

What does the Authority do?

The Authority is responsible for West Midlands Fire Service, which serves the whole county of the West Midlands. In addition to providing an emergency response, your fire and rescue service provides you with fire safety advice to prevent death and injury from fire and also to prevent losses to business and amenities. We also provide fire safety advice and enforce fire safety legislation if required and we are actively involved in contingency planning arrangements.

We have produced our corporate strategy, referred to as "Our Plan", which sets out how we intend to protect and serve you, the community of the West Midlands.

The Authority's vision is

"Making the West Midlands safer, stronger and healthier"

This is supported by our priorities:



Prevention - Making safer, healthier communities



Protection - Protecting life and property to make businesses stronger and communities safer



Response - Dealing excellently with emergency incidents

We believe that we have an important role to play in helping people live safer, healthier lives and supporting West Midlands businesses and the economy to thrive. We work with partners and the community to identify risk across the West Midlands and use this evidence as the basis of our Community Safety Strategy. This in turn, informs how we distribute fire stations, fire engines, equipment and most importantly emergency response staff across the West Midlands. We call this our Service Delivery Model.

Further information can be found on our website at www.wmfs.net.

How many people work for the Authority?

The table below gives details of the budgeted staffing establishment of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority. Numbers are shown as full time equivalent posts:

	2019/20	2020/21	Change
Total Employees	1,855	1,858	3

How much does the service cost?

The table below details the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority's revenue budget for the financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21:

	2019/20	2020/21
	£m	£m
Expenditure	114.900	117.230
Income	-71.685	-72.745
Council Tax Requirement	43.215	44.485

At 31st March 2019, the Authority's borrowing totalled £36m.



Who pays for it?

The West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority precept is the part of the council tax which pays for the fire service. The total amount of precept for each City/District Council is shown below:

	2019/20 (£)	2020/21 (£)
Birmingham	15,245,694	15,739,074
Coventry	5,054,028	5,185,840
Dudley	5,590,569	5,752,519
Sandwell	4,493,523	4,590,985
Solihull	4,662,911	4,794,022
Walsall	4,290,025	4,422,187
Wolverhampton	3,878,170	4,000,486
Total Precepts	43,214,920	44,485,113

Why has the Council Tax requirement changed?

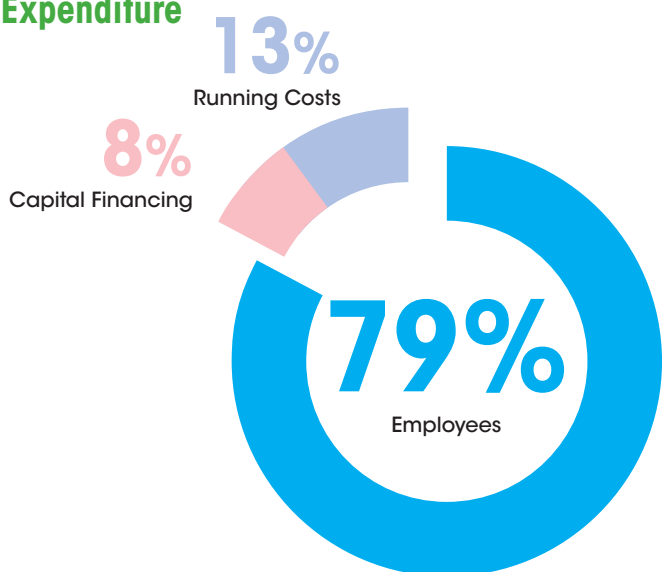
The Authority's council tax requirement for 2020/21 is £44.485m compared with £43.215m for 2019/20, an increase of £1.270m. This change is analysed in the table below:

	£m
Pay Award Provision	1.760
Staffing	1.300
Running Costs	0.632
Inflation	0.410
Government Grants	-2.832
Total Change	1.270

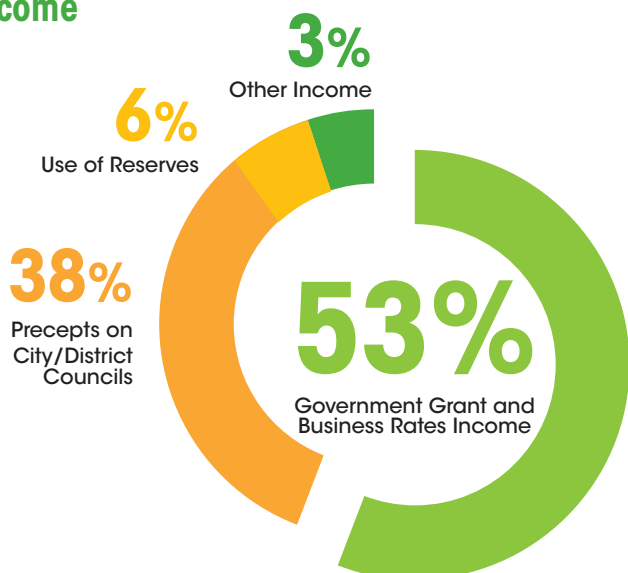
How is the budget spent and financed?

The pie charts below show in percentage terms how the budget is spent and financed:

Expenditure



Income



How much does the service cost by subjective reporting format?

The table below details the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority revenue budget for the financial year 2020/21:

	£m
Employees	92.113
Running Costs	15.721
Capital Financing	9.396
Total Expenditure	117.230
Government Core Funding	-52.896
Other Government Grant	-9.260
Other Income	-3.709
Use of Reserves	-6.880
Total Income	-72.745
Council Tax Requirement	44.485

Anything else?

Further information relating to the Fire Service can be obtained from: **The Chief Fire Officer, West Midlands Fire Service Headquarters, 99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham, B7 4HW.**

Financial information relating to the Fire Service can be obtained from: **The Treasurer, West Midlands Fire Service Headquarters, 99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham, B7 4HW.**

This leaflet contains financial information on your Fire Service. The Authority is committed to equality of opportunity but must demonstrate value for money. Whilst all requests for our leaflets and publications to be reproduced in alternative formats and languages will be considered, where possible we will seek other methods of communication. Please call **0845 5000 900**.

To book a Safe and Well visit in your home by your local firefighters, freephone **0800 389 5525**.

www.wmfs.net

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