire	15.42	15.21	-0.21	-1.38%	14.78	-4.14%	-0.43
Lancashire Fire	32.61	32.15	-0.46	-1.41%	31.25	-4.16%	-0.90
Kent Fire	29.60	29.26	-0.33	-1.12%	28.42	-3.97%	-0.84
Leicestershire Fire	18.84	18.81	-0.03	-0.16%	18.21	-3.34%	-0.60
GLA - non-police	260.18	259.97	-0.21	-0.08%	251.64	-3.28%	-8.33
Hereford and Worcester Fire	10.67	10.80	0.13	1.22%	10.41	-2.43%	-0.39
Dorset Fire	11.00	11.36	0.36	3.30%	10.89	-1.05%	-0.48
Devon and Somerset Fire	31.25	32.24	1.00	3.20%	30.90	-1.12%	-1.35
Staffordshire Fire	18.60	19.42	0.82	4.41%	18.54	-0.32%	-0.88
Essex Fire	32.37	33.87	1.50	4.64%	32.32	-0.17%	-1.56
Hampshire Fire	29.27	30.80	1.53	5.24%	29.33	0.23%	-1.47
Cheshire Fire	18.62	19.61	0.98	5.29%	18.67	0.26%	-0.94
Total Fire	1057.13	995.55	-61.58	-5.82%	995.55	-5.82%	0.00

Grant Settlement – Floor Protection in 2012/2013

Fire Authority	2011/2012	2012/2013					
	Adjusted Formula Grant	Raw Grant	Change	Formula Grant Change Before Floor Damping	Total Grant	Formula Grant Change After Floor Damping	Floor Amount
	£m	£m	£m		£m		£m
Tyne and Wear Fire	32.19	28.33	-3.86	-11.99%	31.10	-3.40%	2.76
Merseyside Fire	41.91	37.95	-3.96	-9.44%	40.48	-3.40%	2.53
West Midlands Fire	73.14	67.06	-6.07	-8.31%	70.65	-3.40%	3.59
South Yorkshire Fire	33.28	30.54	-2.74	-8.23%	32.15	-3.40%	1.61
Shropshire Fire	7.48	6.87	-0.62	-8.25%	7.23	-3.40%	0.36
Cleveland Fire	20.26	18.66	-1.60	-7.88%	19.57	-3.40%	0.91
Nottinghamshire Fire	22.63	21.14	-1.49	-6.58%	21.86	-3.40%	0.72
Cambridgeshire Fire	13.07	12.42	-0.65	-4.96%	12.63	-3.40%	0.20
Greater Manchester Fire	68.18	66.11	-2.07	-3.03%	66.03	-3.15%	-0.08
Durham Fire	13.15	12.92	-0.23	-1.72%	12.85	-2.26%	-0.07
West Yorkshire Fire	52.21	52.01	-0.20	-0.39%	51.50	-1.35%	-0.50
Avon Fire	22.54	22.69	0.15	0.66%	22.40	-0.64%	-0.29
Derbyshire Fire	18.03	18.15	0.12	0.66%	17.91	-0.64%	-0.23
Humberside Fire	25.62	25.93	0.30	1.19%	25.55	-0.28%	-0.38
Buckinghamshire Fire	10.47	10.62	0.14	1.36%	10.46	-0.17%	-0.16
GLA - non-police	251.64	256.29	4.65	1.85%	252.05	0.17%	-4.24
Lancashire Fire	31.25	31.88	0.63	2.01%	31.34	0.27%	-0.54
East Sussex Fire	13.84	14.13	0.29	2.11%	13.88	0.34%	-0.24
North Yorkshire Fire	12.21	12.53	0.32	2.66%	12.29	0.71%	-0.24
Bedfordshire Fire	10.88	11.22	0.34	3.11%	10.99	1.02%	-0.23
Kent Fire	28.42	29.32	0.90	3.16%	28.72	1.06%	-0.60
Leicestershire Fire	18.21	18.84	0.63	3.47%	18.44	1.26%	-0.40
Berkshire Fire	14.78	15.28	0.50	3.35%	14.96	1.19%	-0.32
Wiltshire Fire	9.11	9.43	0.32	3.49%	9.23	1.28%	-0.20
Hereford and Worcester Fire	10.41	10.83	0.42	4.06%	10.58	1.67%	-0.25
Devon and Somerset Fire	30.90	32.26	1.36	4.41%	31.48	1.90%	-0.77
Staffordshire Fire	18.54	19.37	0.83	4.46%	18.90	1.94%	-0.47
Cheshire Fire	18.67	19.51	0.84	4.50%	19.04	1.97%	-0.47
Dorset Fire	10.89	11.36	0.48	4.37%	11.09	1.88%	-0.27
Essex Fire	32.32	33.99	1.68	5.18%	33.10	2.43%	-0.89
Hampshire Fire	29.33	30.91	1.58	5.39%	30.09	2.57%	-0.83
Total Fire	995.55	988.55	-7.00	-0.70%	988.55	-0.70%	0.00

