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agenda.

Meeting	AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
Time/Day/Date	6:30pm on Thursday, 26 February 2026
Location	Stenson House, London Road, Coalville, LE67 3FN
Officer to contact	Democratic Services (01530 454512)

AGENDA

Item		Pages
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	
	Under the Code of Conduct members are reminded that in declaring interests you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest, registerable interest or other interest.	
3.	MINUTES	
	To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2026.	3 - 8
4.	OUTSTANDING ACTIONS UPDATE	
	To consider any outstanding items from previous meetings.	9 - 12
5.	COMMITTEE WORK PLAN	
	To note the Committee's work plan.	13 - 14
6.	AUDIT COMPLETION REPORT - 2023/24 AND 2024/25	
	The report of the External Auditor, Azets	15 - 16
7.	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24	
	The report of the Strategic Director of Resources	17 - 132
8.	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25	
	The report of the Strategic Director of Resources	133 - 254
9.	TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE REPORT - QUARTER 3	
	The report of the Head of Finance	255 - 272

Circulation:

Councillor R Sutton (Chair)
Councillor P Moulton (Deputy Chair)
Councillor R Boam
Councillor D Cooper
Councillor D Everitt
Councillor R Johnson
Councillor G Rogers
Councillor J G Simmons
Councillor N Smith
Councillor A Wilson
Mrs E Hutchinson
Mr P Montgomery

MINUTES of a meeting of the AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE held in the Stenson House, London Road, Coalville, LE67 3FN on WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2026

Present: Councillor R Sutton (Chair)

Councillors P Moulton, D Cooper, D Everitt, E Hutchinson, R Johnson, P Montgomery, G Rogers, J G Simmons and A Wilson

Officers: Ms K Beavis, L Flinders, Mr G Hall, Ms E Lant, Mr S Outama, Mr P Stone and Mrs R Wallace

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Boam and N Smith.

38. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

39. MINUTES

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2025.

It was noted that the Independent Members were not included in the attendance list, and it was agreed to amend the minutes accordingly.

It was moved by Councillor G Rogers, seconded by Councillor J Simmons and

RESOLVED THAT:

Subject the amendment as detailed above, the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

40. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS UPDATE

Consideration was given to any outstanding actions.

The current outstanding actions were acknowledged. It was noted that due to the focus on the budget setting process in recent months, some actions had been delayed. Meetings would be set up in due course with the Chair and Deputy Chair to address the outstanding actions.

41. COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Consideration was given to the committee work plan.

The Committee noted that the Statement of Accounts item scheduled for April would not be required due to the recent publication of both the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Statement of Accounts.

42. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UPDATE

The Strategic Director of Resources presented the report.

The Committee were pleased to see that the accounts were published earlier than the required backstop date and the finance team were thanked for their hard work. The

Strategic Director of Resources echoed the comments and offered his thanks to officers for their hard work alongside the ongoing budget process.

The Chair thanked the Committee for their comments and the report was noted.

43. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

The Audit Manager presented the report.

Several questions of clarity were asked by Members and responses provided by officers.

In relation to the outstanding trade waste audit recommendations, a Member commented on the checks and balances for collections, and queried what was being done to ensure only permitted waste was placed in the bins. In the absence of the relevant officer, it was agreed to provide a response outside of the meeting.

In relation to the outstanding housing materials audit recommendations, Members made the following comments:

In relation to audit recommendation 8, recording, managing and monitoring van stock, a Member raised concerns regarding the possible risk of stock becoming misappropriated. The Head of Housing assured the committee that all stock was monitored and the recommendation was aimed at the stock recording process.

In response to a question from a Member, the Head of Housing agreed to provide further information on where larger stock items such as doors and radiators were stored outside of the meeting, but assured that the Housing Repairs Team Manager was working on improving time efficiency for repairs staff on matters such as collecting stock.

In relation to the outstanding financial systems audit recommendations, the following comments were provided:

In response to a question from a Member, the Strategic Director of Resources provided an update on the progress of the debt recovery process which was ongoing.

In response to a question from a Member regarding authorising purchase orders, the Strategic Director of Resources confirmed that work was underway with the new supplier regarding the administration and security of the process to ensure internal controls were correct.

During a discussion on the recommended budget holder training, the Strategic Director of Resources confirmed that an e-learning module was being developed which would also be part of new staff inductions moving forward.

Comments were made on the historical duplicate payment issues, and it was confirmed that work had been undertaken and the recommendation was now complete.

It was agreed to provide a more detailed narrative on audit recommendations in future reports, so that Members could see the progress being made.

In relation to the extended recommendations within the report, the following comments were made:

In response to a question from a Member regarding asbestos management, it was confirmed that a private contractor had been employed as it was deemed more cost effective than to not complete the outstanding work.

A discussion was had on the capital programme management recommendation and whether this was linked to the Unit 4 system. The Strategic Director of Resources explained that it was in relation to the tracking of expenditure to enable the statement of accounts to be closed and was due to the delay in the accounts. It was acknowledged that this would be reported to Cabinet later in the month and therefore the recommendation would then be signed off.

The Chair thanked the Committee for their comments and the report was noted.

44. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS ARRANGEMENTS

The Legal Team Leader – Governance, presented the report.

Discussions were had on the proposed change regarding an additional stage in the process which allowed the Monitoring Officer to reject complaints received that were over 3 months old, some Members questioned the appropriateness of the time limit. It was acknowledged that guidance stated a 6-month time limit, and the rationale for the proposal and the flexibility for exceptional cases was explained. Following a debate on the matter, it was suggested that the report to Council include more detail clarifying the reasoning for the proposal, Members agreed.

The work of the Cross Party Working Group was noted and the members were thanked for the time taken on the review.

It was moved by Councillor P Moulton, seconded by Councillor R Johnson and

RECOMMENDED THAT:

Council adopts the amendments to the Code of Conduct Complaints Arrangements at its meeting on 19 February 2026 with effect from 20 February 2026.

45. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

The Legal Team Leader – Governance, presented the report and referred to the additional papers circulated at the meeting.

In relation to a question on the award of grants delegation and the link to the Legacy Fund as part of the upcoming budget proposals, the Strategic Director of Resources explained that several grants would still require approval and therefore the minor change to the delegation was still required. The Legacy Fund would have its own approval process which was yet to be agreed.

The Chair spoke strongly against the proposed changes within the Audit and Governance Committee terms of reference in relation to the wording 'those charged with governance', due to concerns that it went against the CIPFA guidance on the language required. It was felt that further consideration was required on these proposals before being presented to Council. The Committee supported the approach.

The work of the Cross Party Working Group was noted and the members were thanked for the time taken on the review.

It was moved by Councillor P Moulton, seconded by Councillor D Everitt and

RESOLVED THAT:

The amendment to the Audit and Governance Committee section of the constitution be reconsidered by officers prior to approval by Council due to the language change going against CIPFA guidance.

RECOMMENDED THAT:

- 1) Council adopts the amendments to the constitution, subject to the removal of the 'review of the Audit and Governance Committee' section as detailed above, at its meeting on 19 February 2026.
- 2) The changes come into effect from 1 March 2026, except for the amendments to the Appointments Committee to come into force in May 2026.

46. STANDARDS AND ETHICS REPORT - QUARTER 3

The Legal Team Leader – Governance, presented the report.

No comments were made and the report was noted.

47. REVIEW OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES - INFORMATION GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The Strategic Director of Resources presented the report.

The importance of the policies was acknowledged, and officers were thanked for their continuing work on information governance.

The report was noted.

48. CORPORATE RISK UPDATE

The Strategic Director of Resources presented the report.

The Chair referred Members to the additional papers in which an updated risk register was included with changes clearly indicated.

In response to a question from a Member regarding the upcoming Procurement Act changes, the Strategic Director of Resources explained that work was ongoing with the external procurement advisor, and he was hoping to have more detail in the next update to committee.

In relation to corporate risk number 35 – Local Plan, concerns were raised that the risk score was low considering the current timeframe for submitting the plan. The Strategic Director of Resources acknowledged the concerns and agreed to review the risk level with planning officers.

In relation to corporate risk number 21 – driver and fleet compliance, Members questioned the high-risk score. The Strategic Director of Resources agreed to provide more detail for the next update to the committee.

The Committee noted the Corporate Risk Register and the comments made would be fed back to the Council's Corporate Risk Group.

49. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED THAT:

In pursuance of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

50. ANNUAL IT HEALTH CHECK REPORT

The Strategic Director of Resources presented the report.

Member discussed the contents of the report, and several questions of clarity were answered by officers.

The report was noted.

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:42pm

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Audit and Governance Committee

Outstanding Actions

Key:

Green = completed

Amber = working towards

Red = to be completed



Meeting Date	Agenda item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer	Target dates/rationale for delays	Status and last updated
12/11/25	7	To provide the Committee with a briefing on Unit 4.	Will provide a briefing note ahead of the Audit Committee in February 2026. Note to be drafted in January 2026.	Paul Stone		08/01/26 Red
12/11/25	7	To arrange discussions with Cllr P Moulton and the Chair with the intention to undertake a root cause analysis on the human processes regarding the implementation of the Unit 4 system.	<u>An arrangement of discussions to be made once accounts have been completed.</u>	Paul Stone		08/01/26 Red

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer	Target dates/rationale for delays	Status and last updated
04/02/26	7	To provide a response to Cllr Rogers in relation to the following question raised during discussion: 'What checks and balances are in place to make sure only the correct type of waste is put into trade waste bins, how is this dealt with?'	Response sent via email on 09/02/2026	Kerry Beavis/Paul Sanders		08/02/2026 Green
04/02/26	7	To provide a response to Cllr Moulton in relation to the following question raised during discussion: 'Where is stock such as radiators/doors etc stored, is it still a storage unit as it was in the past?'	Yes, we store at Market Street but often order and collect to fit same day as we do not have capacity to store every door/ window etc Response sent via email on 10/02/2026	Gary Hall		10/02/2026 Green
04/02/26	7	Outstanding finance audit recommendations: It was agreed to provide more narrative in future reports so that members have more information and it is clear what progress has been made.		Paul Stone	Next meeting the internal audit progress update is reported to (26/04/26)	Amber
04/02/26	12	Corporate risk no.35 re Local Plan: Members felt the risk was not accurate considering the timeframes for submission the plan. It was agreed to go back to planning officers to review the risk.		Paul Stone	Next meeting the risk register is reported to (26/04/26)	Amber

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action	Comments	Responsible Officer	Target dates/rationale for delays	Status and last updated
04/01/26	12	Corporate risk no.21 re Driver and fleet compliance: In response to members concern that it was a particularly high-risk score, it was agreed to get further details for the next meeting.		Paul Stone	Next meeting the risk register is reported to (26/04/26)	Amber

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AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME (as at 17/02/26)

Issue	Report Author	Meeting at which will be reported
April 2026		
Statement of Accounts Update To provide the Committee with the latest position regarding the Council's progress on completion of its statutory financial reporting.	Paul Stone, Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	29 April 2026
Draft Accounting Policies 2025/26	Anna Crouch, Head of Finance	29 April 2026
2025/26 Annual Audit Plan Report of the External Auditor	Anna Crouch, Head of Finance	29 April 2026
Internal Audit Progress Report	Kerry Beavis, Audit Manager	29 April 2026
Internal Audit Annual Plan	Kerry Beavis, Audit Manager	29 April 2026
Internal Audit Charter	Kerry Beavis, Audit Manager	29 April 2026
↪ Internal Audit Strategy	Kerry Beavis, Audit Manager	29 April 2026
Corporate Risk Update	Paul Stone, Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	29 April 2026
Audit and Governance Committee Annual Report	Paul Stone, Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	29 April 2026
Standards and Ethics Report - Quarter 4	Emma Lant	29 April 2026
SIRO (Senior Information Risk Officer) Annual Report	Laurent Flinders, Information Governance Officer	29 April 2026
Draft Member Code of Conduct Annual Report	Emma Lant	29 April 2026
June 2026		
Treasury Management Stewardship Report 2025/26 For the Committee to consider the draft Treasury Management Stewardship Report 2025/26 before it is considered by Cabinet.	Anna Crouch, Head of Finance	10 June 2026

Issue	Details	Report Author	Meeting at which will be reported
Annual Governance Statement 2025/26	Anna Crouch, Head of Finance, Paul Stone, Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	10 June 2026	

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 26
FEBRUARY 2026

Title of Report	AUDIT COMPLETION REPORT - 2023/24 AND 2024/25	
Presented by	Paul Stone Strategic Director of Resources	
Background Papers	Audit and Governance Committee – 23 April 2025 External Audit Plan 2023/24 Audit and Governance Committee – 4 June 2025 External Audit Plan 2024/25 Audit and Governance Committee – 12 November 2025 2023/24 Audit Completion Report	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications to be considered.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no legal implications to be considered.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no staffing and corporate issues to be considered	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To present the External Auditor's Audit Completion Report for year ended 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025.	
Recommendations	THAT THE COMMITTEE NOTES THE AUDIT COMPLETION REPORTS FROM THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR THE YEARS 2023/24 AND 2024/25.	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Audit Completion Report (ACR) is a document prepared at the end of the external audit that summarises the key findings, conclusions and outstanding actions before the final audit opinion is issued.
- 1.2 At the time of writing this report, the ACRs for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 years were undergoing finalisation by the External Auditors, Azets and will be issued as part of an addendum report prior to the meeting.
- 1.3 A representative from Azets will be present at the meeting.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	Not applicable
Safeguarding:	Not applicable
Equalities/Diversity:	Not applicable
Customer Impact:	Not applicable
Economic and Social Impact:	Not applicable
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	Not applicable
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Not applicable
Risks:	Not applicable
Officer Contact	Anna Crouch Head of Finance anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 26
FEBRUARY 2026

Title of Report	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24	
Presented by	Paul Stone Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	
Background Papers	None	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no legal implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no staffing or corporate implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	For the Committee to consider and approve the Statement of Accounts 2023/24.	
Recommendations	THAT THE COMMITTEE: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVES THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24. 2. AUTHORISES THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE TO SIGN THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24. 3. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE COMMITTEE CHAIR AND THE SECTION 151 OFFICER TO APPROVE ANY MINOR NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENTS, AS AGREED WITH THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS, TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24 ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE. 	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The publication of the draft 2023/24 Statement of Accounts was delayed, and the statutory deadline was missed. A notice was placed on the Council's website to this effect.
- 1.2 The draft 2023/24 Statement of Accounts was published on the Council's website on 29 August 2025, and the statutory public consultation was undertaken from the 22 September to 5 November 2025. No objections were received.

2.0 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/24

- 2.1 The Statement of Accounts should provide electors, those subject to locally levied taxes and charges, members of the authority, employees, other stakeholders and interested parties with clear and comparable information about the Council's finances.
- 2.2 The accounts of Local Authorities in the United Kingdom are required to be developed in line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice - Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code"). The Code must be followed to meet the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations to 'present a true and fair view' of the financial position of the Council.
- 2.3 The Code is based on Internal Financing Reporting Standards (IFRS), amended as necessary in respect of legislation governing local authorities.
- 2.4 The Council has prepared the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts in line with the Code and therefore IFRS and its local accounting policies that were agreed by this committee at its meeting on the 5 February 2025.
- 2.5 The format of the accounts is effectively prescribed in the Code and is set out as follows:

Section of Statements	Purpose
Narrative	To provide the reader with an understanding of North West Leicestershire as a place, the Council and its priorities, the wider economic background and the non-financial and financial performance of the Council in 2023/24.
Statement of Responsibilities	Shows the responsibilities of the Council and Chief Financial Officer for these accounts.
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)	Presents the cost of each function and how they were financed. This is a core statement.
Movement in Reserves Statement	Presents the movement in reserves during the year between usable and unusable reserves, and the actual change to the reserves after all adjustments. This is a core statement.
Balance Sheet	Presents all of the Council's assets and liabilities at the year end, both long and short term. This is a core statement.
Cash Flow Statement	Sets out the flow of cash into and out of the Council. This is a core statement.
Notes to the Financial Statements	These explain in more detail the makeup of the various amounts included in the core statements
Accounting Policies	Technical explanation of main policies and

	assumptions used in preparing the accounts.
HRA (Housing Revenue Account) Income and Expenditure Account	This statement shows income and expenditure regarding Council dwellings.
Collection Fund	Sets out the transactions relating to the collection and distribution of Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR), or Business Rates as they are more commonly known.

2.6 The Statements must comply with the Code so that comparisons can be made across different authorities and for this reason it is essential that authorities define individual costs in line with the Service Reporting Code of Practice (SERCOP). There should also be good notes and explanations to the accounts to aid understanding and, although by nature a technical document, the notes should be concise and understandable.

3.0 AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT STATEMENTS

3.1 Since the publication of the draft statements on the Council's website on 29 August 2025, changes have been made to the accounts to ensure that they reflect a 'true and fair' view. None of these changes were material.

3.2 The final version of the Statement of Accounts 2023/24 is documented in Appendix A for approval.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	None
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	None
Customer Impact:	None
Economic and Social Impact:	None
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	None
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Statutory Consultation took place between 22 September to 5 November 2025
Risks:	Complying with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice - Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code") minimises the risk that the accounts do not 'present a true and fair view' of the financial position of the Council.
Officer Contact	Anna Crouch Head of Finance anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

Statement of Accounts 2023/24



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Section 1 Narrative Report

1. North West Leicestershire as a place

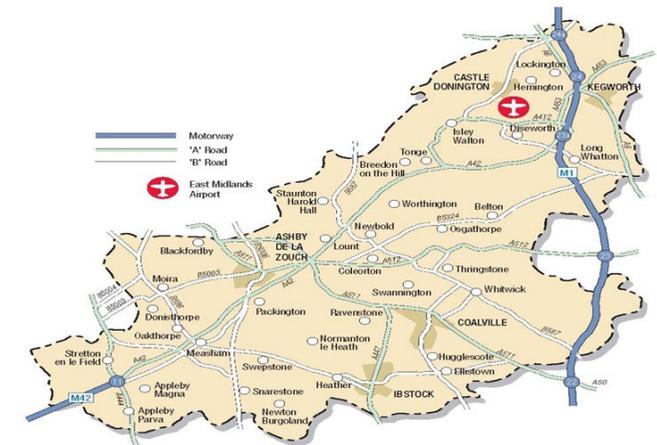
North West Leicestershire is a semi-rural district with a population of approximately 108,000. Most people live in the district's two main towns of Coalville and Ashby de la Zouch. Around the district are a handful of large villages (Castle Donington, Kegworth, Ibstock and Measham) and numerous smaller villages.

In the 1990s and 2000s, Coalville and the wider area underwent significant regeneration and the district's economy has been one of the fastest growth areas in the East Midlands. The coal mining sites formerly used for mineral extraction are now home to a diverse array of business parks and industrial estates providing local employment and drawing from a wide regional labour market.

North West Leicestershire sits at the axis of the Midlands, strategically located within 25 miles of Birmingham, Derby, Leicester and Nottingham. It is served by the M1/M42 (A42) and A50 and is also home to East Midlands Airport – the UK's busiest 'pure' cargo airport.

The district has one of the highest jobs density figures in the Region – indicating a very high level of jobs and this is because our location has proved to be a major attraction to inward investors and developers as well as continuing to be a place that indigenous businesses call home. Key employment sectors in the district are wholesale and retail trade, transport and storage, manufacturing and professional, scientific and technical activities.

We are very proud that our district lies at the heart of the National Forest which spans across parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and Staffordshire. We are a key partner in an ongoing project that is transforming former mining areas through tree planting and forest activities.



2. The council

Governance

We operate a cabinet style government with separation of executive and scrutiny functions. All Cabinet members have been allocated a specific portfolio and are responsible for driving forward the Council's key strategic aims.

Political structure in 2023/24

The Council's political structure as at the 31 March 2024 was:

- Alliance – 19 (Conservative Party (12 councillors), Liberal Democrat Party (5 councillors) and Independent (2 councillors))
- Labour Party – 17 councillors
- Independent – 2 councillors

The council's Leader, Councillor Richard Blunt was re-elected in May 2023. Councillor Blunt subsequently appointed six Cabinet Members for various portfolios and the delegation of executive functions.

Chief Officer Structure

Councillors are supported by the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) which is led by the Council's Chief Executive. CLT are responsible for the overall management of the Council, for setting and monitoring overall direction and ensuring high performance in the delivery of council services. Including the Chief Executive, CLT is made up of eleven members: three Strategic Directors and seven Heads of Service (which include the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer).

