

Preparing for a Spending Review

Presentation to the NFCC

Luke Edwards – Director for Fire and Resilience

Political Context



“Assuming a Brexit deal is agreed over the next few weeks and the uncertainty that is hanging over the economy is lifted, **I intend to launch a full three year spending review before the summer recess** to be concluded alongside an autumn budget”

Spring Statement March 2019



The Chief Secretary set out her vision for a Spending Review that focusses on “core public services” – the police, education, roads, defence and the NHS. Particular areas of focus are around **human capital and early intervention**.

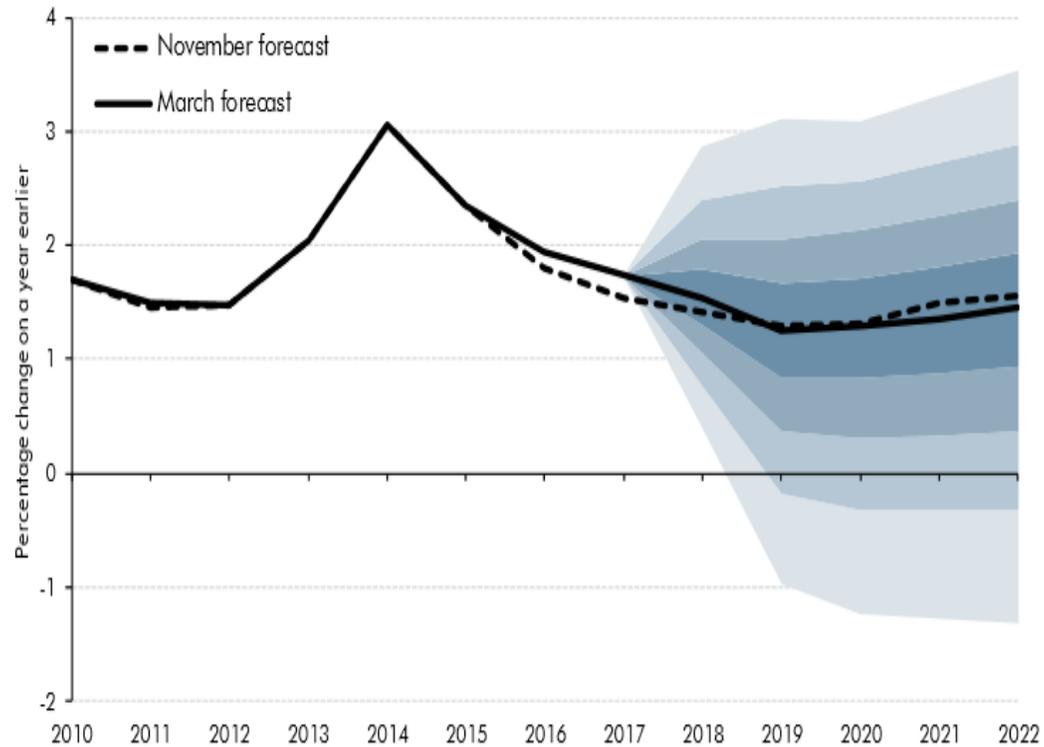
19th March 2019

Fiscal Context



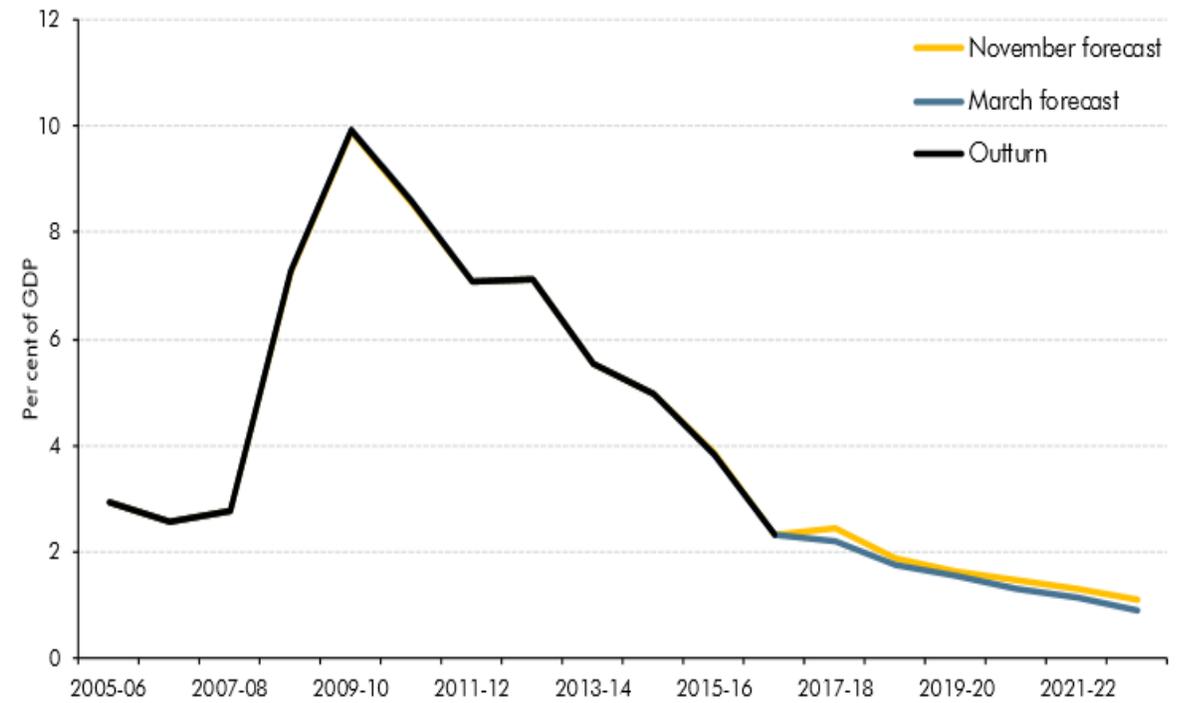
A challenging context with significant uncertainty

Chart 1.3: Real GDP fan chart



Source: ONS, OBR

Chart 1.4: Public sector net borrowing



Source: ONS, OBR

Principles of a good spending review

Outcomes and public value

Efficiency and productivity

Credible reform plan

- Baseline – financial and performance
- Trend analytics
- Impacts of different spending scenarios
- Good financial models – workforce and outputs
- Infrastructure proposition
- Quantitative evidence underpinning future plans

Do we have a good story to tell?

