



Home Office

Lord Greenhalgh
Minister of State for Building Safety, Fire
and Communities

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To: CFOs
By Email Only

16 March 2021

Dear CFOs

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COVID-19 CONTINGENCY FUNDING TO ALL FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND

As you will be aware, the Home Office set up the Fire Covid-19 Contingency Fund for the duration of 2020-21 in order to support Fire and Rescue Services that had incurred additional costs as a result of taking on Covid-19 related duties.

The Fire Covid-19 Contingency Fund budget was initially set at £6m, in order to support Fire and Rescue Services that had incurred additional costs as a result of supporting other public sector organisations with their Covid-19 duties. I have subsequently made the decision to increase this funding by a further £10m. This decision was made with the expectation that more Fire and Rescue Services would become eligible to apply to the fund, reflecting an increase in services taking up additional Covid-19 related work as well as widening of the eligibility criteria for the second round, to include other additional Covid-19 related costs, such as PPE items and station cleaning.

The second round of applications to the Contingency Fund closed in February and attracted a total of 19 applications. Following payments to successful applicants, I have decided to distribute the money that remains in the fund between the 45 Fire and Rescue Authorities in England to support further Covid-19 related costs.

I know from reviewing the second round Contingency Fund applications that several Fire and Rescue Services have agreed to continue assisting other organisations in the fight against the pandemic well into the next financial year, and certainty of funding is needed to keep up this good work. I am therefore anticipating that by distributing the remainder of the funding in this way, Fire and Rescue Services will have the assurance they need to continue with existing Covid-19 related activities, or to even expand the range of activities currently undertaken.

Distribution of the remaining funds will be applied according to the fire formula funding shares. You can see the allocation of funding for your Fire and Rescue Authority in **Annex A**. Section 31 grant payments by formula shares will be made in April.

Yours Ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sgt John', written in a cursive style.

Lord Greenhalgh
Minister of State for Building Safety, Fire and Communities at
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and Home Office

Annex A: Summary of Section 31 payments by funding formula shares

Source of SFA figures* - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-information-for-local-authorities-final-local-government-finance-settlement-2020-to-2021>

*Does not include Isles of Scilly

FRA	2020/21 Fire SFA (£m)	% share	Funding allocation	Rounded
Avon Fire	16.0	1.8%	£149,605.1369	£149,605.14
Bedfordshire Fire	8.3	0.9%	£77,142.6177	£77,142.62
Berkshire Fire	10.4	1.2%	£97,093.5322	£97,093.53
Buckinghamshire Fire	7.5	0.9%	£69,735.6827	£69,735.68
Cambridgeshire Fire	8.9	1.0%	£83,197.1984	£83,197.20
Cheshire Fire	13.5	1.5%	£125,676.4107	£125,676.41
Cleveland Fire	14.7	1.7%	£137,149.5293	£137,149.53
Cornwall	11.5	1.3%	£107,225.1107	£107,225.11
Cumbria	8.4	1.0%	£78,212.3749	£78,212.37
Derbyshire Fire	13.2	1.5%	£123,456.0442	£123,456.04
Devon and Somerset Fire	22.3	2.6%	£208,384.9561	£208,384.96
Dorset and Wiltshire Fire	14.3	1.6%	£133,619.0227	£133,619.02
Durham Fire	10.6	1.2%	£98,995.4211	£98,995.42
East Sussex Fire	11.0	1.3%	£102,438.6918	£102,438.69
Essex Fire	25.0	2.9%	£233,344.9574	£233,344.96
Gloucestershire	5.8	0.7%	£54,040.8792	£54,040.88
Greater London Authority	210.8	24.2%	£1,968,444.9533	£1,968,444.95
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	50.6	5.8%	£472,331.9046	£472,331.90
Hampshire Fire	21.9	2.5%	£204,473.3161	£204,473.32
Hereford and Worcester Fire	7.8	0.9%	£72,420.8796	£72,420.88
Hertfordshire	12.4	1.4%	£115,759.0083	£115,759.01
Humberside Fire	20.1	2.3%	£187,865.9290	£187,865.93
Isle of Wight	2.7	0.3%	£25,645.3543	£25,645.35
Kent Fire	21.3	2.4%	£199,106.4412	£199,106.44
Lancashire Fire	24.2	2.8%	£225,988.5095	£225,988.51
Leicestershire Fire	13.3	1.5%	£124,421.1531	£124,421.15
Lincolnshire	9.8	1.1%	£91,184.7112	£91,184.71
Merseyside Fire	31.3	3.6%	£292,380.9053	£292,380.91
Norfolk	12.0	1.4%	£111,750.6873	£111,750.69
North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner	8.7	1.0%	£81,177.4676	£81,177.47
Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner	7.7	0.9%	£71,577.9596	£71,577.96
Northumberland	5.5	0.6%	£51,007.0641	£51,007.06
Nottinghamshire Fire	16.3	1.9%	£151,896.0735	£151,896.07
Oxfordshire	5.2	0.6%	£48,567.7416	£48,567.74
Shropshire Fire	5.2	0.6%	£48,889.1565	£48,889.16
South Yorkshire Fire	24.1	2.8%	£224,881.1689	£224,881.17
Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner	14.4	1.6%	£134,163.8616	£134,163.86
Suffolk	8.1	0.9%	£75,693.6443	£75,693.64
Surrey	11.7	1.3%	£108,980.9267	£108,980.93
Tyne and Wear Fire	24.5	2.8%	£228,607.8988	£228,607.90
Warwickshire	4.2	0.5%	£39,524.0766	£39,524.08
West Midlands Fire	52.9	6.1%	£493,875.9426	£493,875.94
West Sussex	5.5	0.6%	£51,712.4910	£51,712.49
West Yorkshire Fire	38.3	4.4%	£357,524.2076	£357,524.21
	871.7	100.0%	£8,139,171.0000	£8,139,170.99
Isles of Scilly	0.0		2400	2400
			£8,141,571.0000	£8,141,570.99