Reviewing our governance

Every year we undertake a review of our governance framework, assessing against the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' 2016. This review of effectiveness is informed by the work of senior managers and directors within the Council who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control environment, the Internal Audit Annual Report, the work of the Audit and Governance Committee plus the

comments of external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates. Our Annual Governance Statement summarises our view of the arrangements and can be found on our [website](#).

Our priorities

The Council's vision is that we support a clean, green and prosperous place where people want to live, work and visit. Our Council Delivery Plan for 2023 sets out our priorities and aims for the coming years. Our priority areas are:

- **Planning and regeneration:** Providing an effective planning service to our communities
- **Communities and housing:** Providing a high-quality housing service to our tenants, which includes delivering an excellent repairs service
- **Clean, green and Zero Carbon:** looking after the environment we live in

- **A well-run council:** Making sure our services are provided in a positive and friendly way, that we provide good value for money and that our finances are in good order. The Council Delivery Plan links our priorities directly to our departmental business plans and the work of each service through specific service plans. This allows our performance to be monitored against our objectives using a performance roadmap detailed within the Council Delivery Plan [[Council Delivery Plan 2023-2028](#)].

The Devolution Agenda

The landscape of local government is changing dramatically. Government has set in motion via its Levelling Up Bill the creation of Combined Authorities, with 10 areas with mayoral devolution in England, being extended to three new areas in 2024, and new non-mayoral devolution deals will go live in 2025. The East Midlands has seen the establishment of a Combined Authority for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire areas along with a Devolution Deal which threatens future

investment in Leicestershire. Whilst all District Councils in Leicestershire bid to be part of a Combined Authority and Devolution Deal for the East Midlands, this was not supported by the Upper Tier Authorities in Leicestershire. Districts have also formed alliances within Leicestershire to promote shared services and secure efficiencies. The devolution agenda, along with a raft of new locally announced economic programmes, means councils must be adaptable and have the ability to embrace change, whilst ensuring financial stability.

Who works for the council?

The council employs 539 individuals across a wide range of services, many of whom are part-time and hold multiple roles. Our full-time equivalent number of employees is 480 and 9 of these are apprenticeship roles. The majority of the council's services are provided in-house, and our employed positions reflect this, with roles across

many job types including manual operatives, skilled tradesmen and accredited service professionals.

Our People Plan

Our People Plan sets an ambition to develop a sustainable, ambitious, effective and efficient workforce that reflects the local communities we serve. The plan was developed in 2018 and is currently under revision to support the updated Council Delivery Plan. The People Plan is based on five themes:

- Being an employer of Choice.
- Developing and Supporting Staff.
- Leadership
- Happy and Healthy workforce.
- Communicate and listen.

We have made good progress against the plan including gaining Investors in People Silver accreditation in 2021.

Our Values

Our corporate values are:

Trust – We are honest, fair and transparent and we value trust

Respect – We respect each other and our customers in a diverse, professional and supportive environment

Excellence – We will always work to be the best that we can be

Pride – We are proud of the role we play in making North West Leicestershire a happy, healthy and vibrant place to live and work

Growth – We will work together to grow and continually improve.

3. The council's non-financial performance

Below is a summary of some of our key achievements for the 2023/24 year under each of the council's five priorities.

Supporting Coalville to be a more vibrant family friendly town

- Delivery has commenced on some of the projects identified in the Coalville Regeneration Framework – an example being the Mantle Lane Bridge environmental improvements.
- A contractor has been appointed to deliver the Marlborough Square improvement works and material are being ordered to start the works.
- The New Market continues to go from strength to strength with a range of events and activities increasing footfall and leading to some excellent feedback from participants.

- Negotiations are continuing with private sector partners to try to seek a cinema venue in Coalville.
- After extensive stakeholder engagement, an options paper has been prepared for the former Hermitage Leisure Centre site and its environs.

Our communities are safe, healthy and connected

- A number of initiatives to improve our interactions with customers in both the service centre and in linking in back-office service areas have progressed during the quarter. These will lead to better linking of contact options and improvements to the call management arrangements.
- Usual levels at the New Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre have continued to be very encouraging since the opening in February.
- Five neighbourhoods Plan group have been supported.

- Consultation on the development strategy element of the Local Plan substantive review was undertaken.
- The three main priorities of the Integrated Neighbourhood Plan in relation to the care Planning pilot, a health needs analysis was completed in the Overweight and Obesity area and a mental health accelerator area is being identified with the Integrated Neighbourhood team locality.

Local people live in high quality, affordable homes

- Our plans to deliver more homes through S106 agreements with developments were subject to slippage due to disruptions in the building trade and our reliance on developers to achieve this objective. However, seven units are due for completion in the first quarter of 2023/24 and nine units are scheduled for later in the year.

- Working with Housing Associations and partners we have exceeded the target of over 100 affordable homes, with two hundred and ninety-five delivered during the year.
- We are continuing to invest in the Council rented housing stock with £3 million of works rolled forward from the year as we do everything we can to catch up from the delays caused by the COVID pandemic. continue.
- Work is anticipated to commence on the Appleby Magna Caravan site during early 2022/23.

Support for businesses and helping people into local jobs

- Our Economic Growth Plan was approved by Cabinet in March 2022.
- The Economic Development Team continued to provide support to new business enquiries.

- The new high street loyalty card was rolled out across the districts key shopping areas which seeks to encourage and reward people for shopping locally.
- The build of the new Whitwick and Coalville Leisure Centre generated significant social value contributions to the local economy.
- The East Midlands Development Company is progressing with a Chairman and Managing Director now in place. Current work is to develop the delivery strategy for East Midlands Airport.

Developing a clean and green district

- We have continued to work with the National Forest to develop the Heart of the Forest Masterplan, and the Sustainable Tourism Accommodation design guide and the accelerator programme.
- We have been awarded further government funding to support the

installation of Electric Vehicle charging points in Measham. This is now the sixth location in Council owned car parks to be fitted with EV points and a further four have been installed at the new Leisure Centre.

- Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) is now being used for all the Council's former diesel operated fleet. We have made progress with ordering electric vehicles for use as alternatives across our operations.
- We are continuing to seek to tackle the on-going problem in littering and fly-tipping working with volunteer groups and our in-house cleansing teams. This is through an emphasis on education, clearance and fines.
- We have achieved our aim of reducing the vehicle emissions on hackney carriages and private vehicle operators.

4. The council's financial performance

Financial Outturn for 2023/24

The Council has two main accounts, the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account, as well as a Special Expenses account covering services to parishes and unparished areas. Each account has a revenue budget for provision of services and a capital budget for delivery of significant projects.

General Fund

Our General Fund account summarises the expenditure on the council's main services which are paid for in part by council tax.

The analysis below shows the major variances in the General Fund revenue budget for 2023/24.

2023/2024 GENERAL FUND REVENUE OUTTURN POSITION

Directorate & Service Area	Revised Annual Budget	Outturn	Outturn Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	2,754	2,715	-39
Place	2,569	3,416	847
Community Services	8,297	8,840	543
Resources	3,524	3,703	179
Corporate & Democratic Core (CDC) & Other Budgets	245	360	115
Net Recharges from General Fund	-1,694	-1,954	-260
Corporate Items & Financing	1,444	-305	-1,749
Contribution Reserves - Business Rates	-52	8,412	8,464
NET COST OF SERVICES after recharges	17,087	25,187	8,100
Financed By			
New Homes Bonus	1,220	1,220	0
Transfer from/(to) Collection Fund	25	25	0
Council Tax	5,771	5,771	0
Business Rates Income	8,716	17,128	8,412
Services Grant	97	97	0
Minimum Funding Guarantee	1,168	1,168	0
Revenue Support Grant	90	90	0
Other Grants	0	28	28
TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE	17,087	25,527	8,440
UNDERSPEND / (OVERSPEND) 2023/2024	0	340	340

Major Variances		£'000
<u>Adverse Variances</u>		
Investment Property - reduced income due to vacant units and additional repair costs		-449
Development Management - Planning Application - Charges income		-267
Refuse & Recycling - hire of vehicles		-264
Finance - Salaries, NI, Pension, Agency		-261
Procurement - Consultancy		-172
Development Management - Agency staff		-171
Fleet - reduced recharge to HRA		-170
Strategic Housing - Salaries, NI, Pension, Agency		-163
NDC - Surplus Assets (includes Business Rates/Utilities/Security etc.)		-144
Refuse & Recycling - agency staff		-143
Cleansing - reduced income from HRA empty homes		-140
Leisure - payments to Contractor		-139
Refuse & Recycling, Cleansing - overtime		-117
Total Adverse Variances		<u>-2,600</u>
<u>Favourable Variances</u>		
Investment Income	1,444	
Strategic Housing - Grants	289	
Net Recharges	260	
Revenues & Benefits - income summons, hsg benefit new burdens, local c.tax support	216	
Asylum Seeker Grant	198	
Rough Sleeping/Homelessness Grants rec'd (net of payments)	145	
Legal and Commercial Services - Salary, NI, pension	128	
Refuse & Recycling - income sale of materials	121	
Net Financing Costs	104	
Other minor variances	35	
Total Favourable Variances	<u>2,940</u>	
Net Variances		340

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The Housing Revenue Account summarises income and expenditure relating to the rented housing accommodation of the 4,102 homes provided by the Council.

The HRA is a ring-fenced account, meaning that HRA funds are maintained separately from other council finances and must only be spent on the council's housing stock and tenants' services. Its primary source of income is from collecting £19 million of rent from properties let at either social or affordable rental rates.

Housing Revenue Account 2023/24			
	Budget	Provisional Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Income from Operations	-3,061	2,474	-5,535
Appropriations	7,541	2,195	5,346
NET (SURPLUS)/DEFICIT	4,480	4,669	-189

2023/24 Capital Programme Outturn Report

General Fund Capital Programme

Schemes	Revised Budget £ '000	Outturn £ '000	Variance £ '000	(Slippage) / Accelerated Spend £ '000
Coalville Regeneration Projects	3,678	3,444	-234	-234
UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan Programme (UKSPF)	356	188	-168	-168
Carbon Zero	208	202	-6	-6
Systems/ICT Schemes	208	164	-44	-44
Vehicle, Plant and Equipment	3,898	2,112	-1,786	-1,786
New Construction or Renovation	2,558	1,785	-773	-773
Total	10,906	7,895	-3,011	-3,011

Capital

We spent £7.9 million on capital schemes in the General Fund and £4.9 million in the Housing Revenue Account in 2023/24.

General Fund:

The main areas of spending was on the Coalville Regeneration Projects.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme

Schemes	Revised Budget £ '000	Outturn £ '000	Variance £ '000	(Slippage) / Accelerated Spend £ '000
Housing Improvement Programme	4,500	2,327	-2,173	-2,173
Estate Improvement	1,266	592	-674	-674
Zero Carbon	850	412	-438	-438
Other Capital Projects including Compliance	1,740	1,501	-239	-239
Acquisition and New Builds	55	68	13	13
Total	8,411	4,900	-3,511	-3,511

Housing Revenue Account:

The majority of the expenditure was in relation to the Housing Improvement Programme.

Grand Total Capital Programme	19,317	12,795	-6,522	-6,522
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Our Assets and Liabilities

Pension Liabilities

£12 million

This is how much the council owes across future years offset by the value of assets invested in the pension fund.

For 2023/24, the council is reporting a net pension liability of £12 million, after applying the asset ceiling. This compares with a £1 million pension asset in the previous year. Overall, this represents a £13 million movement, resulting in the net liability position now reported.

The pension fund, which is a Local Government Pension Scheme, is revalued every three years to set the future contribution rates. The scheme was revalued in 2024.

Cash flow £ 5.8 million

The Council's cash flow shows an increase of £1.3 million in its cash and cash equivalents from the previous year.

Generally, cash balances have been healthy throughout the year and the Council invests these in accordance with its Treasury Management Strategy Statement which aims to minimise risk to these balances.

Borrowing £56.6 million

As at 31 March 2024 the Council has total external borrowing of £56.6 million, an increase of £6.5 million when compared with the previous year. The majority of this borrowing was taken out to fund the Housing Revenue Account self-financing and are made up of Public Works Loan Board loans. All of our borrowing complies with the

Prudential Code which means it is prudent, sustainable and affordable.

Provisions £0.6 million

This provision for Business Rates appeals was created as a result of the adoption in 2013/14 of the Business Rates Retention scheme through which the Council bears part of the risk for future appeals. The Council's estimate of the value of outstanding appeals up to 31 March 2024 is £6.1 million (2022/23: £4.6 million), the value of appeals used in completing the Collection Fund position as at 31 March 2024. The Council receives 40% of business rates as part of the localised system and must therefore bear 40% of the appeals provision which is £2.4 million.

Financial health

The Council has maintained a good level of financial health but like all local authorities faces significant pressures from reduced funding and demand pressures.

Usable Revenue Reserves

Usable revenue reserves are the most recognised and accepted measure of Local Government financial health. They help the Council to cope with unpredictable financial pressures and plan for future spending commitments. The Council will continue to use reserves to balance competing pressures for example:

- Using reserves to offset funding reductions and protect services – although this can only be a short-term strategy as reserves are a one-off funding resource – the Medium-Term Financial Plan

(MTFP) Reserve is held to provide resources to meet anticipated funding reductions which will provide time and resources to adapt the authority for lower levels of funding

- Using reserves to provide 'one-off' expenditure to meet corporate priorities.
- Investing in making changes that reduce the cost of providing services in the longer-term.
- Increasing reserves to strengthen resilience against future, uncertain cost pressures.

General Fund usable revenue reserve balances at 31 March 2024 were £15 million, an increase of £1.4 million on the previous year. The HRA has usable revenue reserves

of £2.7 million, a decrease of £4.7 million compared with the previous year. The reason for the reduction is due to the repayment of debt and capital expenditure.

Funding Outlook

Like all authorities, North West Leicestershire has received significant reductions in funding in recent years and anticipates future reductions as well as pressures on services. The Council, unlike some other authorities, receives no Revenue Support Grant and its entire funding comes from Council Tax, Business Rates and New Homes Bonus. The outlook in respect of each of these income streams is considered below:

- **Council Tax** – the Collection Fund statement shows that we collected £73.7 million in Council Tax but retained only about 9% of this with the majority being passed on to the County Council, Police and Fire services and parish councils. North West Leicestershire froze its share of the Council Tax in 2023/24 for the 13th consecutive year which means all of our growth in respect of council tax income results from

growth in the number of homes in North West Leicestershire.

- **Business Rates** – the Council collected £78 million in business rates income in 2023/24 but retained £7.8 million with the remainder being returned to the Government to fund other local services. A significant proportion of the amount retained is due to accumulated growth of business rates in the area which the Council is able to keep as part of the Government's business rates localisation scheme. A planned reset of this scheme will significantly reduce the Council's income from business rates in the medium term.
- **New Homes Bonus** – the Council received £1.2 million in New Homes Bonus in 2023/24 an amount significantly above average reflecting the significant home

growth in the district. However, the Government reduced the size of this reward this year and future funding is uncertain.

5. Risk Management

We have a Risk Management Policy in place which was approved in September 2023.

The overall objective of the Council's risk management approach is the identification, analysis, management and financial control of those risks which can most impact on the Council's ability to pursue its approved delivery plan.

A Corporate Risk Register, approved by the Corporate Leadership Team and Elected Members is in place. The Corporate Risk Register is a live document constantly under review to ascertain progress on managed risks and new risks that could impact on the Council. Our risk review cycle aligns with the service planning process and service risks monitored by service areas.

The Corporate Risk Group (CRG) is represented by each of the Council's services. The CRG identify new risks and review the corporate risk register, whilst the review of all risk management activity is part of the terms of reference of the Audit and Governance Committee. Risks are reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly Performance Management Report. In addition, all reports to Council, Cabinet and Committees have a risk management section for consideration of risks associated with specific decisions. All service areas and corporate projects maintain service and project-based risk registers.

The key risks are identified in the Council's corporate risk register.

6. Basis of preparation

When assessing what to include in these financial statements, the principle of materiality has been applied. This ensures that the core issues considered to have an impact on the council's strategies, governance, performance and aspirations in respect of matters such as the services it provides and the wellbeing of its local community, are presented. This includes matters that are ordinarily outside of the scope of financial reporting, but which are deemed to have a significant effect on the authority's ability to meet its objectives. Where information in this report is based on other information published by the council, it is prepared on that same basis, and is reconcilable and referenced to that published information.



The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required: -

- To make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Strategic Director of Resources.
- To manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets
- To approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Responsibilities of the S151 Officer

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code of Practice'). In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the S151 Officer has: -

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the Code of Practice.

The S151 Officer has also: -

- Kept proper accounting records which were up-to-date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Paul Stone
Strategic Director of Resources

Date

Councillor Ray Sutton
Chair of Audit and Governance Committee

Date

Section 2 Core Statements

Core Statements

1. Introduction

The following pages summarise the financial activities of North West Leicestershire District Council for 2023/24. The Council's Accounts have been produced in accordance with the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2023/24* and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2023/24, supported by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Explanatory notes to the accounts have been included to give further information where appropriate. The layout of the accounts follows the recommendations of the Code. For 2023/24 the accounts consist of these 'core' Financial Statements:

- **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** which shows income and expenditure of all main services.
- **Movement in Reserves Statement** which shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the council analysed into 'usable' reserves (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and unusable reserves (i.e. those that cannot be used to fund expenditure)

- **Balance Sheet** which sets out the overall financial position of the council at 31 March 2024 showing its assets, liabilities and reserves
- **Cash Flow Statement** which summarises the movements of cash and cash equivalents into and out of the Council arising from transactions with third parties
- **The Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA)** – This shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources by the Council in comparison with how those resources by the Council are consumed or earned by the Council. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for the decision-making purposes between the council's portfolio holders
- **Notes to the Core Financial Statements** which provide explanations of key figures within the statements.

Other financial statements:

- **The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Income & Expenditure Account and Statement of Movement on the HRA balance** – details income and expenditure on HRA services included in the whole Council Income & Expenditure Account and the latter reconciles the surplus for the year to the movement on the HRA balance.
- **The Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account** – this fulfils the Council's Statutory requirement as a billing authority to maintain a separate Collection Fund showing transactions for the Council Tax Non-Domestic Rates and how these have been distributed to precepting authorities and the General Fund.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

	2022/23			Notes	2023/24		
	Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
0	0	0	Chief Executive		0	(10)	(10)
157	(33)	125	Human Resources & Organisational Development		166	(65)	101
857	(268)	589	Legal and Support Services		1,025	(346)	678
1	(1)	0	Strategic Director of Place		7	0	7
1,687	(222)	1,465	Property & Economic Regeneration		3,750	(499)	3,251
3,936	(1,300)	2,636	Planning & Infrastructure		5,337	(2,259)	3,077
174	(127)	47	Joint Strategic Planning		127	(156)	(30)
770	(55)	715	Strategic Director of Communities including Customer Services		0	(23)	(23)
15,667	(3,508)	12,158	Community Services		17,198	(3,632)	13,566
1,829	(1,018)	811	Housing - General Fund		2,289	(1,212)	1,077
0	0	0	Strategic Director of Resources		36	0	36
1,543	(306)	1,237	Finance		374	(57)	318
14,102	(12,413)	1,688	Revenues & Benefits		14,149	(12,431)	1,718
53	(12)	41	ICT		69	(12)	57
1,219	(21)	1,198	Corporate & Democratic Core		1,163	(21)	1,143
358	0	358	Non Distributed Costs		1,689	0	1,689
20,078	(18,722)	1,356	Housing Services - HRA		21,340	(20,290)	1,049
62,430	(38,007)	24,423	Cost of Services		68,719	(41,014)	27,705
		3,716	Other Operating Expenditure	5			2,832
		4,230	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	6			3,499
		(25,990)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	7			(30,623)
		6,380	(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services				3,413
		(23,806)	(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of non current assets				(1,505)
		0	(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of available for sale financial assets				0
		(54,834)	Actuarial (gains)/losses on pension assets/liabilities	29			14,320
		(78,640)	Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				12,815
		(72,261)	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				16,228

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce taxation) and unusable reserves. The statement shows how the movement in year of the authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to Council Tax or rents for the year. The net increase/decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

	Notes	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Unusable Reserves £'000	Total Authority reserves £'000
Balance as at 1 April 2022		18,216	7,351	10,465	2,276	2,128	40,436	213,271	253,707
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		(3,302)	(3,078)	0	0	0	(6,380)	78,640	72,261
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations		(1,048)	3,103	(71)	633	161	2,778	(2,778)	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year		(4,350)	25	(71)	633	161	(3,601)	75,862	72,261
Balance as at 31 March 2023		13,866	7,376	10,394	2,910	2,290	36,835	289,133	325,968
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		(939)	(2,475)	0	0	0	(3,413)	(12,815)	(16,228)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations ³		2,389	(3,509)	1,465	1,326	223	1,895	(1,895)	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year		1,451	(5,983)	1,465	1,326	223	(1,519)	(14,710)	(16,228)
Balance at 31 March 2024 carried forward		15,316	1,392	11,859	4,235	2,513	35,316	274,425	309,741

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories.