Efficiency and Productivity

Reduction in the number of fire fighters and services transforming commercially with more efficient procurement and collaboration. There are 23 per cent fewer firefighters than in 2008.

Operational outputs

Response times largely protected although protection and prevention outputs have fallen (though the story is more complex here). In 2017/18, the number of Home Fire Safety Checks was 26 per cent fewer than in 2010/11.

Outcomes – long term downward trend in the number of fires and fire related fatalities

Over the past 10 years the total number of fires attended by fire and rescue services has fallen by 38 per cent and there has been a 31 per cent reduction in the number of fire-related fatalities when compared with the year ending September 2018.

Reform – standards and inspection

The establishment of an independent Fire Standards Board and new independent inspection regime through HMICFRS

This story will also need to recognise current and frame our future challenges

We will also need to address the challenges facing the sector

Learning from Grenfell and new requirements around building safety

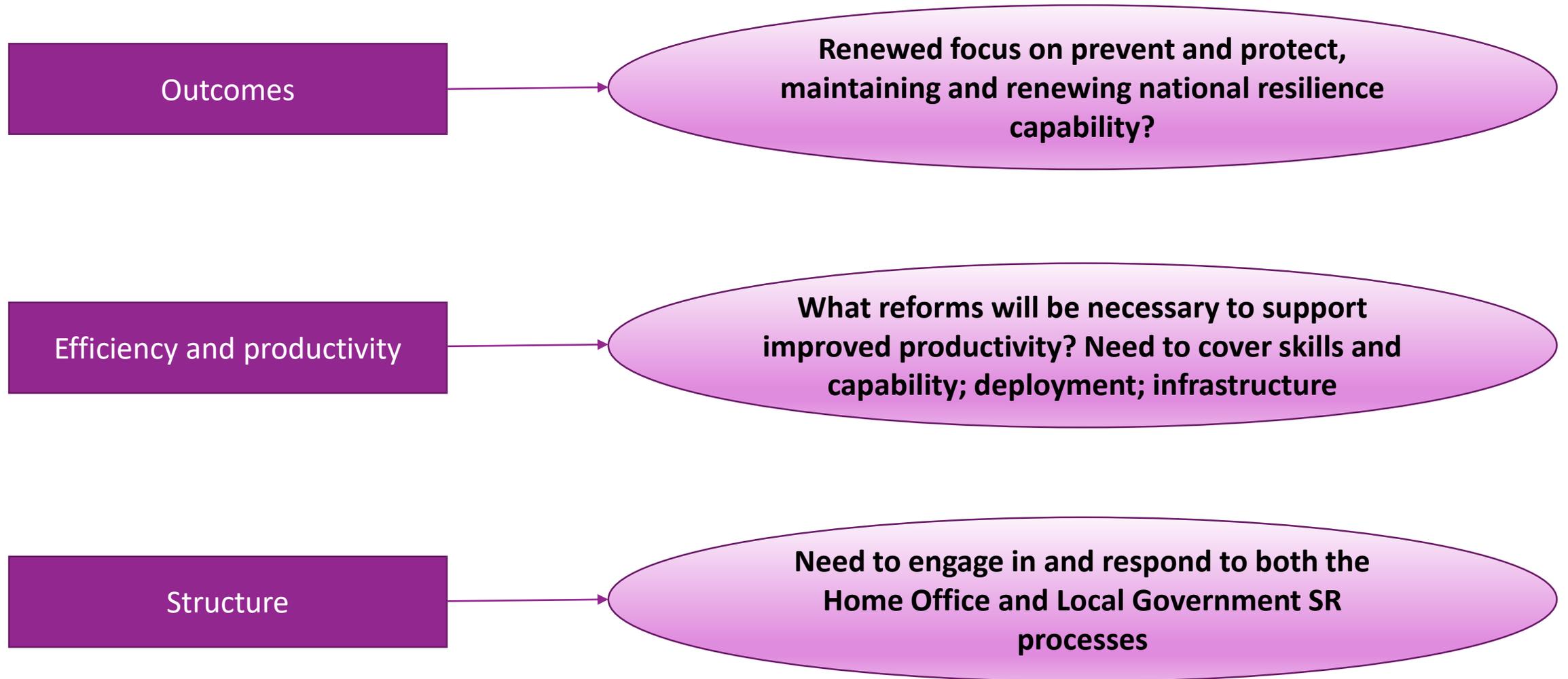
Major national programme: ESN and National Resilience Capabilities

Understanding future demand and its implications for capability and skills

Capacity to respond to major Incidents

Scope to strengthen reform model

What does this mean for fire and rescue services?



We have a lot to do ...

Senior Sector Group



By end May we have agreed we need three key products – which we can deploy and build on

A shared narrative

A shared evidence base

Scenario modelling completed with three services

..... working together

Questions

- Are these the right sorts of issues?
- How does the prospect of a Spending Review feel for you and your organisation?
- How do we drive this forward with pace and energy?