



Safest People, Safest Places

COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY

24 JULY 2020

ESTATES UPDATE

REPORT OF HEAD OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update members on the latest position in relation to the Estates Improvement Programme (EIP).

Background

2. The Authority has committed to further estates projects that aim to modernise the estate so that it is fit for purpose and provides a basis for delivering efficient services in future years.
3. The EIP forms part of the overall capital budget that was approved at the meeting of the Combined Fire Authority on 25 February 2020. Projects included in the current programme are set out in the table below:

Project	Budget	Timescale
Darlington Station Rebuild	£4.000M	Completion 31 March 2021
Service Training Centre Extension	£0.400M	Est. April 2021
Sedgefield Station Refurbishment	£0.500M	Est. July 2021

Darlington Station Rebuild

4. Following the demolition and excavation activity, construction works are now well underway. Piling of the foundations is now complete. The steelwork frame is in place and ground floor and first floor slabs should be completed this month.
5. The performance of the contract throughout the pandemic period has thus far been unaffected and supplies and services are running to schedule.

Service Training Centre Extension

6. The 2020/21 capital budget includes £400,000 for alterations to the Service Training Centre to incorporate breathing apparatus wash facilities and additional shower facilities. A planning

application was submitted in respect of the alterations earlier in the year and this has been approved. Work on site is expected to commence in October 2020.

Sedgefield Station Refurbishment

7. Further to the modernisation and extension works that will be carried out for the benefit of the Service we have extended an invite to both North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) and to Durham Constabulary to ascertain if they would wish to occupy part of the building. To date firm interest has been received from NEAS and a commitment to support the capital investment has been assured, although the value of this contribution will be calculated when plans are agreed.
8. Members will recall that the investment in Sedgefield Station represents particularly good value for money as the cost of the re-modernisation works eliminates a similar value of outstanding backlog maintenance that has been identified on this site.

Recommendation

9. Members are requested to **note** the contents of the report.

Keith Lazzari Head of Corporate Resources Ext.5580