The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use.

The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

The council has £3.5m LOBO (Lender Option, Borrower Option) loan where the lender has the option on set dates to propose an increase in the rate payable; The council will then have the option to accept the new rate or repay the loan without penalty. The lender therefore has the effective right to demand repayment and these loans are therefore shown in the Balance Sheet as Short Term Borrowing. The loan option date is every 6 months from loan inception.

31 March 2023		NOTES	31 March 2024	
£'000			£'000	£'000
368,975	Property Plant and Equipment	8	362,591	
8,906	Investment Property	9	9,608	
870	Intangible Assets	8	872	
709	Heritage Assets	8	791	
198	Surplus Assets	8	1,086	
1,043	Long Term Debtors		0	
380,701	Long Term Assets			374,948
39,000	Short Term Investments	29	25,000	
138	Inventories		142	
10,172	Short Term Debtors	10	13,502	
4,495	Cash and Cash Equivalents	11	5,794	
53,805	Current Assets			44,438
(2,741)	Short Term Borrowing	29	(1,269)	
(36,135)	Short Term Creditors	12	(30,534)	
(1,827)	Provisions	30	(592)	
(40,703)	Current Liabilities			(32,395)
(60,309)	Long Term Borrowing	29	(55,314)	
0	Other Long Term Liabilities		(13,829)	
(283)	Revenue Grants Receipt In Advance		(1,700)	
(7,183)	Capital Grants Receipt In Advance	24	(6,354)	
(61)	Deferred Liabilities	29	(53)	
(67,835)	Long Term Liabilities			(77,251)
325,968	Net Assets			309,740
13,866	General Fund Balance		15,316	
7,376	Housing Revenue Account		1,392	
10,394	Capital Receipts Reserve		11,859	
2,910	Major Repairs Reserve		4,235	
2,290	Capital Grants Unapplied		2,513	
36,835	Usable Reserves			35,316

Balance Sheet

31 March 2023		NOTES	31 March 2024	
£'000			£'000	£'000
142,813	Revaluation Reserve	14	142,019	
145,010	Capital Adjustment Account	14	144,749	
(1,210)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	14	(954)	
1,043	Pension Reserve	14	(11,974)	
2,006	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	14	1,113	
(528)	Accumulated Absences Account	14	(528)	
289,133	Unusable Reserves			274,425
325,968	Total Reserves			309,740

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as: operating, investing and financing activities.

The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council.

Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery.

Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

Direct Method			
2022/23		NOTES	2023/24
£'000			£'000
(6,380)	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services		(3,413)
11,724	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	15	11,166
(9,978)	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	15	(2,514)
(4,633) Net Cash flows from operating activities			5,239
(20,943)	Net Cash flows from Investing Activities	16	(16,100)
7,850	Net Cash flows from Financing Activities	17	12,159
(17,727) Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			1,298
22,221	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		4,495
4,495 Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		11	5,794

Section 3 Notes to the Core Financial Statements

Notes to the accounts

Accounting policies

1. General Principles

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared with reference to the objective of showing the results of the stewardship and accountability of elected members and management for the resources entrusted to them, and on the underlying assumption of a going concern basis.

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2023/24 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2024.

The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which requires the statement to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices under Section 21 of the 2003 Act primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance issued under Section 12 of the Local Government Act 2003.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

The Council's accounting policies are updated annually to reflect any changes in IFRS, including changes in International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), HM Treasury guidance, CIPFA guidance or any other change in statute, guidance or framework impacting on the Council's accounts.

The Council's accounting policies as far as possible have been developed to ensure that the accounts are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable, and are applied consistently. A glossary of terms can be found at the end of this document.

2. Accruals of income and expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract. Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as

income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.

- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

3. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank

overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

4. Exceptional items

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Council's financial performance.

5. Prior period adjustments, changes in accounting policies and estimates and errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more

reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

6. Charges to revenue for non-current assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off
- Amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance.

Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund balance (Minimum Revenue Provision) by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

MRP has previously been determined as 4% of the opening balance for the financial period (the Regulatory Method). Going forward the Section 151 Officer has revised this policy for 2019/20 onwards to the asset life method, based on Option 3 of the MHCLG guidance, whereby MRP is determined by reference to the useful life of the asset.

7. Council tax and non-domestic rates (England)

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves.

Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NDR. Under the legislative framework for the Collection Fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and central government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for Council Tax and NDR

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the Council's General Fund.

Therefore, the difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the Council's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

8. Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year-end.

They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g., cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council.

An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or

when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Leicestershire County Council. The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the Leicestershire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are

included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projected earnings for current employees.

- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds.
- The assets of Leicestershire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate
 - Unitised securities – current bid price
 - Property – market value.

The change in the net pension's liability is analysed into the following components:

- Service cost comprising:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of

years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.

- Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non-Distributed Costs.
- Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the Council – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at

the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

- Re-measurements comprising:
 - The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
 - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
 - Contributions paid to the Leicestershire County Council pension fund – cash paid as employer’s contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

Discretionary Benefits

The Council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

9. Events after the reporting period

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events
- Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

10. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund balance to be spread over future years.

The Council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net charge required against the General Fund balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified using an approach that is based on the business model for holding the financial assets and their Cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- Amortised cost
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and

- Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

There are some exceptions, where the Council holds strategic investments to help it meet other policy objectives, such as the support of economic development in the district.

This means that some investments are ones where contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (i.e. where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets measured at amortised cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the

Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

The Council has not given any loans to external or voluntary organisations, nor provided guarantees against loans they have received from financial institutions.

When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the CIES to the net gain required against

the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Expected credit loss model

The Council recognises expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost or FVOCI, either on a 12 month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the Council.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12 month expected losses.

Financial assets measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL)

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

The fair value measurements of the financial assets are based on the following techniques:

- Instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- Other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis.

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the Council can access at the measurement date
- Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1

that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly

- Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

An equity instrument can be elected into a FVOCI treatment rather than a FVPL treatment if it is not held for trading. The Council has reviewed its assets that would be measured at FVPL on the basis of the business model and has elected to classify instruments as either FVPL or FVOCI on an instrument-by-instrument basis based on the assessed benefit to the Council from the chosen classification.

Loans and receivables are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and

Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the Council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

11. Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- The Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- The grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until

conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset in the form of the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Where it has

been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

12. Heritage Assets

The Council has three heritage assets which are held in support of increasing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Council's history and local area. These are Moira Furnace, a listed monument of historical interest located in Moira, the Memorial Clock Tower, a Grade II listed building that services as a historic war memorial located in the centre of Coalville and the 'Heart of the Forest' Sculpture in Ashby.

Heritage assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment.

The carrying amounts of heritage assets are reviewed where there is evidence of

impairment for heritage assets, e.g. where an item has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or where doubts arise as to its authenticity. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment – see note 18. The Council will occasionally dispose of heritage assets. The proceeds of such items are accounted for in accordance with the Council's general provisions relating to the disposal of property, plant and equipment. Disposal proceeds are disclosed separately in the notes to the financial statements and are accounted for in accordance with statutory accounting requirements relating to capital expenditure and capital receipts (again see note 18 below).

13. Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Council as a result of past events (e.g., software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Council.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the

fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale

proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

14. Inventories and Long-term Contracts

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average costing formula. Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

15. Investment Property

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As a non-financial

asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal. Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

16. Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property,

plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council as Lessee Finance Leases

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception. The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor.

Initial direct costs of the Council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability.

Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment – applied to write down the lease liability, and
- A finance charge (debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

Property, plant and equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life (where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the Council at the end of the lease period). The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets.

Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation

and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore substituted by a revenue contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

17. Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to service segments in accordance with the Council's arrangements for accountability and financial performance.

18. Property, plant and equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as property, plant and equipment.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accrual's basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- The purchase price.
- Any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.
- The initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred while assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e., it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Council). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Council.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive

Income and Expenditure Statement unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement bases:

- Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost
- Dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH)
- Council offices – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value EUV), except for a few offices that are situated close to the Council's housing properties, where there is no market for office accommodation, and that are measured at depreciated replacement cost

(instant build) as an estimate of current value

- Surplus assets – the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective
- All other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value. Where non-property assets have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains.

Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

- Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:
- Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains).
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would

have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all property, plant and equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain community assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to

the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Disposals and non-current assets held for sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an asset held for sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously recognised

losses in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on assets held for sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as assets held for sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as held for sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as assets held for sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the

carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts.

A proportion of capital receipts relating to housing disposals is payable to the government (50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances and for dwellings, amounts determinable under the Right to Buy and One for One Agreement that the Council signed in 2012). The balance of receipts remains within the Capital Receipts Reserve and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the

General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

19. Provisions, contingent liabilities, and contingent assets

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the Council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Council has an obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year - where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Council settles the obligation.

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would

otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Contingent assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.



Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

20. Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that

year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, local taxation, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

21. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the

General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of Council tax.

22. VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

23. Accounting standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

At the Balance Sheet date, the following new standards and amendments to existing standards have been published but not yet adopted by the Code of Practice of Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom and will be adopted in 2024/25.

IAS 1

Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statements 2 will be revised to further clarify the classification of liabilities as current or non-current and improve the information provided where the Council has a non-current liability with a

covenant. These changes are not anticipated to significantly affect the amounts held in the Council's financial statements.

IFRS 16

Leases will be implemented to recognise a right-of-use asset on the Balance Sheet for all leases where the Council is the lessee (except where short-term or low value). When rents are paid, they will be applied partly to write down the liability and partly charged as interest on the outstanding liability. The cost of the right-of-use asset will be reflected in depreciation charges in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Leases will be additionally amended to clarify the lease liability in a sale and leaseback scenario.

These changes are not expected to have a material impact on the Council's financial statements.

Notes to core financial statement

1 Critical Judgements In Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Section 3, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statements of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

2 Assumptions Made About The Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends, and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024 for which there is a significant risk of adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	<p>Asset valuations for the council's property portfolio are based on market prices and are reviewed annually to ensure that the Council does not materially misstate its non-current assets. The Council's external valuers provided valuations as at 31 March 2024.</p> <p>The carrying value of Property, Plant and Equipment at 31 March 2024 is £363m.</p>	<p>A reduction in the estimated valuations would result in reductions to the Revaluation Reserve and/or a loss as appropriate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If the value of the Council's properties were to reduce by 10%, this would result in a charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and/or Revaluation Reserve of approximately of £35.9m.</p>

Notes to core financial statement

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Pensions Liability	<p>Estimation of the net pension liability depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. An independent firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied, although ultimate responsibility for forming these assumptions remains with the Authority.</p> <p>The carrying amount of the net pension liability at 31 March 2024 is £11.974m.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pensions liability are included in Note 28. The Council's actuaries provide an annual statement of the pension liabilities and assets, which includes the liability linked to leisure staff that were transferred to Everyone Active In May 2019.</p>
Business Rates Appeals Provision	<p>Since the 1 April 2013, Local Authorities are liable for successful appeals against business rates charged to businesses in proportion to their share (40%).</p> <p>Most of the 2010 list appeals have been resolved with £0.008m remaining outstanding with the Valuation Office Agency at 31 March 2024. For the 2017 list, there was £4.6m outstanding with the Valuation Office Agency at this date.</p> <p>An appeals provision of £6.1m is held in the Collection Fund currently to counter the potential impact of successful appeals in future years.</p>	<p>If the estimated success rate of existing appeals increased in monetary value by 10%, then this would require the Council to increase its share of the provision for appeals by an approximate £250k.</p>
Arrears	<p>Each year the Council reviews the significant balances for Council Tax, Business Rates and sundry debtor arrears. Officers make a judgement on the likelihood of these debts being repaid in the future based on a number of factors, including the age of debts, past experience and the economic climate. We cannot be certain that the current allowance will be sufficient.</p>	<p>If collection rates were to deteriorate, a doubling of the amount of impairment of doubtful debts would require an additional £0.87m for Council Tax debts, and £1.36m for business rates to be set aside as an allowance.</p>

This list does not include assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value based on a recently observed market price.

Notes to core financial statement

3 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

2023/24	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non current assets	734	3,653				(4,387)
Revaluation gains and (losses) on Property Plant and Equipment	4,949	1,882				(6,831)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	3,848	0				(3,848)
Amortisation of intangible assets	44	0	0	0	0	(44)
Depreciation of Heritage Assets	17					(17)
Capital grants and contributions applied	(1,550)	0	0	0	0	1,550
Transfer of depreciation to Major Repairs Account		(3,653)		3,653		0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	3,017	0	0	0	0	(3,017)
Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans		(2,548)				2,548
Amount of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0	1,550	0	0	0	(1,550)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(1,108)	0	0	0	0	1,108
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(6,936)	(2,565)				9,501
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(223)	0			223	0

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 - continued	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(25)	(1,540)	1,565			0
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	(100)	0	0	100
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non current asset disposals		0	0			0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash		0	0			0
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0					
Adjustment involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				(2,327)		2,327
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from the finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(256)	0				256
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2,507	838				(3,345)
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(3,522)	(1,126)	0	0	0	4,648
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	893	0	0	0	0	(893)

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 - continued	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments involving the Accumulated Absences Account:						
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Total Adjustments	2,389	(3,509)	1,465	1,326	223	(1,895)

Notes to core financial statement

2022/23	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non current assets	771	3,484				(4,255)
Revaluation gains and (losses) on Property Plant and Equipment	0	4,479				(4,479)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	1,154					(1,154)
Amortisation of intangible assets	52					(52)
Depreciation of Heritage Assets	15					(15)
Capital grants and contributions applied	(593)	(150)				743
Transfer of depreciation to Major Repairs Account		(3,439)		3,439		0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	1,390	0				(1,390)
Recognition of DFG debtor						0
Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans		(1,206)				1,206
Amount of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,206	3,168				(4,374)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(1,382)					1,382
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(5,233)	(816)				6,049
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(161)	0			161	0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(39)	(3,147)	3,186			0

Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure			(3,275)			3,275
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non current asset disposals	0	0	0			0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	0		0			0
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash			(18)	18		0
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0	0				0
Adjustment involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Reversal of Major Repairs Allowance credited to the HRA						0
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				(2,806)		2,806
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from the finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(29)	0				29
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	7,027	1,640				(8,667)
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(2,159)	(893)				3,052
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(3,066)					3,066
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Total Adjustments	(1,048)	3,103	(71)	633	161	(2,778)
	(1,048)	3,103	(71)	633	161	(2,778)

Notes to core financial statement

4 Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans into the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2023/24.

	Balance at 31/3/2022 £'000	Transfers Out 2022/23 £'000	Transfers In 2022/23 £'000	Balance at 31/3/2023 £'000	Transfers Out 2023/24 £'000	Transfers In 2023/24 £'000	Balance at 31/3/2024 £'000
General Fund:							
General reserves	9,160	(6,592)	3,328	5,896	(9,367)	8,928	5,457
Ivanhoe Sinking Fund	6	(6)	0	0	0	0	0
Hermitage Recreation Ground - 3G Pitch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hermitage Recreation Ground Maintenance Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asset Protection Fund	11	(11)	0	(0)	0	0	(0)
Total	9,177	(6,609)	3,328	5,896	(9,367)	8,928	5,457
HRA:							
General Earmarked Reserves	510	(395)	0	115	0	0	115
Total	510	(395)	0	115	0	0	115

Notes to core financial statement

5 Other Operating Expenditure

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
2,528 Parish Council Precepts	2,847
0 Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	0
1,188 (Gains)/losses on the disposal of non current assets	(15)
3,716 Total	2,832

6 Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
2,711 Interest payable and similar charges	1,942
1,357 Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	(78)
(1,200) Interest receivable and similar income	(2,595)
1,362 Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties	4,231
4,230 Total	3,499

7 Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(8,839) Council tax income	(9,259)
(13,256) Non domestic rates	(16,205)
(2,589) Non-ring fenced government grants	(2,603)
(1,306) Capital grants and contributions	(2,556)
(25,990) Total	(30,623)

Notes to core financial statement

8 Movements on Assets

	Costs	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2023		312,274	51,276	9,343	0	3,773	376,667	198
Additions		4,881	1,124	2,331	172	1,882	10,390	0
Accumulated impairment & depreciation written-off to Gross book Value		0	(373)	0	0	0	(373)	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		(1,867)	(285)	0	0	0	(2,153)	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		(1,735)	(5,188)	0	0	0	(6,923)	0
Derecognition - Disposals		(1,336)	0	0	0	0	(1,336)	0
Derecognition - Other		0	(245)	0	0	0	(245)	0
Assets reclassified		(228)	(616)	718	0	(5,268)	(5,394)	888
At 31 March 2024		311,989	45,694	12,393	172	388	370,635	1,086

Notes to core financial statement

Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment						Total Property Plant and Equipment	Surplus Assets
	Council Dwelling	Other Land and Buildings	Furniture and Equipment	Community Assets	Assets Under Construction	Plant and Equipment		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 April 2023	0	(194)	(7,498)	0	0	(7,692)	0	
Depreciation charge	(3,640)	(192)	(540)	0	0	(4,372)	0	
Accumulated depreciation written-off to Gross book value	0	373	0	0	0	373	0	
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	3,625	5	0	0	0	3,630	0	
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Derecognition - Disposals	15	0	0	0	0	15	0	
Derecognition - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
At 31 March 2024	(0)	(5)	(8,039)	0	0	(8,044)	0	
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2024	311,988	45,689	4,354	172	388	362,591	1,086	
At 31 March 2023	312,274	51,082	1,845	0	3,774	368,975	198	

Notes to core financial statement

Comparative Movements

	Costs	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2022		294,797	48,287	9,039	0	1,126	353,250	1,575
Additions		5,145	673	521	0	5,029	11,368	104
Accumulated impairment & depreciation written-off to Gross book Value		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		18,231	2,330	0	0	0	20,561	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		527	(112)	0	0	0	415	0
Derecognition - Disposals		(3,047)	(157)	(217)	0	0	(3,420)	(1,206)
Derecognition - Other		(5,039)	(20)	0	0	0	(5,059)	0
Assets reclassified		1,660	275	0	0	(2,382)	(447)	(275)
At 31 March 2023		312,275	51,276	9,343	0	3,773	376,668	198

Notes to core financial statement

Comparative Movements

Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000
At 1 April 2022	0	0	(7,099)	0	0	(7,099)	0
Depreciation charge	(3,439)	(200)	(616)	0	0	(4,255)	0
Accumulated depreciation written-off to Gross book value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	3,240	5	0	0	0	3,245	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	164	1	0	0	0	164	0
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition - Disposals	36	1	217	0	0	253	0
Derecognition - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2023	0	(194)	(7,498)	0	0	(7,692)	0

Notes to core financial statement

8 Intangible Assets

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
2,227	2,949
Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) B/fwd 01/04	
722	46
Additions	
2,949	2,995
Gross Carrying Amount B/Fwd	
(2,027)	(2,079)
Accumulated Amortisation & Impairment B/fwd	
(52)	(44)
Amortisation in year	
(2,079)	(2,123)
Accumulated Amortisation & Impairment C/fwd	
870	872
Net Carrying Amount Cfw	

8 Heritage Assets

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
728	728
Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) B/fwd 01/04	
	26
Additions	
0	(28)
Accumulated Depreciation write/off to GCV	
0	0
Revaluation Recognised in Revaluation Reserve	
0	88
Revaluation Recognised in Surplus/Deficit	
728	814
Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) C/fwd	
(4)	(19)
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment B/Fwd @ 01/04	
(15)	(32)
Depreciation Charge in year	
0	28
Accumulated Depreciation WO to GCV	
(19)	(23)
Depreciation C/fwd	
709	791
Net Book Value at 31 March	

Notes to core financial statement

Fixed Assets Valuation

The fixed assets shown in the Balance Sheet are valued on the basis recommended by CIPFA and in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation Principles and Guidance Notes issued by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). Fixed assets are classified into the groupings required by the Code of Practice. The different types of assets have been valued on the following basis:

(i) Operational assets are included in the balance sheet at open market value in existing use or depreciated replacement cost where the asset is of a specialist nature, i.e. there is no market for such an asset.

