



Efficiency

LGA Fire Conference

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The background features a dark blue triangle in the top left, a stack of books with a green spine on the right, and various white and grey geometric shapes. The text is positioned on the left side of the slide.

Overview

WHAT WE WILL COVER TODAY

- Spending Review (**SR**) process, outcome and the next SR
- The efficiency and productivity challenge and our commitment in the SR submission
- How to address the challenge and deliver our commitment



Spending Review 2021

The process, outcome and future reviews

Spending Review 2021

- Partnership working with both LGA and NFCC in advance of the SR submission to HMT
- SR paper from LGA and NFCC formed the basis of the fire SR 'ask' that was submitted to HMT from both HO and via DLUHC as fire is part of the Local Government settlement
- Overall SR outcome was better than expected

Spending Review outcome

- Secured £5 flexibility for the 8 FRAs with lowest Band D levels for 2022/23
- Core spending power for standalone FRAs will increase by 6.2% in cash terms in 22/23 compared to 21/22
- If the £5 flexibility is excluded the increase for standalone FRAs is 5.3% in cash terms
- The HO also secured the continuation of significant grant funding including £115m pensions grant and £12m protection grants along with the National Resilience grants. We are also continuing to fund the resources and infrastructure to deliver ESN

Future Spending Review

- Important to plan for the next SR to ensure we are able to make the best possible case for the right level of fire funding for 2025/26 onwards
- HMT will expect and have been explicit that we will need to evidence the efficiency and productivity improvements we have delivered over this SR
- Productivity is not easy to measure but we will need to have a measure for this in time for the next SR submission by Summer 2025
- Current work we are doing jointly with LGA and NFCC will enable us to provide the evidence required by HMT



Efficiency and Productivity Commitment

What was proposed in the
Spending Review submission

The Challenge - Data

- National input data limited to staffing numbers
- Output data primarily covers incidents, home fire safety checks and fire safety audits
- We do have better efficiency data, especially linked to procurement savings



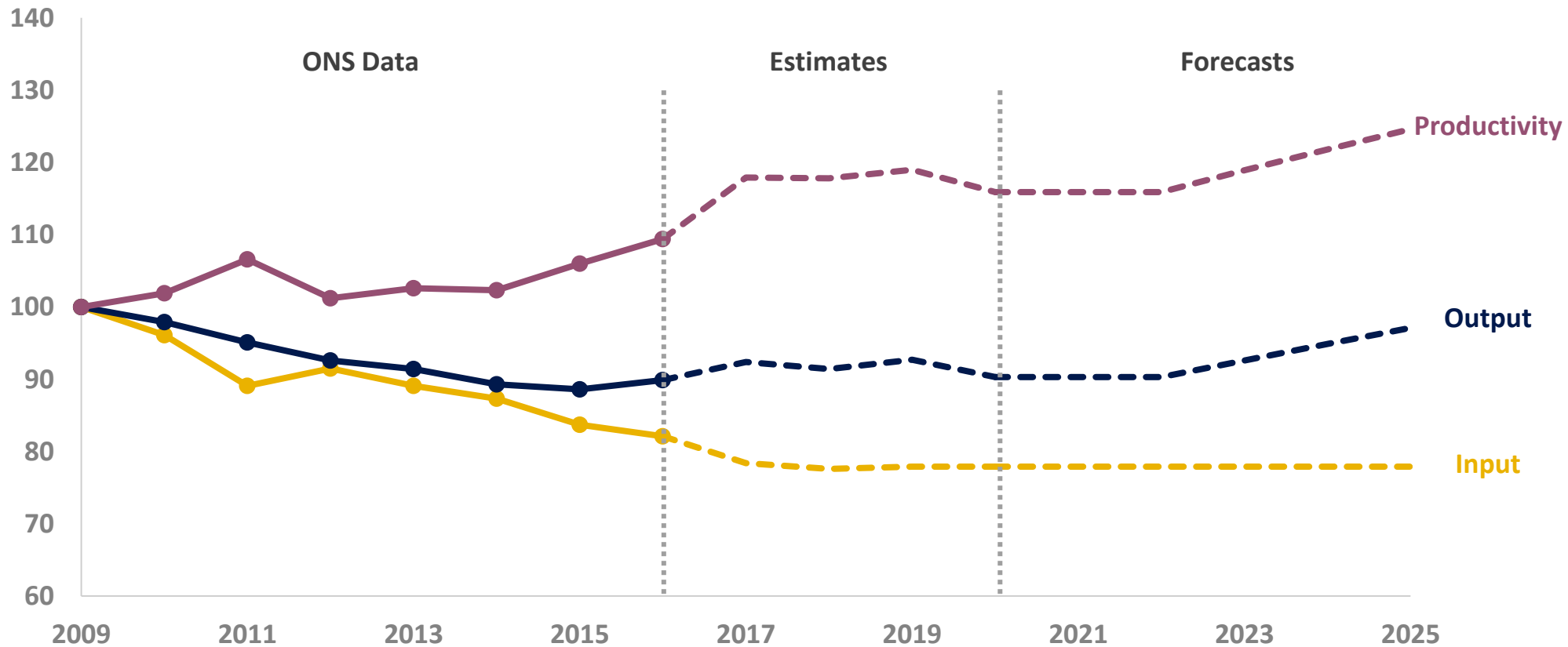
Using the Data Available

- Productivity improving, primarily due to staff numbers falling faster than incidents and other activities
- Aspiration as part of SR there would be no reduction in firefighter numbers
- Commitment to increase prevention and protection activity over SR period (assumed incidents remain flat)



Fire Sector Productivity

ONS AND HOME OFFICE DATA AND PROJECTIONS



Our SR Commitment

- Using differently the equivalent of 3% of the wholetime firefighter hours available to deliver an additional 65,000 home fire safety checks and 18,000 fire safety audits per annum by the end of 2024-25
- Figures are noted as illustrative
- Further efficiency savings of 2% of non-payroll budgets totalling circa £500m, with the savings to be reinvested within the sector



Efficiency and Productivity Activity

How the sector is working to
deliver our commitment

Collective Endeavor

- The Fire Efficiency and Productivity Forum was initiated in response to the Spending Review Submission 2021
- Brings together representatives from across the fire sector to work towards common goals of improving understanding of efficiency and productivity in the fire sector in England, and supporting and monitoring the implementation of improvements
- Representatives are HO, LGA, NFCC, HMICFRS
- Similar to the Efficiency in Policing Board



Initial Activity

- Developed and agreed Terms of reference and work plan
- Identified accountable leads
- NFCC Workshop
- SPOC for all English FRSs



Next Steps

- Establish baselines for efficiency and productivity
- Create a picture of existing activities that increase efficiency and productivity
- Develop effective recording, monitoring, and reporting tools