(ii) Non-operational assets, including investment properties and assets that are surplus to requirements, are included in the balance sheet at open market value.

(iii) Infrastructure and community assets are included in the balance sheet at historic cost, net of any depreciation.

(iv) Council dwellings have been valued using the beacon principal, where a typical property is valued as being representative of a particular house type and location. The valuation for each of the beacon properties selected was on the basis of existing use value – Social Housing.

Category	Date of Last Valuation	Basis of Valuation	Details of Valuers
Council Dwellings	31.03.24	The valuations have been made in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation manual as published by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. In the case of housing stock this is based upon Existing Use Value for Social Housing.	Mr G Harbord (MA,MRICS,IRRV) Wilks Head and Eve
Other Land & Building	31.03.24	The valuations have been made in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation manual as published by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.	Mr G Harbord (MA,MRICS,IRRV) Wilks Head and Eve

Major fixed assets held at 31 March 2024, are:-

2022/23		2023/24	
No		No	
Leisure Centres			
2	Leisure Centres with Pools	2	
2	Markets	2	
4	Cemeteries	4	
Council dwellings			
2,381	Houses	2,367	
920	Flats and Maisonettes	916	
820	Bungalows	819	
Land			
108	Parks and Open Spaces (acres)	108	
Other			
1	Office Properties	1	
3	Depots	3	
18	Off Street Car Parks	18	
4	Public Conveniences	4	
12	Industrial Estates/Business Units	12	

Notes to core financial statement

9 Investment Properties

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or repairs, maintenance or enhancement.

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
701 Rental income from investment property	639
(2,063) Direct operating expenses arising from investment property	(1,038)
(1,362) Net gain/(loss)	(400)

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
10,049 Balance at the start of the year	8,906
Additions:	
0 Purchases	0
0 Construction	0
11 Subsequent expenditure	0
0 Disposals	0
(1,154) Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	(3,848)
Transfers:	
0 To/from Inventories	4,549
0 To/from Property, Plant and Equipment	0
0 Other changes	0
8,906 Balance at the end of the year	9,608

Notes to core financial statement

10 Short-Term Debtors

31 March 2023 £'000		31 March 2024 £'000
2,079	Central Government bodies	2,927
5,448	Other local authorities	5,684
0	NHS bodies	0
145	Public Corporations and trading funds	40
2,500	Other entities and individuals	4,851
10,172	Total Short-Term Debtors	13,502

11 Cash and Cash Equivalents

31 March 2023 £'000		31 March 2024 £'000
0	Cash held by the Council	0
385	Bank current accounts	794
4,110	Short-term deposits and Money Market Funds	5,000
4,495	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,794

12 Short-Term Creditors

31 March 2023 £'000		31 March 2024 £'000
12,999	Central Government bodies	7,167
18,654	Other local authorities	16,479
0	NHS bodies	0
334	Public Corporations and trading funds	890
4,148	Other entities and individuals	5,300
36,135	Total Short-Term Creditors	29,836

Notes to core financial statement

13 Usable Reserves

The Council's usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

14 Unusable Reserves

31 March 2023 £'000		31 March 2024 £'000
142,813	Revaluation Reserve	142,019
145,010	Capital Adjustment Account	144,749
(1,210)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(954)
1,043	Pensions Reserve	(11,974)
2,006	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	1,113
(528)	Accumulated Absences Account	(528)
289,133	Total Unusable Reserves	274,425

Revaluation Reserve

2022/23 £'000		2023/24 £'000
121,685	Balance at 1 April	142,813
23,982	Upward revaluation of assets	5,313
(175)	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(3,808)
23,806	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	1,505
(1,634)	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(1,762)
(1,044)	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(537)
(2,678)	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	(2,299)
142,813	Balance at 31 March	142,019

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;
- Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or
- Disposed of and the gains are realised.

The Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

Notes to core financial statement

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions.

The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling posting from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council.

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 3 provides details of the source of all transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2023/24 £'000
142,589 Balance at 1 April			145,010
Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:			
(4,269) Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets		(4,405)	
(4,480) Revaluation (losses)/gain on Property, Plant and Equipment		(6,831)	
(52) Amortisation of Intangible assets		(44)	
(1,390) Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute		(3,017)	
(4,374) Amounts of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gains/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		(1,550)	
1,044 Write-out of gains relating to revalued disposed assets		537	
1,634 Write-out of depreciation on revalued assets (HCA)		1,762	
(11,887)			(13,547)
Capital financing applied in the year:			
3,275 Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		100	
2,806 Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure		2,327	
743 Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing		1,004	
1,206 Repayment of Debt		2,548	
0 Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account		546	
1,382 Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances		1,108	
6,049 Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances		9,501	
15,461			17,134
(1,154) Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement			(3,848)
0 Movement in the Donated Assets Account credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement			0
145,010 Balance at 31 March			144,749

Notes to core financial statement

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post employee benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs.

However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible.

A debit balance on the Pensions Reserve shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(48,176) Balance at 1 April	1,043
54,834 Actuarial gains or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	10,349
(8,667) Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(3,345)
3,052 Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	4,648
0 Effect of Pension asset ceiling adjustment	(24,669)
1,043 Balance at 31 March	(11,974)

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains per statutory provisions. The Council uses the Account to manage premiums paid on the early redemption of loans. Premiums are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the expense is posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on council tax. In the Council's case, this period is the unexpired term that was outstanding on the loans when they were redeemed.

Notes to core financial statement

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(1,239) Balance at 1 April	(1,210)
Premiums incurred in the year and charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	
23 Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	256
7 Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0
(1,210) Balance at 31 March	(954)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax/Rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from Council Tax/Rates payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

Council Tax

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
84 Balance at 1 April	23
Amount by which Council Tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	30
23 Balance at 31 March	53

Non-Domestic Rates

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(1,143) Balance at 1 April	1,983
Amount by which Non-Domestic Rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(923)
1,983 Balance at 31 March	1,060

Notes to core financial statement

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund Balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(528) Balance at 1 April	(528)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	
0 Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	0
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	
0	0
(528) Balance at 31 March	(528)

Notes to core financial statement

15 Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

2022/23	2023/24
£'000	£'000
1,200 Interest received	2,595
(2,711) Interest paid	(1,942)
0 Dividends received	0
(1,511)	654

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing and financing activities:

2022/23	2023/24
£'000	£'000
4,269 Depreciation	4,435
5,015 Impairment and downward valuations	3,808
52 Amortisation	44
(10,155) Increase/(decrease) in creditors	880
(3,276) (Increase)/decrease in debtors	(3,525)
22 (Increase)/decrease in inventories	(4)
5,615 Movement in pension liability	13,017
9,685 Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	1,550
497 Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(9,039)
11,724	11,166

Notes to core financial statement

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following non-cash movements:

2022/23	2023/24
£'000	£'000
0 Proceeds from short-term (not considered to be cash equivalents) and long-term investments (includes investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries)	0
(3,186) Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(1,565)
(6,792) Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	(949)
(9,978)	(2,514)

16 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

2022/23	2023/24
£'000	£'000
(12,018) Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(19,296)
(13,000) Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	588
3,186 Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	1,565
889 Other receipts from investing activities	1,043
(20,943) Net cash flows from investing activities	(16,100)

17 Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

2022/23	2023/24
£'000	£'000
(2,214) Repayments of short- and long-term borrowing	470
10,064 Other payments for financing activities	11,689
7,850 Net cash flows from financing activities	12,159

Notes to core financial statement

18 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The Council's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

2022/23 £'000	Expenditure/Income	2023/24 £'000
Expenditure		
27,860	Employee expenses	23,770
27,104	Other services expenses	33,424
10,311	Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	15,811
1,357	Net pension interest	(78)
2,711	Interest payments	1,942
2,528	Precepts and levies	2,847
0	Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	0
1,188	(Gain) / Loss on the disposal of assets	(15)
73,060	Total Expenditure	77,701
Income		
(26,382)	Fees, charges and other service income	(26,982)
(1,200)	Interest and investment income	(2,595)
(22,075)	Income from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	(25,464)
(15,718)	Government Grants and Contributions	(16,690)
(1,306)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(2,556)
(66,680)	Total Income	(74,287)
6,380	(Surplus) or deficit on the Provision of Services	3,413

Notes to core financial statement

External income received by service

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
0 Chief Executive	0
(16) Human Resources & Organisational Development	(39)
(252) Legal & Support Services	(307)
0 Strategic Director of Place	0
(707) Property & Economic Regeneration	(15)
(1,072) Planning	(892)
(127) Joint Strategic Planning	(156)
(55) Strategic Director of Communities incl Customer Services	(31)
(3,109) Community Services	(3,153)
(175) Housing (General Fund)	(189)
0 Strategic Director of Resources	0
(290) Finance	(38)
(1,079) Revenues & Benefits	(1,126)
(12) ICT	(12)
0 Non Distributed Costs	0
(19,488) Housing Revenue Account	(20,433)
(26,382) Total external income in Cost of Services	(26,392)
(1,306) Other income and Expenditure	(3,146)
(27,688) Total external income	(29,538)

Notes to core financial statement

19 Members' Allowances

The total value of Members Allowances paid during 2023/24 was £330,485 (2022/23: £303,656).

20 Officers' Remuneration

The table below shows the number of employees whose remuneration (including redundancy payments but excluding pension contribution) was £50,000 or above.

2022/23 No of employees	Remuneration Band	2023/24 No of employees
9	£50,000 - £54,999	7
5	£55,000 - £59,999	9
2	£60,000 - £64,999	2
1	£65,000 - £69,999	2
4	£70,000 - £74,999	1
0	£75,000 - £79,999	5
1	£80,000 - £84,999	0
0	£85,000 - £89,999	0
0	£90,000 - £94,999	0
2	£95,000 - £99,999	2
0	£100,000 - £104,999	0
0	£105,000 - £109,999	0
0	£110,000 - £114,999	0
0	£115,000 - £119,999	0
0	£120,000 - £124,999	0
0	£125,000 - £129,999	0
0	£130,000 - £134,999	0
1	£135,000 - £139,999	1

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 Senior Officers emoluments - salary is between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post information (Post title)	Note	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation (loss of emp) £	Other £	Total exc Pension £	Employers Pension £	Total inc Pension £
Chief Executive		134,064			3,625	137,689	30,432	168,122
Strategic Director of Place		95,456			3,174	98,630	21,669	120,298
Strategic Director of Housing & Customer Services		95,456			3,381	98,837	21,669	120,505
Strategic Director of Resources	1	46,818			2,794	49,612	10,628	60,240
Head of Legal & Support Services		72,707			3,122	75,829	17,712	93,541
Head of Finance	2	61,722			3,964	65,686	14,162	79,847
Head of Community Services		72,707			3,337	76,044	16,504	92,549
Head of Housing		70,889			4,203	75,092	16,092	91,184
Head of Planning & Infrastructure		68,924			9,076	78,001	15,646	93,646
Head of Economic Development		67,664			3,174	70,838	15,360	86,198
Head of HR & Organisation Development		70,184			3,174	73,358	14,501	87,859
Head of Joint Strategic Planning		63,881			3,679	67,560	15,932	83,491
Total		920,472	0	0	46,702	967,175	210,305	1,177,480

Note 1: The Strategic Director of Resources started on 18/09/2023. The annual salary was £87,329

Note 2: The Head of Finance started on 09/05/2023. The annual salary was £63,881

Notes to core financial statement

2022/23 Senior Officers emoluments - salary is between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post information (Post title)	Note	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation (loss of emp) £	Other £	Total exc Pension £	Employers Pension £	Total inc Pension £
Chief Executive	1	13,314			323	13,637	3,034	16,671
Chief Executive	2	81,036			2,580	83,617	21,782	105,399
Strategic Director of Place		92,228			3,174	95,402	24,933	120,334
Strategic Director of Housing & Customer Services		92,228			3,402	95,630	24,604	120,234
Head of Finance	3	31,036			1,883	32,918	8,646	41,565
Head of Legal & Support Services		70,248			3,438	73,686	18,968	92,654
Head of Community Services		70,248			3,334	73,582	18,991	92,572
Head of Housing	4	12,605			539	13,143	3,280	16,423
Head of Planning		65,376			9,005	74,381	17,674	92,054
Head of Economic Regeneration		64,157			3,174	67,331	17,339	84,670
Head of Joint Strategic Planning	5	8,670			529	9,199	1,957	11,156
Head of Joint Strategic Planning	6	33,473			2,107	35,580	8,933	44,513
Head of HR & Organisation Development		66,593			4,745	71,338	17,987	89,325
Total		701,212	0	0	38,231	739,443	188,127	927,570

Note 1: The Chief Executive left on 30/04/2022. The annual salary was £135,469

Note 2: The Chief Executive started on 11/08/2022. The annual salary is £126,662

Note 3: The Head of Finance left on 14/09/2022. The annual salary was £70,247

Note 4: The Head of Housing left on 03/06/2022. The annual salary is £70,247

Note 5: The Head of Joint Strategic Planning left on 11/05/2022. The annual salary was £62,232

Note 6: The Head of Joint Strategic Planning started on 12/09/2022. The annual salary is £60,555

Notes to core financial statement

21 External Audit Costs

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Fees payable with regard to external audit services:-	
56 Mazars LLP - Audit 2022/23 Scale Fee	0
Azets Audit Services Ltd Audit 2023/24 - Scale Fee	149
Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns:-	
28 Azets Audit Services Ltd - HBAP 2022/23	28
Fees payable for other assurance work completed in respect of Pooling of Housing capital receipts return:	
10 Azets - Pooling of Housing Capital Receipts	10
3 Cabinet Office - National Fraud Initiative	0
97 Total	187

22 Contingent Assets

There are no contingent assets for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Notes to core financial statement

23 Contingent Liabilities

When considering whether the Council has any contingent liabilities to disclose, particular attention has been given to pension liabilities resulting from the outsourcing of our leisure service. In May 2019, the Council entered into a 25 year contract with leisure operator Everyone Active. Everyone Active became liable for pension contributions and additional charges in respect of staff who were TUPE transferred from the Council for the duration of the 25 year contract. The pension admission arrangements meant that those staff who are members of the pension scheme remain pooled with the Council's pension scheme. A bond is in place for the payment of pension liabilities arising up to the sum of £135,000 should Everyone Active have any unpaid liabilities during the term, and the Council has provided a guarantee to the pension fund administrator to cover unpaid liabilities that are in excess of this bond value. The Council is also responsible for any surplus/deficit arising on the plan at the end of the contract.

There is no expectation that there will be a call on the bond or guarantee but it remains a possibility. As such, the Council has not recognised a provision in respect of any possible unpaid liabilities.

Since staff at Everyone Active are pooled with the Council's pension scheme, any projected deficit (or surplus) arising at the end of the contract is already reflected within the pension liability on the Balance Sheet.

Part of the outsourced leisure contract allows for utility benchmarking claims to be made by the leisure operator Everyone Active to mitigate the possible increase in energy costs. Following the building of the new Coalville and Whitwick leisure centre (C&WLC) which opened in February 2022, under the contract the Council's position is no utility benchmarking claims can be made until at least 2 years after WCLC opened. This is currently being disputed by Everyone Active and therefore until this is resolved a contingent liability of £424,857 is required to cover these costs.

Notes to core financial statement

24 Grant Income

2022/23 £'000		2023/24 £'000
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income		
8,838	Council Tax Income	9,259
13,236	Non Domestic Rates	16,205
20	Levy Account Surplus	20
0	Funding Guarantee	1,168
166	Services Grant	97
153	Lower Tier Services Grant	0
2,218	New Homes Bonus	1,220
	Revenue Support Grant	90
52	Other grants	8
1,306	Capital Grants and Contributions	2,556
25,990	Total	30,623
Credited to Services		
10,697	Housing Benefit Subsidy	10,727
185	Housing Benefit Admin Grant	183
81	Local Council Tax Support Grant	135
155	Cost of Collection	166
750	Homelessness	261
0	Rough Sleeping	542
0	Asylum Seekers Dispersal Grant (Home Office)	198
0	Rural England Prosperity	117
148	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	366
100	Nutrient Neutrality	100
102	Covid	0
0	Homes for Ukraine	136
0	OfGem	216
472	Other Grants under £100k each	437
60	Section 106	275
134	Sport & Physical Activity	112
286	Other Contributions under £100k each	115
13,172	Total	14,087

Notes to core financial statement

31 March 2023 £'000	31 March 2024 £'000
Capital Grant Receipts in Advance	
1,207 Affordable Housing - S106	1,327
784 Recreation/Playground - S106	437
340 Healthcare - S106	259
5 CCTV - S106	5
207 Police - S106	0
1,837 Highways - S106	1,837
17 Network Rail - S106	17
363 Parish Councils - S106	0
65 National Forest - S106	65
101 Marlborough Square - LLEP	0
0 BEIS	0
165 UK Shared Prosperity	165
2,086 DFG	2,236
6 Air Quality - DEFRA	6
7,183 Total	6,354

Notes to core financial statement

25 Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council, or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Council - it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and re-distribution of non-domestic rates, and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. housing benefits). Details of transactions with the government are shown below.

It is the nature of local government that the majority of Council Members are heavily involved in the local community through various organisations such as voluntary bodies, societies, groups and so on, often as an appointed Council representative. Members' interests are formally disclosed in a register of interests, the details of which are available on request.

During the year transactions with related parties arose as follows:

2022/23 (Receipts)/ Payments £'000		2023/24 (Receipts)/ Payments £'000
21,205	Central Government Revenue Grants (Benefits/RSG/other grants)	32,891
58,058	Leicestershire County Council (Precept paid less grant income)	64,193
3,374	Leicestershire Fire and Rescue (Precept paid)	3,868
9,143	Leicestershire Police (Precept paid less grant income)	9,893
	Other Related Parties:	
	Two Members serve as directors and one Member is an employee of 2 private companies with which the council transacted during the (9) year.	76
<u>91,771</u>		<u>110,920</u>

Notes to core financial statement

26 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PFI contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the authority, the expenditure results in an increase in the capital financing requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the authority that has yet to be financed. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

2022/23 £'000		2023/24 £'000
95,105	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	92,388
	Capital Investment	
12,540	Property, plant and equipment	10,416
0	Investment properties	0
0	Intangible assets	46
1,390	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	3,017
	Sources of finance	
(3,275)	Capital receipts	(100)
(743)	Government grants and other contributions	(1,550)
	Sums set aside from revenue	
(11,443)	Direct revenue contributions	(15,484)
(1,184)	(MRP/ the statutory repayment of loans fund advances)	(1,184)
92,388	Closing capital financing requirement	87,549
	Explanation of movements in year	
0	Increase / (decrease) in underlying need to borrowing (supported by government financial assistance)	0
(2,716)	Increase / (decrease) in underlying need to borrowing (unsupported by government financial assistance)	(4,840)
0	Assets acquired under finance leases	0
0	Assets acquired under PFI contracts	0
(2,716)	Increase/ (decrease) in capital financing requirement	(4,840)

Notes to core financial statement

27 Termination Benefits

	No. of compulsory redundancies		No. of other agreed departures		Total no. of exit packages by band		Total cost of exit packages by band	
	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24
£0 - £20,000	4	6	0	0	4	6	£22,372	£14,224
£20,001 - £40,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
Total	4	6	0	0	4	6	£22,372	£14,224

Notes to core financial statement

28 Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers and other employees, the Council offers retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for employees, which is administered by Leicestershire County Council. This is a funded scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.

The cost of retirement benefits is recognised in the Net Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the Income & Expenditure Account (I & E) after net operating expenditure. The following transactions have been made in the Income and Expenditure Account during the year.

The Annual Report of the Leicestershire County Council Superannuation Fund is available from Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire. Income and Expenditure Account contains details of the Council's participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered by Leicestershire County Council.

The following information was supplied by Hymans Robertson LLP on 17 May 2024.

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
Net Cost of Services		
7,152	Current service cost	3,423
158	Past service costs	0
0	Curtailments	0
7,310		3,423
Net Operating Expenditure		
4,633	Interest cost	5,661
(3,276)	Expected return on assets in the scheme	(5,739)
1,357		(78)
8,667	Amount charged to Income and Expenditure Account	3,345
Amounts to be met from Government Grants and Local Taxation		
(55)	Movement on pension reserve	(60)
Actual amount charged against General Fund & HRA for pensions in the year		
2,997	Employers' contributions payable to the scheme	4,588
55	Unfunded discretionary benefit payments	60

Notes to core financial statement

On 1 May 2019, 210 individual members of council staff transferred to Everyone Active after the Council has awarded a contract to them to run its leisure centres and associated services. The pension admission arrangements that were agreed means that those staff who are members of the pension scheme remain pooled with the Council's pension scheme. As a result, our future pension liability will continue to reflect staff members who have transferred to Everyone Active for the past service, however, Everyone Active are responsible for the payment of contributions and charges in respect of those staff for the term of the agreement.

The Council is responsible for past payments and payments of employees post the end of the 25 year agreement. The Council acts as guarantor in respect of Everyone Active and their contributions to the pension scheme over the life of the 25 year leisure contract. As part of the contract, Everyone Active secured a bond with Barclays bank to cover the payment of contributions up to the sum of £135,000 should Everyone Active have any unpaid liabilities during the term. Above this level, the Council is responsible for the liabilities are in excess of the bond value.

Employers Membership Statistics

	Average 31-Mar-22
Actives	51
Deferred Pensioners	50
Pensioners	69

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Payroll

	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Assumed total pensionable payroll based on contribution information provided	15,514	16,697

Investment Returns

The return on the fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2024 is estimated based on actual Fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority. Details are given below.

Actual Return for Period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024	9.7%
Total Return for Period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024	9.7%

Notes to core financial statement

Unfunded Benefits

A summary of the membership data in respect of unfunded benefits is shown below.

LGPS Unfunded Pensions	Number at 31 March 2024	Annual Unfunded Pensions (£'000)
Male	14	48
Female	1	2
Dependants	13	15
Total	28	65

Projected Pension Expense For Year 31/03/2025

Analysis of Projected Amount to be charged to operating profit for the year to 31 March 2025.

Period Ended	31 March 2025	
	£'000	% of pay
Projected Current service cost	3,028	18.1%
Interest on Obligation	5,850	35.0%
Expected Return on Plan Assets	(6,509)	(39.0%)
Losses /(Gains) on Curtailment and Settlements	0	0.0%
Total	2,369	14.1%

The pension fund has moved from an asset of £1.043m at 31/3/23 to an asset of £12.695m at 31/3/24. This is mainly due to a remeasurement by the actuary.

Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of the actuary's valuation report dated 17 May 2024 and takes into account their assessment of the potential impact of Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) equalisation and the outcome of the McCloud judgement relating to the 2014 reforms of LGPS benefit structure. These numbers are approximate estimates based on employer data as at 31 March 2022.

Notes to core financial statement

The main assumptions used in their calculations have been:

2022/23	Assumptions	2023/24
2.95%	Inflation/Pension Increase Rate	2.75%
3.45%	Salary Increase Rate	3.25%
4.75%	Discount Rate	4.85%

Assets in the County Council Pension Fund are valued at bid price as required under IAS 19.

Assets Category	2022/23		2023/24	
	Value £'000	Asset Distribution %	Value £'000	Asset Distribution %
Equity Securities	377.3	0.31%	432.7	0.32%
Debt Securities	6,037.0	5.03%	6,409.7	4.81%
Private Equity	8,220.2	6.85%	8,154.6	6.12%
Real Estate	8,509.2	7.09%	8,643.4	6.48%
Investment Funds	94,167.1	78.43%	99,002.9	74.28%
Derivatives	55.1	0.05%	7.8	0.01%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,701.1	2.25%	10,639.9	7.98%
Total	120,067.0	100.00%	133,291.0	100.00%

Mortality

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2021 model, with a 0% weighting of 2021 (and 2020) data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial adjustment of 0.25% and a long term rate of improvement of 1.5% p.a for both males and females. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current pensioners	20.8	23.7
Future pensioners *	21.6	25.6

* Figures assume members aged 45 as at the last formal valuation date.

Notes to core financial statement

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
169,461	Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	119,024
7,152	Current Service cost	3,423
4,633	Interest cost	5,661
960	Contributions by Members	1,033
(59,598)	Actuarial losses/(Gains)	(4,402)
158	Past service costs/(Gains)	0
0	Losses/(Gains) on Curtailments	0
(55)	Estimated Unfunded Benefits Paid	(60)
(3,687)	Estimated Benefits Paid	(4,083)
119,024	Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	120,596

Reconciliation of fair value of employer assets

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
121,285	Opening Fair Value of Employer Assets	120,067
3,276	Expected Return on Assets	5,739
960	Contributions by Members	1,033
2,997	Contributions by the Employer	4,588
55	Contributions in respect of Unfunded Benefits	60
(4,764)	Actuarial gains/(losses)	5,947
(55)	Estimated Unfunded Benefits Paid	(60)
(3,687)	Estimated Benefits Paid	(4,083)
120,067	Closing Fair Value of Employer Assets	133,291

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Notes to core financial statement

Scheme History

Amounts for the current and previous accounting periods

The return on the fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2024 is estimated based on actual fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority and index returns where necessary. Details are given below.	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
Fair Value of Employer Assets	86,739	112,007	121,285	120,067	133,291
Present Value of Defined Benefit Obligation	(131,430)	(175,301)	(169,461)	(119,024)	(120,596)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(44,691)	(63,294)	(48,176)	1,043	12,695
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Assets	(10,038)	20,006	6,870	(4,764)	5,947
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Liabilities	8,713	1,427	(502)	(9,332)	(3,764)
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Employer Assets	(10,038)	20,006	6,870	(4,764)	5,947
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Obligations	28,641	(38,641)	14,428	59,598	4,402
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) recognised in SRIE	18,603	(18,635)	21,298	54,834	10,349

Notes to the Statement of Recognised Income and Expense (SRIE)

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
(4,764) Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Plan Assets	5,947
59,598 Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Obligations	4,402
54,834 Actuarial Gain/(Loss) Recognised in SRIE	10,349
41,745 Cumulative Actuarial Gains and Losses	52,094

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Balance Sheet

2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000
120,067	133,291
Fair Value of Employer Assets	
(118,329)	(119,912)
Present Value of Funded Obligations	
1,738	13,379
Net (Under)/ Overfunding in Funded Plans	
(695)	(684)
Present value of unfunded obligations	
0	0
Unrecognised Past Service Cost	
1,043	12,695
Net Asset/(Liability) unadjusted	
0	(24,669)
Effect of asset ceiling	
1,043	(11,974)
Net Asset/(Liability) adjusted	
Amount in the Balance Sheet	
0	(11,974)
Liabilities	
1,043	0
Assets	
1,043	(11,974)
Net Asset/(Liability)	

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Notes to core financial statement

29 Financial Instruments

A financial Instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Non-exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes, benefits and government grants do not give rise to financial instruments.

Financial Liability - an obligation to transfer economic benefits controlled by the council and can be represented by a contractual obligation to deliver cash or financial assets or an obligation to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially unfavourable to the council.

The council's financial liabilities held during the year are measured at amortised cost and comprised

- long-term loans from the Public Works Loans board and commercial lenders
- overdraft facility with Lloyds Bank
- trade payables for goods and services received

Financial Asset - a right to future economic benefits controlled by the council that is represented by cash, equity instruments or a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets or a right to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially favourable to the council.

The council's financial assets held during the year are accounted for under the following classifications:

Amortised Cost - cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest and the business model is to collect the cash flows only:

- Cash in hand
- bank current and deposit accounts
- Fixed term deposits
- loans to other local authorities
- trade receivables for goods and services provided

Fair value through Profit and Loss:

- Money Market Funds
- loans where the cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instruments Balances

Financial Liabilities	Long term		Short term	
	31 March 2023	31 March 2024	31 March 2023	31 March 2024
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>Loans at amortised cost:</i>				
PWLB	(52,403)	(51,141)	(2,734)	(1,262)
LOBO/Other Loans	(7,906)	(4,173)	0	0
Long-term Borrowing	(60,309)	(55,314)	(2,734)	(1,262)
Other Long Term Liabilities - deferred	(61)	(53)	(7)	(7)
Total Borrowing	(60,369)	(55,367)	(2,741)	(1,269)
<i>Liabilities at amortised cost:</i>				
Trade payables-Included in creditors	0	0	(5,252)	(5,914)
Total Financial Liabilities	(60,369)	(55,367)	(7,993)	(7,183)

Financial Assets	Long term		Short term	
	31 March 2023	31 March 2024	31 March 2023	31 March 2024
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Principal	0	0	39,000	25,000
Loss allowance *	0	0	0	0
Total Investments	0	0	39,000	25,000
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Principal	0	0	10	5,000
Loss allowance	0	0	0	0
<i>At Fair Value through Profit and Loss:</i>				
Money Market Funds	0	0	4,485	794
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	0	0	4,495	5,794
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Trade Receivables-Included in Debtors	0	0	6,983	7,109
Accrued Interest	0	0	0	0
Loss allowance	0	0	(1,241)	(1,428)
Total Trade Receivables	0	0	5,742	5,681
Total Financial Assets	0	0	49,237	36,475

* Loss allowances are not required for UK Central or Local Government investments and the remaining Expected Credit Losses are immaterial.

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instrument - Fair Values

Financial Instruments classified at amortised cost are carried in the balance sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value has been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31 March 2024. All other financial instruments are carried in the balance sheet at Fair Value.

Fair Values are shown in the table below split by their level in the Fair Value hierarchy:

Level 1 - FV derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities e.g. bond prices

Level 2 - FV calculated from inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the instrument e.g. interest rates or yields for similar instruments

Level 3 - FV determined using unobservable inputs e.g. non-market data such as cash-flow forecasts or estimated creditworthiness

	Fair Value level	Balance Sheet 2022/23 £'000	Fair Value 2022/23 £'000	Balance Sheet 2023/24 £'000	Fair Value 2023/24 £'000
<i>Financial Liabilities held at amortised cost:</i>					
Long Term Loans From PWLB	2	(55,137)	(46,136)	(51,374)	(44,263)
Long Term LOBO/Other Loans	2	(7,440)	(7,440)	(3,940)	(3,844)
Other Long Term Liabilities		(68)	(68)	(61)	(61)
Sub-Total		(62,645)	(53,644)	(55,375)	(48,168)
<i>Liabilities for which Fair Value is not disclosed:</i>					
Trade payables-Creditors		(5,252)	(5,252)	(5,914)	(5,914)
Total Financial Liabilities		(67,897)	(58,896)	(61,289)	(54,082)

The Fair Value of liabilities is higher than the balance sheet value as the council has a portfolio of loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the current rates available for similar loans.

The Fair Values for Financial Assets are calculated as follows:

	Fair Value level	Balance Sheet 2022/23 £'000	Fair Value 2022/23 £'000	Balance Sheet 2023/24 £'000	Fair Value 2023/24 £'000
<i>Financial Assets held at amortised cost:</i>					
Investments with Local Authorities	2	5,000	5,007	30,000	30,451
Investments with Banks	2	2,010	2,003	0	0
Investments with Central Government	2	32,000	32,325	0	0
<i>Financial Assets held at Fair value:</i>					
Money Market Funds	1	4,100	4,100	0	0
Total		43,110	43,435	30,000	30,451
<i>Assets for which Fair Value is not disclosed:</i>					
Cash and Cash equivalents		142	142	1,099	1,099
Trade Receivables-Debtors		5,742	5,742	5,681	5,681
Total Financial Assets		48,994	49,319	36,780	37,231

The Fair Value of assets is higher than the balance sheet value as the interest rate on similar investments is now lower than that obtained when the investment was originally made.

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instruments Gains/Losses

There are no gains or losses recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account or the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and losses in relation to Financial Instruments.

Financial Instruments - Nature and Extent of Risk

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers.

Prior to the beginning of each financial year, the Council agrees and publishes an Investment Strategy as part of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement. The Investment Strategy sets out the minimum credit rating criteria for counterparties who are banks and other financial institutions. The Council relies to some extent on credit ratings and utilises the services of a Treasury Consultant to monitor and advise of changes to these ratings.

The minimum credit rating criteria, set out in the Investment Strategy, are kept under constant review. As a result of liquidity problems (the credit crunch) experienced by banks and financial institutions since Autumn 2007, the minimum criteria were increased to provide additional security to the Council's investments. This is reviewed annually to ensure that security is maintained in line with current economic conditions.

As a result of the Council's prudent approach to investment, which places security and liquidity above yield, the Council has never experienced any losses on investments. Nevertheless, theoretical considerations suggest that an investment with any institution carries some risk, albeit very small. The events which could give rise to these risks are rare or unforeseen and it is therefore very difficult to assess and quantify. Subject to these rare or unforeseen risks, the assessment that the maximum exposure is nil is considered to be a practical and pragmatic assessment.

Loss allowances on treasury investments have been calculated by reference to historic default data published by credit rating agencies, adjusted for current and forecast economic conditions and with a delay in cash flow having been assumed. As shown in the financial instruments balances tables on the previous page. At 31 March 2024, no loss allowances related to treasury investments.

Notes to core financial statement

A summary of the credit quality of the of the council's investments at 31 March is shown below:

Rating	31 March 2023		31 March 2024	
	Long Term £'000	Short Term £'000	Long Term £'000	Short Term £'000
A+	0	10	0	0
A	0	2,000	0	0
BBB+	0	0	0	0
Unrated Local Authorities	0	5,000	0	30,000
Money Market Funds	0	4,100	0	0
UK Government	0	32,000	0	0
Total Investments	0	43,110	0	30,000

The Council has £17,766,678 of Debtors (31/3/23: £13,506,821), for which a provision for doubtful debts of £4,253,795 has been made (31/3/23: £3,334,615). Of this debtors figure, £11,249,615 relates to sundry debtors, £4,932,878 to Council Tax and Business Rates and £1,584,186 to Housing Tenant Rents. Debtors are analysed by type and the doubtful debt provision is based on the credit quality of debtors.

The council does not allow credit for customers therefore all unpaid balances are past due date for payment. The gross sundry debtor age analysis is shown in the table below:

Age	31 March 2023 £'000	31 March 2024 £'000
Less than three months	6,561	6,287
Three to six months	1	34
Six months to one year	656	446
More than one year	3,570	4,483
Total	10,788	11,250

The table below breaks this down to debtor type:

Type	30 March 2023		31 March 2024	
	Gross Debt £'000	Loss Allowance £'000	Gross Debt £'000	Loss Allowance £'000
Central Gov't Bodies	2,079	0	2,927	0
Other Local authorities	5,448	0	5,684	0
NHS Bodies	0	0	0	0
Public Corporations and trading funds	145	0	40	0
Other entities and Individuals	5,835	(3,335)	9,104	(4,254)
Total	13,507	(3,335)	17,755	(4,254)

Notes to core financial statement

Liquidity Risk

The Council has ready access to borrowing at favourable rates from the Public Works Loan Board and other local authorities, and at higher rates from banks and building societies. There is no perceived risk that the Council will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments. Instead, the risk is that the Council will be bound to replace a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Council's strategy is to ensure an even maturity debt profile to mitigate against this risk.

The maturity analysis of financial instruments is shown below:

Type	31 March 2023			31 March 2024		
	Liabilities £'000	Assets £'000	Net £'000	Liabilities £'000	Assets £'000	Net £'000
Maturity in 1 year*	5,706	(42,331)	(36,624)	1,270	(30,000)	(28,730)
Maturity in 1 - 2 years	2,734	0	2,734	1,300	0	1,300
Maturity in 2 - 5 years	3,871	0	3,871	2,490	0	2,490
Maturity in 5 - 10 years	2,997	0	2,997	1,870	0	1,870
Maturity in over 10 years	49,475	0	49,475	49,480	0	49,480
Total	64,783	(42,331)	22,452	56,410	(30,000)	26,410

* The council has a £3.5m LOBO (Lender Option, Borrower Option) loans where the lender has the option on set dates to propose an increase in the rate payable; the council will then have the option to accept the new rate or repay the loan without penalty. The lender therefore has the effective right to demand repayment and these loans are therefore shown in the table as maturing on the next option date.

Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the authority. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effect:

- borrowings at variable rates - the interest expense will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates - the fair values of the liabilities will fall
- investments at variable rates - the investment income will rise
- investments at fixed rates - the fair value of assets will fall

Investments measured at amortised cost and loans borrowed are not carried at fair value, so changes in their fair value will have no impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the provision of services. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments measured at fair value will be reflected in Other Comprehensive Income or the Surplus or Deficit on the provision of services as appropriate.

Price Risk

The Council does not invest in equities and is therefore not exposed to this risk.

Notes to core financial statement

30 Provisions

This provision for Business Rates appeals was created as a result of the adoption in 2013/14 of the Business Rates Retention scheme which means that the Council now bears part of the risk for future appeals. Under the former business rates scheme, appeals were borne by the Government. The Council's estimate of the value of outstanding appeals up to 31 March 2024 is £6.1m (31/3/23: £4.6m), the value of appeals used in completing the Collection Fund position as at 31 March 2024. The Council has made a provision for 40% of this figure totalling £2.4m (31/3/23: £1.8m) within the 2023/24 accounts. This is split into short term provisions: £592k and long term provisions: £1.855m.

31 Jointly Controlled Partnerships

The Council has entered into a partnership with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and Harborough District Council to provide shared administration of Revenues and Benefits and will continue for the foreseeable future. The Partnership is currently hosted by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council on behalf of the other partners.

All partners contribute towards the operation of the partnership which is classified as a Jointly Controlled Operation. On this basis, each partner accounts for their share of contributions within their Statement of Accounts. The funding provided by North West Leicestershire District Council in 2023/24 was £1.382 million (2022/23: £1.302m).

Notes to core financial statement

32 Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This analysis statement shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision-making purposes between the council's directorates/services/departments. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2023/24

	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Recharges £'000	Contributions to/from Reserves £'000	Investment Properties & other £'000	Revised Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis £'000	Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000
Chief Executive	193	(203)	0	0	(10)	0	(10)
Human Resources & Organisational Development	670	(569)	0	0	101	0	101
Legal and Support Services	1,743	(1,198)	133	0	678	0	678
Strategic Director of Place	165	(158)	0	0	7	0	7
Property & Economic Regeneration	3,725	(336)	45	(137)	3,296	(46)	3,251
Planning	2,139	656	283	0	3,077	0	3,077
Joint Strategic Planning	(52)	22	0	0	(30)	0	(30)
Strategic Director of Communities including Customer Services	977	(1,025)	25	0	(23)	0	(23)
Community Services	8,144	1,625	256	(246)	9,780	3,786	13,566
Housing - General Fund	208	362	10	0	581	497	1,077
Strategic Director of Resources	238	(281)	79	0	36	0	36
Finance	1,244	(1,110)	184	0	318	0	318
Revenues & Benefits	896	799	23	0	1,718	0	1,718
ICT	1,234	(1,256)	0	0	(22)	79	57
Corporate and Democratic Core	46	1,097	0	0	1,143	0	1,143
Non-Distributed Costs	255	6	0	0	260	1,429	1,689
Housing Revenue Account	(5,222)	(384)	0	0	(5,606)	6,656	1,049
Recharges	(1,954)	1,954	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	14,650	0	1,038	(384)	15,304	12,400	27,705
Other Income and Expenditure	(19,872)	0	(2,712)	384	(22,200)	(2,091)	(24,292)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(5,222)	0	(1,674)	0	(6,896)	10,309	3,413

Notes to core financial statement

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

2022/23

	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Recharges £'000	Contributions to/from Reserves £'000	Investment Properties & other £'000	Revised Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis £'000	Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000
Chief Executive	322	(322)	0	0	0	0	0
Human Resources & Organisational Dev	741	(627)	9	0	124	1	125
Legal and Support Services	1,683	(1,096)	3	0	589	0	589
Strategic Director of Place	394	(394)	0	0	(0)	0	(0)
Property & Economic Development	1,656	(438)	103	(1,072)	249	1,216	1,465
Planning	1,652	732	252	0	2,636	0	2,636
Joint Strategic Planning	21	11	14	0	47	0	47
Strategic Director of Communities incl							
→ Customer Services	1,789	(1,074)	0	0	715	0	715
→ Community Services	8,947	2,120	658	(290)	11,435	723	12,158
Housing - General Fund	612	198	2	0	811	0	811
Strategic Director of Resources	156	(156)	0	0	0	0	0
Finance	2,522	(1,333)	48	0	1,237	0	1,237
Revenues & Benefits	748	914	26	0	1,688	0	1,688
ICT	1,310	(1,323)	0	0	(12)	53	41
Corporate and Democratic Core	56	1,138	4	0	1,198	0	1,198
Non-Distributed Costs	350	8	0	0	358	0	358
Housing Revenue Account	(8,896)	(360)	395	0	(8,861)	10,216	1,356
Recharges	(2,003)	2,003	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	12,062	0	1,514	(1,362)	12,214	12,209	24,423
Other Income and Expenditure	(20,958)	0	(2,142)	1,362	(21,738)	3,694	(18,044)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(8,896)	0	(628)	0	(9,523)	15,903	6,380

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

Analysis of adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis

2023/24	Adjustment for capital purposes £'000	Net change for the pensions adjustment £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Chief Executive and Other Services	0	0	0	0
Human Resources & Organisational Dev	0	0	0	0
Legal and Commercial Services	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Place	0	0	0	0
Property & Economic Development	(46)	0	0	(46)
Planning & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0
Joint Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Communities incl Customer Services	0	0	0	0
Community Services	3,786	0	0	3,786
Housing - General Fund	497	0	0	497
Strategic Director of Resources	0	0	0	0
Finance	0	0	0	0
Revenues & Benefits	0	0	0	0
ICT	79	0	0	79
Corporate and Democratic Core	0	0	0	0
Non-Distributed Costs	1,429	0	0	1,429
Housing Revenue Account	5,535	(288)	1,409	6,656
Recharges	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	11,280	(288)	1,409	12,400
Other Income and Expenditure	(898)	(1,015)	(179)	(2,091)
Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	10,382	(1,303)	1,230	10,309

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

2022/23	Adjustment for capital purposes £'000	Net change for the pensions adjustment £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Chief Executive and Other Services	0	0	0	0
Human Resources & Organisational Dev	1	0	0	1
Legal and Commercial Services	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Place	0	0	0	0
Property & Economic Development	1,216	0	0	1,216
Planning & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0
Joint Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0
Customer Services	0	0	0	0
Community Services	723	0	0	723
Housing - General Fund	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Resources	0	0	0	0
Finance	0	0	0	0
Revenues & Benefits	0	0	0	0
CoICT	53	0	0	53
Corporate and Democratic Core	0	0	0	0
Non-Distributed Costs	0	0	0	0
Housing Revenue Account	7,964	747	1,506	10,216
Recharges	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	9,956	747	1,506	12,209
Other Income and Expenditure	2,308	4,868	(3,482)	3,694
Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	12,264	5,615	(1,977)	15,903

Section 4 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Housing income and expenditure account

2022/23		Income	NOTES	2023/24	
£'000	£'000			£'000	£'000
	(18,003)	Rents - Dwellings	H4		(19,216)
(37)		Rents - Garages / Sites		(36)	
(18)		Rents - Shops		(14)	
(10)		Rents - Other		(9)	
	(65)				(60)
	(618)	Charges for Services and Facilities			(683)
	(18)	Other Income			(331)
	(18)	RTB Discounts repaid			0
	(18,722)	Total income			(20,290)
		Expenditure			
	8,755	Repairs and Maintenance			11,726
		Supervision and Management			
2,761		- General		502	
673		- Special		3,075	
	3,434				3,578
		Capital Charges			
	3,484	- Depreciation of Fixed Assets	H8		3,653
	4,479	- Impairment of Fixed Assets	H9		1,882
	0	- Initial Gain on Donated Assets			0
	(78)	Increase / (decrease) in provision for Bad or Doubtful Debts			493
	3	Debt Management Expenses			8
	20,078	Total expenditure			21,340
		1,356 Net cost of HRA services included in income and expenditure account			1,049
	360	Housing Share of Corporate and Democratic Costs			384
	0	Housing Share of other amounts included in the whole authority cost of services but not allocated to specific services			0
	1,716	Net cost of HRA services			1,434
	22	(Gain) or Loss on Sale of HRA Fixed Assets			10
	1,884	Interest Payable and Similar Items			1,847
	(394)	Interest on Balances			(816)
	0	Amortisation of Premiums and Discounts			0
	(150)	Capital Grants and Contributions			0
	3,078	(Surplus) / deficit on HRA services			2,474

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

2022/23 £'000	Statement of movement on the HRA balance	2023/24 £'000
3,078	(Surplus) / Deficit on Housing Income and Expenditure Account	2,474
(3,497)	Amounts Required by Statute to be Taken into Account (detailed below)	3,509
(420)	Total	5,984
(6,841)	HRA Balance Brought Forward	(7,261)
(7,261)	HRA Balance Carried Forward	(1,277)
2022/23 £'000	Analysis of the movement in the HRA balance	2023/24 £'000
	Amounts required to be taken into account	
	Items included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but excluded from the movement on HRA balance for the year	
(22)	Gain or (Loss) on Sale of HRA Fixed Assets	(10)
0	Amortisation of Premiums and Discounts	0
18	RTB Discounts repaid	0
0	Employee Benefits adjustment	0
(1,640)	Net charges for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS 19	(838)
(4,524)	Impairment/Revaluation of Fixed Assets	(5,535)
0	Initial Gain on Donated Assets	0
(6,167)		(6,382)
	Items not included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but included in the movement on HRA balance for the year	
0	Transfer To/(From) Major Repairs Reserve	3,653
0	Right to Buy Admin Contribution	0
893	Employer's contributions payable to Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund	1,126
1,206	Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans	2,548
816	Capital Expenditure funded by the HRA	2,565
(245)	Transfer To/(From) Reserves	0
2,670	Total	9,892
(3,497)	Net additional amount required by statute to be debited or (credited) to the HRA balance for the year	3,509

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H1 Movement in dwelling stock

The Council was responsible for managing an average of 4,102 lettable dwellings during 2023/24. The movement in the stock was as follows:-

2022/23		2023/24
4,138	Stock at 1st April	4,121
(41)	Less: Right to buy Sales	(16)
4	Less: Other Sales	0
0	Less: Demolitions	0
(3)	Less: Transfers out of stock	(3)
1	Add: Other Purchases	0
13	Add: New Build and Gifted units	0
9	Add: Transfers back into stock	0
4,121		4,102

H2 Property types in dwelling stock

The properties owned by the Council at 31st March 2024 comprise the following:-

	Flats/Maisonettes	Bungalows	Houses	Total
In stock				
Bed sits	53	4	0	57
1 Bedroom	530	330	11	871
2 Bedroom	321	478	417	1,216
3 Bedroom	8	6	1,785	1,799
4 Bedroom	1	0	145	146
5 Bedroom	0	0	5	5
	913	818	2,363	4,094
Transferred out of stock				
Bed sits	0	0	0	0
1 Bedroom	3	1	0	4
2 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
3 Bedroom	0	0	4	4
4 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
5 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
	3	1	4	8
Total owned	916	819	2,367	4,102

The dwellings transferred out of stock are mainly long-term empty properties. However, they are still owned by the Council and are included in the value shown in note

H3 Balance sheet value of council's housing revenue account stock

2022/23		2023/24
Balance		Balance
£'000		£'000
312,274	Dwellings	311,757
3,210	Other Land and Buildings	1,961
315,484	Operational assets	313,718
0	Surplus Assets	0
186	OLB (Land and Assets under construction)	186
186	Non-operational assets	186
315,670	Total assets	313,904

The vacant possession value of dwellings within the Council's HRA as at 31st March 2024 was £1,154,582 (2023: £875.2m). The vacant possession value of the dwellings within the HRA show the economic cost to Government of providing Council Housing at less than open market rents.

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H4 Rent income

Rent income can be analysed as follows:-

This is the total rent income due for the year after an allowance is made for empty properties/voids etc. The Average weekly rents was £90.95 per week in 2023/24 (2022/23: £84.66), representing an average increase of 7.64% (2022/23: 4.66% increase). During 2023/24, 1.19% of lettable properties were void (2022/23: 1.09% void).

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
13,574	Collectable from Tenants	15,033
4,429	Rent Rebates	4,183
18,003	Sub-Total Dwelling Rents	19,216
65	Non - Dwelling Rents	60
18,068	Total Rent	19,276

H5 Rent arrears

The rent arrears (net of accounts in credit) as a proportion of gross rent income were 4.91% (2022/23: 4.64%). The arrears figures are as follows:-

Amounts written off during the year were £44,572 (2022/23: £ 43,750) representing a reduction in Doubtful Debt allowance. At 31 March 2024, the Provision for doubtful debts was £1,210,036 (2022/23: £1,035,641).

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
1,445	Total Current and Former Tenant Arrears	1,531
(611)	Less: Accounts in credit	(650)
834	Net Arrears	881

H6 Major repairs reserve

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
(2,276)	Balance at 1st April	(2,910)
(3,439)	Amounts transferred to Reserve during year	(3,653)
	Amounts transferred from Reserve to finance Capital Expenditure:	
2,806	Dwellings	2,327
(2,910)	Balance at 31 March	(4,235)

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H7 Capital expenditure and receipts

Total Capital Expenditure within the Council's HRA during the financial year was £4,900,958. The sources of funding are shown below:

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
2,806	Major Repairs Reserve	2,327
0	Section 106 Receipts	0
816	Revenue Contribution	2,565
150	Other Contributions	0
3,959	Capital Receipts	9
7,731		4,901

Total Capital Receipts from disposals of Council Dwellings within the Council's HRA stock in 2023/24 were £1,306,700

H8 Depreciation of HRA fixed assets

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
3,439	Dwellings (excl. garages)	3,640
45	Other Land and Buildings	13
0	Surplus Assets	0
3,484	Operational assets	3,653

H9 Revaluation/impairment (reversal) of HRA fixed assets

2022/23		2023/24
£'000		£'000
4,479	Dwellings (excl. garages)	1,882
0	Other Land and Buildings	0
0	Surplus Assets	0
4,479	Operational assets	1,882

Section 5 Collection Fund

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Collection Fund

	2022/23	Collection fund income and expenditure account	2023/24	
	£'000		£'000	£'000
		Income		
	(73,733)	Council Tax (Net of benefits, discounts for prompt payment and transitional relief)		(78,344)
		Transfers from General Fund:-		
	0	- Council Tax Benefit		0
	(29)	- CTLS Discretionary		(113)
	0	Section 13a		(27)
	(78,004)	Business Ratepayers		(102,280)
	(151,766)	Total Income		(180,764)
		Expenditure		
		Council Tax Precepts and Demands:-		
	51,698	Leicestershire County Council	55,518	
	9,188	Leicestershire Police	9,944	
	2,643	Leicestershire Fire and Rescue	2,886	
	8,746	N.W.L.D.C. (including Parish and Special Expenses)	9,204	
	1,261	Contribution towards previous year's deficit	234	
	725	Provision for bad/doubtful debts	465	
	74,261			78,251
		Non-Domestic Rates (NDR):		
	36,574	Share of NDR - Government	49,093	
	6,583	Payment to Leicestershire County Council	8,837	
	731	Payment to Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	982	
	29,259	Share of NDR - N.W.L.D.C.	39,274	
	(4,016)	Contribution towards previous year's surplus/deficit	3,846	
	(149)	Provision for bad/doubtful debts	1,742	
	832	Provision for appeals	1,551	
	156	Costs of Collection	156	
	190	Disregarded amounts	2,846	
	70,160			108,326
	144,421	Total Expenditure		186,577
	499	Movement on fund - (Surplus)/Deficit for the year - Council Tax		(233)
	(7,844)	Movement on fund - (Surplus)/Deficit for the year - NDR		6,046
	(716)	Collection Fund Balance at 1st April 2023 - Council Tax		(217)
	2,902	Collection Fund Balance at 1st April 2023 - NDR		(4,942)
	(217)	Collection Fund Balance at 31st March 2024 - Council Tax		(450)
	(4,942)	Collection Fund Balance at 31st March 2024 - NDR		1,104

Notes to the Collection Fund

C1 General

This Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

C2 Council tax

The Council's tax base i.e. the number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band (adjusted for dwellings where discounts apply) converted to an equivalent of band D dwellings, was calculated as follows:-

Band	Estimated number of taxable properties after effect of discount	Ratio	Band 'D' Equivalent dwellings
A	7,341	6/9	4,894
B	11,825	7/9	9,197
C	7,090	8/9	6,302
D	6,530	9/9	6,530
E	4,903	11/9	5,994
F	1,902	13/9	2,747
G	942	15/9	1,570
H	47	18/9	93
	40,580		37,327
Less: 2% Allowance for Valuation Appeals and irrecoverables			933
Council tax base for 2023/24			36,394

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C3 Income from business rates

The Council collects Non-Domestic Rates for its area which are based on local rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate. The total amount, less certain reliefs and other deductions, is paid to a central pool (the NNDR pool) managed by Central Government, which in turn redistributes the pool back to local authorities general fund.

The total Non-Domestic Rateable Value at the 31st March 2024 was £228,110,919 (2023: £210,312,769).

The National Non-Domestic multiplier for the year was 51.2p (2022/23: 51.2p).

The Small Business Rate Multiplier was 49.9p (2022/23: 49.9p).

C4 Provisions

The provision for the Council's share of potential cost of settling outstanding business rates appeals, was created as a result of the introduction of the Business Rates Retention scheme. As part of this scheme, billing authorities acting as agents on behalf of major preceptors (10%), Central Government (50%) and themselves are required to make a provision for refunding ratepayers who have appealed against the rateable value of their properties. Although under the scheme, the Council is able to retain a larger share of the business rates locally, it also now bears the risks and uncertainties linked to the level of rateable value appeals. The Council has made a provision of £2.45m in its accounts (2022: £1.83m).

Section 6 Glossary

Glossary of main financial terms

Amortisation

A reduction in the value of an intangible asset over time, due to wear and tear.

Budget

A statement defining the council's policies over a specified period in terms of finance. Budgets usually include statements about the use of other resources (e.g. numbers of staff) and provide some information on performance measures.

Budget requirement

The estimated revenue expenditure on general fund services that needs to be financed from the council tax after deducting income from fees and charges, certain specific grants and any funding from reserves. It is used to decide the criteria for capping local authority revenue expenditure.

Capital expenditure

(or capital spending) - Section 40 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 defines 'expenditure for capital purposes'. This includes spending on the acquisition of assets either directly by the local authority or indirectly in the form of grants to other persons or bodies. Expenditure that does not fall within this definition must be charged to a revenue account.

Capital receipts

The proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets. Capital receipts can be used to finance new capital expenditure within rules set down by the Government, but they cannot be used to finance revenue expenditure.

Collection fund

A statutory fund maintained by a billing authority, which is used to record local taxes and non-domestic rates collected by the authority, along with payments to precepting authorities, the national pool of non-domestic rates and its own general fund.

Contingency

Money set aside in the budget to meet the cost of unforeseen items of expenditure, or shortfalls in income, and to provide for inflation where this is not included in individual budgets.

Contingent liability

Money that may be owed, but the exact amount is unclear.

Council tax

The main source of local taxation to local authorities. Council tax is levied on households within its area by the billing authority and the proceeds are paid into its Collection Fund for distribution to precepting authorities and for use by its own General Fund.

Council tax benefit

Assistance provided by billing authorities to adults on low incomes to help them pay their council tax bill. The cost to authorities of council tax benefit is largely met by government grant.

Current expenditure

Running costs, including employee costs, premises costs and supplies and services, but not including debt charges.

Deferred charge

Spending on an asset that has a lasting value but is not owned e.g. improvement grants.

Depreciation

A measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful life of a fixed asset.

Earmarked reserve

Money set aside for a specific purpose.

Estimates

The amounts expected to be spent, or received as income, during an accounting period. The term is also used to describe detailed budgets, which are either being prepared for the following year, or have been approved for the current year.

Original estimate

The estimates for a financial year approved by the council before the start of the financial year.

Revised estimate

An updated revision of the estimates for a financial year.

Supplementary estimate

An amount, which has been approved by the authority, to allow spending to be increased above the level of provision in the original or revised estimates.

External audit

The independent examination of the activities and accounts of local authorities to ensure the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices and to ensure the authority has made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Fees and charges

Income raised by charging users of services for the facilities. For example, local authorities usually make charges for the use of leisure facilities, the collection of trade refuse, etc.

Finance lease

A lease, usually of land, or land and buildings, which is treated in the Government's capital control system as a credit arrangement as if it were similar to borrowing. Other types of lease are termed 'operating leases'.

Financial regulations

A written code of procedures approved by the authority, intended to provide a framework for proper financial management. Financial regulations usually set out rules on accounting, audit, administrative procedures and budgeting systems.

General fund

The main revenue fund of a billing authority. Day-to-day spending on services is met from the fund. Spending on the provision of housing, however, must be charged to a separate Housing Revenue Account.

Housing benefit

An allowance to persons on low income (or none) to meet, in whole or part, their rent. Benefit is allowed or paid by local authorities but central government refunds part of the cost of the benefits and of the running costs of the service to local authorities. Benefit paid to the authority's own tenants is known as rent rebate and that paid to private sector tenants as rent allowance. See also Council Tax Benefit.

Housing revenue account (HRA)

Local authorities are required to maintain a separate account - the HRA - which sets out the expenditure and income arising from the provision of housing. Other services are charged to the General Fund.

HRA subsidy

A government grant paid to some housing authorities towards the cost of providing, managing and maintaining dwellings and paying housing benefits to tenants.

IAS 19

A statement of recommended practice to account for the cost of pensions.

IFRS

International Financial Reporting Standards

Impairment

A reduction in the value of an asset, arising (for example) from a significant reduction in Market Value.

LOBO

A commercial loan method of borrowing, which gives options for both parties – ("Lenders options; borrowers options").

Minimum revenue provision (MRP)

The minimum amount which must be charged to an authority's revenue account each year and set aside as provision for credit liabilities, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

National non-domestic rate (NNDR)

A levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by the Government multiplied by the 'rateable value' of the premises they occupy. NNDR is collected by billing authorities on behalf of central government and then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities on the basis of population. Also known as 'business rates', the 'uniform business rate' and the 'non-domestic rate'.

Net expenditure

Gross expenditure less specific service income, but before deduction of Revenue Support Grant.

Non-recurring

Items that are in a budget for one year only.

Operating lease

A type of lease, usually of computer equipment, office equipment, furniture, etc. which is similar to renting and which does not come within the Government's capital control system. Ownership of the asset must remain with the lessor for a lease to be classed as an operating lease.

Outturn

Actual income and expenditure in a financial year.

Pension fund

An employees' pension fund maintained by an authority, or group of authorities, in order to make pension payments on retirement of participants. It is financed from contributions from the employing authority, the employee and investment income.

Precept

The levy made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from council tax payers on their behalf.

Precepting authorities

Those authorities which are not billing authorities, i.e. do not collect the council tax and non-domestic rate. County councils, police authorities and joint authorities are 'major precepting authorities' and parish, community and town councils are 'local precepting authorities'.

Provisions and reserves

Amounts set aside in one year to cover expenditure in the future. Provisions are for liabilities or losses which are likely or certain to be incurred, but the amounts or the dates on which they will arise are uncertain. Reserves are amounts set aside which do not fall within the definition of provisions and include general reserves (or 'balances'), which every authority must maintain as a matter of prudence.

Public works loan board (PWLB)

A central government agency which provides long- and medium-term loans to local authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the Government itself can borrow. Local authorities are able to borrow a proportion of their requirements to finance capital spending from this source.

Revenue support grant (RSG)

A grant paid by central government to aid local authority services in general, as opposed to specific grants, which may only be used for a specific purpose. The grant makes up the difference between expenditure at SSA and the amount which would be collected in council tax for that level of expenditure (CTSS) and the amount of non-domestic rate redistributed.

Section 137 expenditure

Under Section 137 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1972, local authorities are allowed to spend a limited amount to do things they are not otherwise empowered to do, but which they consider to be in the interests of residents.

Specific grants

The term used to describe all government grants - including supplementary and special grants - to local authorities other than RSG, capital grants and HRA subsidy. Not to be confused with specified capital grants.

Specified capital grant (SCG)

Certain government grants towards capital spending, for example house renovation grants. Local authorities must apply a special accounting treatment to these grants, i.e. reduce their credit approvals by the amount of the grant received. SCGs all relate to housing.

Ultra vires

Local authorities are empowered to do only those things authorised by statute. If they do anything not authorised by statute, that action is said to be ultra vires (i.e. beyond their powers).

Value for money (VFM)

A much-used term that describes a service or product that demonstrates a good balance between its cost, quality and usefulness to the customer. A VFM audit takes into account the economy, efficiency and effectiveness (known as the 'three Es') of a local authority service, function or activity.

Virement

The permission to spend more on one budget head when this is matched by a corresponding reduction on some other budget head, i.e. a switch of resources between budget heads. Virement must be properly authorised by the appropriate committee or by officers under delegated powers.

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 26
FEBRUARY 2026



Title of Report	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25	
Presented by	Paul Stone Strategic Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)	
Background Papers	None	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no legal implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no staffing or corporate implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	For the Committee to consider and approve the Statement of Accounts 2024/25.	
Recommendations	<p>THAT THE COMMITTEE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVES THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25. 2. AUTHORISES THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE TO SIGN THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25. 3. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE COMMITTEE CHAIR AND THE SECTION 151 OFFICER TO APPROVE ANY MINOR NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENTS, AS AGREED WITH THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS, TO THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25 ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE. 	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The publication of the draft 2024/25 Statement of Accounts was delayed, and the statutory deadline was missed. A notice was placed on the Council's website to this effect.
- 1.2 The draft 2024/25 Statement of Accounts was published on the Council's website on 15 January 2026, and the statutory public consultation was undertaken from 16 January 2026 and will end on 26 February 2026. At the time of writing this report, no objections were received. An update will be provided at the meeting.

2.0 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25

- 2.1 The Statement of Accounts should provide electors, those subject to locally levied taxes and charges, members of the authority, employees, other stakeholders and interested parties with clear and comparable information about the Council's finances.
- 2.2 The accounts of Local Authorities in the United Kingdom are required to be developed in line with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice - Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ("the Code"). The Code must be followed to meet the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations to 'present a true and fair view' of the financial position of the Council.
- 2.3 The Code is based on Internal Financing Reporting Standards (IFRS), amended as necessary in respect of legislation governing local authorities.
- 2.4 The Council has prepared the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts in line with the Code and therefore IFRS and its local accounting policies that were agreed by this committee at its meeting on 12 November 2025.
- 2.5 The format of the accounts is effectively prescribed in the Code and is set out as follows:

Section of Statements	Purpose
Narrative	To provide the reader with an understanding of North West Leicestershire as a place, the Council and its priorities, the wider economic background and the non-financial and financial performance of the council in 2024/25.
Statement of Responsibilities	Shows the responsibilities of the Council and Chief Financial Officer for these accounts.
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)	Presents the cost of each function and how they were financed. This is a core statement.
Movement in Reserves Statement	Presents the movement in reserves during the year between usable and unusable reserves, and the actual change to the reserves after all adjustments. This is a core statement.
Balance Sheet	Presents all of the Council's assets and liabilities at the year end, both long and short term. This is a core statement.
Cash Flow Statement	Sets out the flow of cash into and out of the Council. This is a core statement.
Notes to the Financial Statements	These explain in more detail the makeup of the various amounts included in the core statements

Accounting Policies	Technical explanation of main policies and assumptions used in preparing the accounts.
HRA (Housing Revenue Account) Income and Expenditure Account	This statement shows income and expenditure regarding Council dwellings.
Collection Fund	Sets out the transactions relating to the collection and distribution of Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR), or Business Rates as they are more commonly known.

- 2.6 The Statements must comply with the Code so that comparisons can be made across different authorities and for this reason it is essential that authorities define individual costs in line with the Service Reporting Code of Practice (SERCOP). There should also be good notes and explanations to the accounts to aid understanding and, although by nature a technical document, the notes should be concise and understandable.

3.0 AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT STATEMENTS

- 3.1 Since the publication of the draft statements on the Council's website on 15 January 2026, changes have been made to the accounts to ensure that they reflect a 'true and fair' view. There have been three material changes to the accounts since publication on the website.
1. £2m adjustment in relation to S106 workings to ensure the transactions were presented in the correct financial year.
 2. £1.2m adjustment in relation to an incomplete journal for UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The transactions had not been recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).
 3. £1.1m journal to recognise the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) grant for food waste for the purchase of vehicles and containers.
- 3.2 The final version of the Statement of Accounts 2024/25 is documented in Appendix A for approval.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	A well-run council
Policy Considerations:	None
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	None
Customer Impact:	None
Economic and Social Impact:	None
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	None
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Statutory Consultation took place between 16 January 2026 and 26 February 2026.
Risks:	Complying with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice - Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (“the Code”) minimises the risk that the accounts do not ‘present a true and fair view’ of the financial position of the Council.
Officer Contact	Anna Crouch Head of Finance anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

A photograph of two cyclists riding away from the camera on a gravel path through a wooded area. The cyclist in the foreground is wearing a bright pink jersey with 'ALTRIA' on the back and a white helmet. The cyclist in the background is wearing a blue and green jersey and a black helmet. The path is flanked by trees and a wooden fence in the distance.

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024/25

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Section 1 Narrative Report

1. North West Leicestershire as a place

North West Leicestershire is a semi-rural district with a population of approximately 108,000. Most people live in the district's two main towns of Coalville and Ashby de la Zouch. Around the district are a handful of large villages (Castle Donington, Kegworth, Ibstock and Measham) and numerous smaller villages.

In the 1990s and 2000s, Coalville and the wider area underwent significant regeneration and the district's economy has been one of the fastest growth areas in the East Midlands. The coal mining sites formerly used for mineral extraction are now home to a diverse array of business parks and industrial estates providing local employment and drawing from a wide regional labour market.

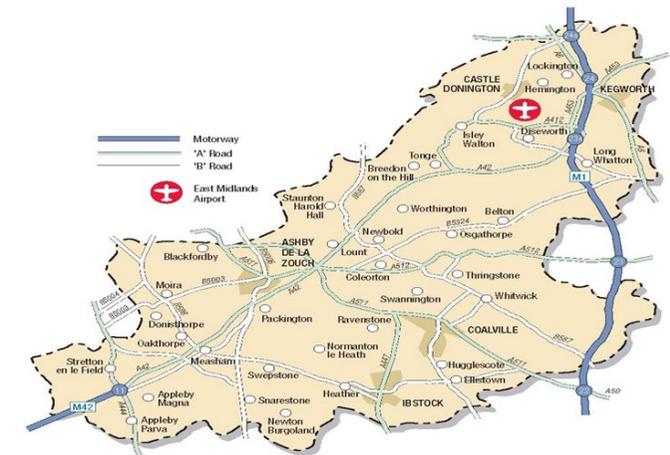
North West Leicestershire sits at the axis of the Midlands, strategically located within 25 miles of Birmingham, Derby, Leicester and Nottingham. It is

served by the M1/M42 (A42) and A50 and is also home to East Midlands Airport – the UK's busiest 'pure' cargo airport.

The district has one of the highest jobs density figures in the Region – indicating a very high level of jobs and this is because our location has proved to be a major attraction to inward investors and developers as well as continuing to be a place that indigenous businesses call home. Key employment sectors in the district are wholesale and retail trade, transport and storage, manufacturing and professional, scientific and technical activities.

We are very proud that our district lies at the heart of the National Forest which spans across parts of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and Staffordshire. We are a key partner in an ongoing project that is transforming

former mining areas through tree planting and forest activities.



2. The council

Governance

We operate a cabinet style government with separation of executive and scrutiny functions. All Cabinet members have been allocated a specific portfolio and are responsible for driving forward the Council's key strategic aims.

Political structure in 2024/25

The Council's political structure as at the 31 March 2025 was:

- Alliance – 19 (Conservative Party (12 councillors), Liberal Democrat Party (5 councillors) and Independent (2 councillors))
- Labour Party – 17 councillors
- Independent – 2 councillors

The council's Leader, Councillor Richard Blunt was re-elected in May 2023. Councillor Blunt subsequently appointed six Cabinet Members for various portfolios and the delegation of executive functions.

Chief Officer Structure

Councillors are supported by the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) which is led by the Council's Chief Executive. CLT are responsible for the overall management of the Council, for setting and monitoring overall direction and ensuring high performance in the delivery of council services. Including the Chief Executive, CLT is made up of eleven members: three Strategic Directors and seven Heads of Service (which include the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer).

Reviewing our governance

Every year we undertake a review of our governance framework, assessing against the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government' 2016. In 2024, the framework was reviewed and updated to include clearer principles within 3 layers: policies, standards and procedures and guidance. The 4 policies that sit within the framework were reviewed and redefined: Data Protection Policy, Information Security Policy, Information Rights Policy and

the Records Management Policy. [Information Governance Framework](#)

This review of effectiveness is informed by the work of senior managers and directors within the Council who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control environment, the Internal Audit Annual Report, the work of the Audit and Governance Committee plus the comments of external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates. Our Annual Governance Statement summarises our view of the arrangements and can be found on our [website](#).

Our priorities

The Council's vision is that we support a clean, green and prosperous place where people want to live, work and visit. Our Council Delivery Plan for 2023 sets out our four priorities and aims for the coming years. Our priority areas are:

- **Planning and regeneration:** Providing an effective planning service to our communities
- **Housing and Communities:** Providing a high-quality housing service to our tenants, which includes delivering an excellent repairs service
- **Clean and Green:** looking after the environment we live in
- **A well-run council:** Making sure our services are provided in a positive and friendly way, that we provide good value for money and that our finances are in good order.

The Council Delivery Plan links our priorities directly to our departmental business plans and the work of each service through specific service plans. This allows our performance to be monitored against our objectives using a performance roadmap detailed within the Council Delivery Plan [[Council Delivery Plan 2023-2028](#)]. There are 18 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) in the plan. Monitoring reports were presented to Cabinet and Scrutiny throughout the year to ensure that the delivery plan stays on target.

The Devolution Agenda

The landscape of local government is changing dramatically. Government has set in motion via its Levelling Up Bill the creation of Combined Authorities, with 10 areas with mayoral devolution in England, being extended to three new areas in 2024, and new non-mayoral devolution deals were live in 2025. The East Midlands has seen the establishment of a Combined Authority for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire areas along with a Devolution Deal which threatens future investment in Leicestershire. Whilst all District Councils in Leicestershire bid to be part of a Combined Authority and Devolution Deal for the East Midlands, this was not supported by the Upper Tier Authorities in Leicestershire. Districts have also formed alliances within Leicestershire to promote shared services and secure efficiencies. The devolution agenda, along with a raft of new locally announced economic programmes, means councils must be adaptable and have the ability to embrace change, whilst ensuring financial stability.

These are the interim plans that have been submitted in proposals to Government:

- one by Leicestershire County Council
- a north/south (Rutland) approach – with North West Leicestershire, Charnwood and Melton in the north, Hinckley, and Bosworth, Blaby, Oadby and Wigston, Harborough and Rutland in the south, and
- a third by Leicester City Council.

The table below gives the expected timeline:

LGR full plan submission deadline	Friday 28 November 2025
Elections to shadow authorities	April/May 2027
Vesting day for new authorities	April 2028

This would mean that North West Leicestershire District Council would cease to be a council on the 31 March 2028, and would be merged into the new unitary council as from the 1 April 2028, referred to as the “vesting day”. Until then, North West Leicestershire District Council will continue to delivery services as normal.

Who works for the council?

The council employs 583 individuals across a wide range of services, many of whom are part-time and hold multiple roles. Our full-time equivalent number of employees is 462 and 10 of these are apprenticeship roles. The majority of the council’s services are provided in-house, and our employed positions reflect this, with roles across many job types including manual operatives, skilled tradesmen and accredited service professionals.

Our People Plan

Our People Plan sets an ambition to develop a sustainable, ambitious, effective and efficient workforce that

reflects the local communities we serve. The plan was developed in 2018 and is regularly updated to support the recently updated Council Delivery Plan. The People Plan is based on five themes:

- Being an employer of Choice.
- Developing and Supporting Staff.
- Leadership
- Happy and Healthy workforce.
- Communicate and listen.

We have made good progress against the plan including maintaining our Investors in People Silver accreditation through to 2025.

Our Values

Our corporate values are:

Trust – We are honest, fair and transparent and we value trust

Respect – We respect each other and our customers in a diverse, professional and supportive environment

Excellence – We will always work to be the best that we can be

Pride – We are proud of the role we play in making North West Leicestershire a happy, healthy and vibrant place to live and work

Growth – We will work together to grow and continually improve.



3. The council's non-financial performance

Below is a summary of some of our key achievements in the year under each of the council's four priorities.

Planning and Regeneration

- The Planning and Development Team has demonstrated exceptional performance surpassing national targets with processing planning applications.
- Significant progress has been made on the Coalville Regeneration Framework with active development in all four council-led projects and ongoing collaboration with landowners and lead partners for the remaining five schemes.
- The Marlborough Square project was completed; the statue of the Mother and Child statue was unveiled in its new location in the Belvoir Centre.

Housing and Communities

- **Private rentals:** the team's proactive approach was rewarded by 100% compliance rate with the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) policy. This has resulted in a substantial reduction in non-compliant properties.
- **Food safety standards** have improved with 82% of food businesses attaining a hygiene rating of 5 (very good) at Q1.

Clean and Green

- The **waste service** is under review, with a presentation to Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet planned once it is completed, later in the year.
- **Carbon neutral target:** cost models are being developed; further status reports will follow.

- The first draft of the **Tree Management Strategy** has been produced and is currently out for consultation with key stakeholders.

A Well-run Council

- **Complaints:** the complaints response targets have improved this year and continue to do so. A complaints action plan is now in place with regular meetings taking place with high volume service areas.
- **Statements of Accounts:** All statements of accounts have now been published for the year end 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 and now 2024/25.

4. The council's financial performance

Financial Outturn for 2024/25

The Council has two main accounts, the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account as well as a Special Expenses account covering services to parishes and unparished areas. Each account has a revenue budget for provision of services and a capital budget for delivery of significant projects.

General Fund

Our General Fund account summarises the expenditure on the council's main services which are paid for in part by council tax.

We budgeted to utilise £751,000 from our reserve balances in 2024/25. However, the year end position was a contribution to reserve balances of £966,000.

Directorate & Service Area	Annual Budget	Outturn	Outturn Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	2,737	2,910	173
Place	2,579	2,229	-350
Community Services	7,432	7,610	178
Resources	5,498	5,068	-430
Corporate & Democratic Core (CDC) & Other Budgets	278	356	78
Net Recharges from General Fund	-1,859	-2,012	-153
Corporate Items & Financing	1,497	775	-722
Contribution to Reserves - Business Rates	0	15,346	15,346
Contribution from Reserves	-751	0	751
NET COST OF SERVICES after recharges	17,411	32,282	14,871
Financed By			
New Homes Bonus	918	918	0
Transfer from/(to) Collection Fund	11	11	0
Council Tax	6,042	6,042	0
Business Rates Income	8,620	23,966	15,346
Services Grant	17	17	0
Minimum Funding Guarantee	1,707	1,707	0
Revenue Support Grant	96	96	0
Other Grants	0	491	491
TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE	17,411	33,248	15,837
UNDERSPEND / (OVERSPEND) 2024/2025	0	966	966

The analysis shows the major variances in the General Fund revenue budget for 2024/25.

The majority of the adverse variances have resulted from an increase in salary, overtime, and agency costs. Favourable variances are largely attributed to underspends in budgets, additional planning fee income and grants received.

Major Variances		£'000
Adverse Variances		
Refuse & Recycling - increased salaries, ni, pension, agency, over		-290
Finance - increased salaries, ni, pension, agency		-257
Homeless Prevention - increased salaries, ni, pension, agency		-199
Cleansing - reduced income from HRA empty homes		-180
Refuse & Recycling - agency staff		-162
Fleet - reduced recharge to HRA		-154
Fleet - purchase of parts/maintenance recharges		-126
Commercial Properties - increased repairs		-120
Commercial Properties - reduced income		-108
Refuse & Recycling - hire of vehicles		-104
Homeless Prevention - payments net of grants rec'd		-89
Planning Development Management - increased salaries, ni, pens		-83
Other Adverse variances		-12
Total Adverse Variances		-1,883
Favourable Variances		
		£'000
Business Change/Transformation - reduced salaries, ni, pension		570
Non-Specific Grant Income		491
Net Financing costs - including leases		487
Development Management - planning application - charges incom		376
Leisure Contractor - reduced contract payments		243
Investment Income		235
Coalville Regeneration - consultancy		200
Asylum Seeker Grant		196
Refuse & Recycling and Cleansing- reduced fuel		181
Rough Sleeping Grants rec'd (net of payments)		169
Net Recharges		153
Cleansing Services - reduced salaries, ni, pension, overtime		119
Council Tax - summons income		93
Bed & Breakfast rebates		88
Contribution from reserves - no longer required		-751
Total Favourable Variances		2,849
Net Variances		966

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) summarises income and expenditure relating to the rented housing accommodation of the 4,080 homes provided by the Council.

The HRA is a ring-fenced account, meaning its funds are kept entirely separate from the Council's other financial resources. HRA monies can only be used to manage, maintain and invest in the Council's housing stock and to provide services for tenants. The HRA's main source of income is the £20.4 million collected in rent from properties let at social or affordable rental levels.

	Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Income from Operations	(1,386)	(2,283)	897
Appropriations	4,005	-	4,005
Net (Surplus)/Deficit	2,619	(2,283)	4,902

The overall outturn was more favourable than budgeted. This was driven by a reduced requirement for bad debt provision, higher interest income due to increased market interest rates, and a lower contribution to capital.

Major Variances	£'000
Depreciation & Impairment	(852)
Dwelling Rents	(565)
Corporate and democratic costs	(465)
Gain/(loss) on sale of assets	(187)
Supervision and management	(100)
Debt Management Expenses	(8)
Non-dwelling rents	13
Interest Payable	149
Other Income	209
Repairs & Maintenance	438
Interest Received	687
Charges for services and facilities	735
Decrease in bad debt provision	843
Revenue Contribution to capital	1,512
Transfer to/(from) reserves	2,492
Total	4,902

Capital

Capital expenditure in 2024/25 totalled £11.862m, comprising £4.275m on General Fund capital schemes and £7.587m on Housing Revenue Account (HRA) schemes. The majority of General Fund capital spending related to the Coalville Regeneration Projects, particularly the improvements at Marlborough Square. Within the HRA, the main area of capital investment was the Housing Home Improvement Programme, which ensures the council's housing stock is maintained to a decent standard.

General Fund Capital Programme	Revised Budget	Final (Under) / over Outturn	(Slippage) spend
Schemes	£ '000	£ '000	£ '000
Coalville Regeneration Projects	2,298	1,462	(836)
UK Shared Prosperity Investment Plan Programme (UKSPF) & REPF	1,722	963	(759)
Carbon Zero	617	236	(381)
Systems/ICT Schemes	227	57	(170)
Vehicle, Plant and Equipment	7,950	633	(7,317)
New Construction or Renovation	4,466	924	(3,542)
Special Expenses	34	-	(34)
Contingency	170	-	(170)
General Fund Total Capital Programme	17,483	4,275	(13,208)

HRA Capital Programme	Revised Budget	Actual Spend	Slippage	Overspend	Net Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Home Improvement	12,598	5,322	8,248	(972)	(7,276)
Estate Improvements	1,344	400	944	0	(944)
Other HRA Capital Projects	2,107	1,113	1,381	(387)	(994)
New Supply	3,387	751	2,636	0	(2,636)
Total	19,436	7,586	13,209	(1,359)	(11,850)

Our Assets and Liabilities

Pension Liabilities

£35.1 million

This is how much the council owes across future years offset by the value of assets invested in the pension fund. Net liabilities increased by £23.1 million from the previous year and is now a pension liability of £35.1m.

The pension fund, which is a Local Government Pension Scheme, is revalued every three years to set the future contribution rates. The scheme was revalued in 2024.

Cash flow £20.5 million

The Council's cash flow shows an increase of £14.7 million in its cash and cash equivalents from the previous year. Generally, cash balances have been healthy throughout the year and the Council invests these in accordance with its Treasury Management Strategy Statement which aims to minimise risk to these balances.

Borrowing £54 million

As at 31 March 2025 the Council has total external borrowing of £54 million (2024: £55m), a decrease of £1 million when compared with the previous year. The majority of this borrowing was taken out to fund the Housing Revenue Account self-financing and are made

up of Public Works Loan Board loans. All of our borrowing complies with the Prudential Code which means it is prudent, sustainable and affordable.

Provisions

This provision for Business Rates appeals was created as a result of the adoption in 2013/14 of the Business Rates Retention scheme through which the Council bears part of the risk for future appeals. The Council's estimate of the value of outstanding appeals up to 31 March 2025 is £7.2 million (2024/25: £6.1 million), the value of appeals used in completing the Collection Fund position as at 31 March 2025. The Council receives 40% of business rates as part of the localised system and must therefore bear 40% of the appeals provision which is £2.9 million.

Financial health

The Council has maintained a good level of financial health but like all local authorities faces significant pressures from reduced funding and demand pressures.

Usable Revenue Reserves

Usable revenue reserves are the most recognised and accepted measure of Local Government financial health. They help the Council to cope with unpredictable financial pressures and plan for future spending commitments. The Council will continue to use reserves to balance competing pressures for example:

- Using reserves to offset funding reductions and protect services – although this can only be a short-term strategy as reserves are a one-off funding resource – the Journey to Self Sufficiency Reserve

is held to provide resources to meet anticipated funding reductions which will provide time and resources to adapt the authority for lower levels of funding

- Using reserves to provide ‘one-off’ expenditure to meet corporate priorities.
- Investing in making changes that reduce the cost of providing services in the longer-term.
- Increasing reserves to strengthen resilience against future, uncertain cost pressures.

General Fund usable revenue reserve balances at 31 March 2025 were £29 million, an increase of £13.6 million on the previous year.

The HRA has usable revenue reserves of £3.4 million, an increase of £2 million compared with the previous year. The reason for the increase is due to the surplus income for the year.

Funding Outlook

Like all authorities, North West Leicestershire has received significant reductions in funding in recent years and anticipates future reductions as well as pressures on services. The Council, unlike some other authorities, receives no Revenue Support Grant and its entire funding comes from Council Tax, Business Rates and New Homes Bonus. The outlook in respect of each of these income streams is considered below:

- **Council Tax** – the Collection Fund statement shows that we collected £83.5 million in Council Tax but retained only about 11.7% of this with the majority being passed on to the County Council, Police and Fire services and parish councils.
- **Business Rates** – the Council collected £110 million in business rates income in 2024/25 but retained £18 million with the

remainder being returned to the Government to fund other local services. A significant proportion of the amount retained is due to accumulated growth of business rates in the area which the Council is able to keep as part of the Government's business rates localisation scheme. A planned reset of this scheme will significantly reduce the Council's income from business rates in the medium term.

- **New Homes Bonus** – the Council received £0.9 million in New Homes Bonus in 2024/25 an amount significantly above average reflecting the significant home growth in the district. However, the Government reduced the size of this reward this year and 2025/26 will be the final year of this funding.

5. Risk Management

We have a Risk Management Policy in place which is used to direct the risk management approach of the council.

The overall objective of the Council's risk management approach is the identification, analysis, management and financial control of those risks which can impact on the Council's ability to pursue its approved delivery plan.

A Corporate Risk Register is regularly reviewed by the Audit and Governance Committee who note all updates and request additional feedback, if appropriate.

The Corporate Risk Register is a live document constantly under review to ascertain progress on managed risks and new risks that could impact on the Council. Our risk review cycle aligns with the service planning process and service risks monitored by service areas.

The Corporate Risk Group (CRG) is represented by each of the Council's services. The CRG identify new risks and review the corporate risk register, whilst the review of all risk management activity is part of the terms of reference of the Audit and Governance Committee. Risks are reported to Cabinet as part of the Quarterly Performance Management Report. In addition, all reports to Council, Cabinet and Committees have a risk management section for consideration of risks associated with specific decisions. All service areas and corporate projects maintain service and project-based risk registers.

The key risks are identified in the Council's corporate risk register and appropriate control measures are put in place to mitigate these risks.



6. Basis of preparation

When assessing what to include in these financial statements, the principle of materiality has been applied. This ensures that the core issues considered to have an impact on the council's strategies, governance, performance and aspirations in respect of matters such as the services it provides and the wellbeing of its local community, are presented. This includes matters that are ordinarily outside of the scope of financial reporting, but which are deemed to have a significant effect on the authority's ability to meet its objectives. Where information in this report is based on other information published by the council, it is prepared on that same basis, and is reconcilable and referenced to that published information.



The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required: -

- To make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Strategic Director of Resources.
- To manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets
- To approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Responsibilities of the S151 Officer

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('the Code of Practice'). In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the S151 Officer has: -

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the Code of Practice.

The S151 Officer has also: -

- Kept proper accounting records which were up-to-date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Paul Stone
Strategic Director of Resources

Date

Councillor Ray Sutton
Chair of Audit and Governance Committee

Date

Section 2 Core Statements

Core Statements

1. Introduction

The following pages summarise the financial activities of North West Leicestershire District Council for 2024/25. The Council's Accounts have been produced in accordance with the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2024/25* and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2024/25, supported by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Explanatory notes to the accounts have been included to give further information where appropriate. The layout of the accounts follows the recommendations of the Code. For 2024/25 the accounts consist of these 'core' Financial Statements:

- **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** which shows income and expenditure of all main services.

- **Movement in Reserves Statement** which shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the council analysed into 'usable' reserves (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and unusable reserves (i.e. those that cannot be used to fund expenditure)
- **Balance Sheet** which sets out the overall financial position of the council at 31 March 2025 showing its assets, liabilities and reserves
- **Cash Flow Statement** which summarises the movements of cash and cash equivalents into and out of the Council arising from transactions with third parties
- **Notes to the Core Financial Statements** which provide explanations of key figures within the statements.

Other financial statements:

- **The Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA)** – This shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources by the Council in comparison with how those resources by the Council are consumed or earned by the Council. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for the decision-making purposes between the council's portfolio holders
- **The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Income & Expenditure Account and Statement of Movement on the HRA balance** – details income and expenditure on HRA services included in the whole Council Income & Expenditure Account and the latter reconciles the surplus for the year to the movement on the HRA balance.
- **The Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account** – this fulfils the Council's Statutory requirement as a billing authority to maintain a separate Collection Fund showing transactions for the Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates and how these have been distributed to precepting authorities and the General Fund.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

	2023/24			Notes	2024/25		
	Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
	0	(10)	(10)		0	(19)	(19)
	166	(65)	101		98	(42)	56
	849	(165)	683		1,035	(502)	534
	7	0	7		0	(14)	(14)
	3,750	(499)	3,251		3,909	(345)	3,565
	5,337	(2,259)	3,077		7,374	(3,957)	3,417
	127	(156)	(30)		142	(165)	(23)
	17,198	(3,632)	13,566		14,066	(4,323)	9,743
	2,289	(1,212)	1,077		2,217	(1,347)	870
	2	0	2		0	(10)	(10)
	374	(57)	318		275	(87)	188
	14,149	(12,431)	1,718		13,709	(11,871)	1,838
	69	(12)	57		115	(27)	88
	0	(23)	(23)		0	(61)	(61)
	176	(181)	(5)		152	(175)	(23)
	34	0	34		52	0	52
	1,163	(21)	1,143		1,546	(21)	1,526
	1,689	0	1,689		144	0	144
	21,340	(20,290)	1,049		18,004	(21,719)	(3,715)
	68,718	(41,014)	27,705		62,840	(44,684)	18,156
			2,832	5			3,211
			3,499	6			(559)
			(30,623)	7			(34,650)
			3,413				(13,843)
			(1,505)	14			(5,432)
			14,320	29			25,618
			12,815				20,186
	16,228		Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				6,344

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce taxation) and unusable reserves. The statement shows how the movement in year of the authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to Council Tax or rents for the year. The net increase/decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

	Notes	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Unusable Reserves £'000	Total Authority reserves £'000
Balance as at 1 April 2023		13,866	7,376	10,394	2,910	2,290	36,835	289,133	325,968
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		(939)	(2,475)	0	0	0	(3,413)	(12,815)	(16,228)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations		2,389	(3,509)	1,465	1,326	223	1,895	(1,895)	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year		1,451	(5,983)	1,465	1,326	223	(1,519)	(14,710)	(16,228)
Balance as at 31 March 2024		15,316	1,392	11,859	4,235	2,513	35,316	274,425	309,741
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		11,559	2,283	0	0	0	13,843	(20,186)	(6,344)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations ³		2,073	(298)	1,418	(3,061)	(736)	(603)	603	(0)
Increase/(Decrease) in Year		13,633	1,986	1,418	(3,061)	(736)	13,239	(19,584)	(6,344)
Balance at 31 March 2025 carried forward		28,950	3,378	13,277	1,174	1,777	48,556	254,840	303,396

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Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories.

The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use.

The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

The council has £3.5m LOBO (Lender Option, Borrower Option) loan where the lender has the option on set dates to propose an increase in the rate payable; The council will then have the option to accept the new rate or repay the loan without penalty. The lender therefore has the effective right to demand repayment and these loans are therefore shown in the Balance Sheet as Short Term Borrowing. The loan option date is every 6 months from loan inception.

31 March 2024		NOTES	31 March 2025	
£'000			£'000	£'000
362,591	Property Plant and Equipment	8	368,214	
9,608	Investment Property	9	10,362	
872	Intangible Assets	8	1,052	
791	Heritage Assets	8	806	
1,086	Surplus Assets	8	1,228	
0	Right of Use Assets	27	422	
374,948	Long Term Assets			382,084
25,000	Short Term Investments	30	10,000	
142	Inventories		150	
13,502	Short Term Debtors	10	16,150	
5,794	Cash and Cash Equivalents	11	20,466	
44,438	Current Assets			46,766
(1,269)	Short Term Borrowing	30	(1,297)	
(30,534)	Short Term Creditors	12	(20,115)	
(592)	Provisions	31	(717)	
(32,395)	Current Liabilities			(22,130)
(55,314)	Long Term Borrowing	30	(54,020)	
(1,855)	Other Long Term Liabilities		(2,575)	
(11,974)	Pension Liability	29	(35,116)	
(1,700)	Revenue Grants Receipt In Advance		(2,315)	
(6,354)	Capital Grants Receipt In Advance	24	(9,252)	
(53)	Deferred Liabilities	30	(46)	
(77,251)	Long Term Liabilities			(103,324)
309,740	Net Assets			303,396
15,316	General Fund Balance		28,950	
1,392	Housing Revenue Account		3,378	
11,859	Capital Receipts Reserve		13,277	
4,235	Major Repairs Reserve		1,174	
2,513	Capital Grants Unapplied		1,777	
35,316	Usable Reserves	13		48,556

Balance Sheet

31 March 2024		NOTES	31 March 2025	
£'000			£'000	£'000
142,019	Revaluation Reserve	14	145,100	
144,749	Capital Adjustment Account	14	150,817	
(954)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	14	(927)	
(11,974)	Pension Reserve	14	(35,116)	
1,113	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	14	(4,800)	
(528)	Accumulated Absences Account	14	(234)	
274,425	Unusable Reserves			254,840
309,740	Total Reserves			303,396

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as: operating, investing and financing activities.

The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council.

Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery.

Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

Direct Method			
2023/24		NOTES	2024/25
£'000			£'000
(3,413)	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services		13,843
11,166	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	15	3,658
(2,514)	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	15	(2,892)
5,239	Net Cash flows from operating activities		14,608
(16,100)	Net Cash flows from Investing Activities	16	(6,191)
12,159	Net Cash flows from Financing Activities	17	6,255
1,298	Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		14,672
4,495	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		5,794
5,794	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	11	20,466

Section 3 Notes to the Core Financial Statements

Notes to the accounts

Accounting policies

1. General Principles

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared with reference to the objective of showing the results of the stewardship and accountability of elected members and management for the resources entrusted to them, and on the underlying assumption of a going concern basis.

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2024/25 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2025.

The council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which requires the statement to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices under Section 21 of the 2003 Act primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance issued under Section 12 of the Local Government Act 2003.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

The council's accounting policies are updated annually to reflect any changes in IFRS, including changes in International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), HM Treasury guidance, CIPFA guidance or any other change in statute, guidance or framework impacting on the council's accounts.

In August 2023, CIPFA issued a consultation on the 2024/25 Code of Practice which will apply to the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts. [Consultation on the 2024/25 Code of Practice on Local Authority Financial Reporting in the United Kingdom | CIPFA](#).

In the Exposure drafts, CIPFA details the amendments to IFRS 16 Lease liabilities for sale and lease back transactions. In

common with many other local authorities, the Council has decided to implement IFRS 16 in 2024/25 in line with the mandatory deadline. CIPFA also confirms the contents of the Narrative Statement.

The council's accounting policies as far as possible have been developed to ensure that the accounts are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable, and are applied consistently. A glossary of terms can be found at the end of this document.

2. Accruals of income and expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the

contract. Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.

- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

3. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the council's cash management.

4. Exceptional items

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the council's financial performance.

5. Prior period adjustments, changes in accounting policies and estimates and errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

6. Charges to revenue for non-current assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off
- Amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The council is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation.

However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the council in accordance with statutory guidance.

Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund balance (Minimum Revenue

Provision) by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

MRP has previously been determined as 4% of the opening balance for the financial period (the Regulatory Method). Going forward the Section 151 Officer has revised this policy for 2019/20 onwards to the asset life method, based on Option 3 of the MHCLG guidance, whereby MRP is determined by reference to the useful life of the asset.

7. Council tax and non-domestic rates (England)

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves.

Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NDR. Under the legislative framework for

the Collection Fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and central government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for Council Tax and NDR

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the council's General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the council's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful

debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

8. Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year-end.

They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g., cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the council.

An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the

Provision of Services but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve

to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-employment Benefits

Employees of the council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Leicestershire County Council. The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the Leicestershire County Council pension fund attributable to the council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate based on the indicative

rate of return on high quality corporate bonds.

- The assets of Leicestershire County Council pension fund attributable to the council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - Quoted securities – current bid price
 - Unquoted securities – professional estimate
 - Unitised securities – current bid price
 - Property – market value.

The change in the net pension's liability is analysed into the following components:

- Service cost comprising:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.
 - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non-Distributed Costs.

- Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the council – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
- Re-measurements comprising:
 - The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as

Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

- Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- Contributions paid to the Leicestershire County Council pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and

credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

Pension Asset Ceiling Adjustment

As at the reporting date, the actuarial valuation of the pension scheme resulted in a net pension asset. In accordance with IAS 19 and the CIPFA Code of Practice, the Council has assessed the recoverability of this asset. Under the provisions of IAS 19, the Council is restricted from recognising a pension asset that exceeds the economic benefits available to it, such as refunds or reductions in future contributions. This is referred to as the asset ceiling. Following this assessment, a journal entry has been posted to reduce the pension asset, ensuring compliance with the asset ceiling limitation. This adjustment has been recognised in the Other Comprehensive Income section of the CIES, with a corresponding entry to the Pensions Reserve in the MiRS.

Discretionary Benefits

The council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

9.Events after the reporting period

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events
- Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of

events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

10. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For most of the borrowings that the council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund balance to be spread over future years.

The council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net charge required against the General Fund balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified using an approach that is based on the business

model for holding the financial assets and their Cashflow characteristics.

There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- Amortised cost
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

There are some exceptions, where the council holds strategic investments to help it meet other policy objectives, such as the support of economic development in the district.

This means that some investments are ones where contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (i.e. where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets measured at amortised cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the

Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

The council has not given any loans to external or voluntary organisations, nor provided guarantees against loans they have received from financial institutions.

When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference

servicing to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Expected credit loss model

The council recognises expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost or FVOCI, either on a 12 month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the council.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower

could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12 month expected losses.

Financial assets measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL)

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

The fair value measurements of the financial assets are based on the following techniques:

- Instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- Other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis.

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

- Level 1 inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the council can access at the measurement date
- Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

An equity instrument can be elected into a FVOCI treatment rather than a FVPL treatment if it is not held for trading. The council has reviewed its assets that would be measured at FVPL on the basis of the business model and has elected to classify instruments as either FVPL or FVOCI on an instrument-by-instrument basis based on the assessed benefit to the council from the chosen classification.

Loans and receivables are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

11. Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- The council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments; and
- The grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset in the form of the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

12. Heritage Assets

The council has three heritage assets which are held in support of increasing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the council's history and local area. These are Moira Furnace, a listed monument of historical interest located in Moira, the Memorial Clock Tower, a Grade II listed building that services as a historic war memorial located in the centre of Coalville and the 'Heart of the Forest' Sculpture in Ashby.

Heritage assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment.

The carrying amounts of heritage assets are reviewed where there is evidence of impairment for heritage assets, e.g. where an item has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or where doubts arise as to its authenticity. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the council's general policies on impairment – see note 18. The council will occasionally dispose of heritage assets. The proceeds of such items are accounted for in accordance with the council's general provisions relating to the disposal of property, plant and equipment. Disposal proceeds are disclosed separately in the notes to the financial statements and are accounted for in accordance with statutory accounting requirements relating to capital expenditure and capital receipts (again see note 18 below).

13. Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the council as a result of past

events (e.g., software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the council.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Previously, amounts were only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the council were determined by reference to an active market. Under the new 2025/26 Code of Practice, intangible assets are only valued at historic cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not

permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

14. Inventories and Long-term Contracts

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average costing formula. Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

15. Investment Property

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As a non-financial asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal. Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

16. Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council as Lessee Finance Leases

From 1 April 2024, North West Leicestershire District Council has applied **IFRS 16** Leases as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. The new accounting standard requires that the rights to use items acquired under all leases are recognised as

assets on the Balance Sheet, together with a liability for the payments to be made for the acquisition. Previously this was only done for leases where the council acquired substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased item (finance leases).

At the commencement of a lease, a liability is recognised for the obligation to make future payments (discounted to their present value using the interest rate implicit in the lease or (where this is not readily determinable) our incremental borrowing rate. The right acquired under the lease to use the leased item is recognised as an asset, measured on the commencement date at cost based on the lease liability plus any payments made before that date. Initial direct costs of the council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Liabilities are recalculated where rents change as a result of a change in an index or rate used to determine future payments. Adjustments to liabilities are matched with adjustments to the cost of the right-of-use asset.

Lease payments are apportioned between: a charge for the acquisition of the right to use the property, plant or equipment which is applied to write down the lease liability, and a finance charge which is debited to

the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Right-of-use assets recognised under leases are accounted for using the policies applied generally to Property, Plant and Equipment assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life. This will include valuation where the cost model does not provide a reliable proxy for the current value of the right-of-use asset. The council is not required to use council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Therefore, the Minimum Revenue Provision arrangements also apply to leased assets. Where leases are for items of low value, or the lease term is less than 12 months from commencement, amounts paid under the lease are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased item. For this purpose, the council has determined that items with a value of less than £10k when new are low value. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments.

Operating leases

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease).

17. Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to service segments in accordance with the council's arrangements for accountability and financial performance.

18. Property, plant and equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one

financial year are classified as property, plant and equipment.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accrual's basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- The purchase price.
- Any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

- The initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.

The council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred while assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e., it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the council). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the council.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement unless the donation has been made conditionally.

Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund and

the Balance taken to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement bases:

- Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost
- Dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV–SH)
- Council offices – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value EUV), except for a few offices that are situated close to the council’s housing properties, where there is no market for office accommodation, and that are measured at depreciated replacement cost (instant build) as an estimate of current value
- Surplus assets – the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant’s perspective

- All other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value. Where non-property assets have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains.

Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

- Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

- Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount

of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains).
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all property, plant and equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain community assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- HRA Dwellings – straight line allocation over the useful life for the property as estimated by a qualified valuer.

- Other Land and Buildings - depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over their useful life as estimated by the valuer
- Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment - The basis for depreciation is a straight-line allocation over their useful life as determined by the valuer or appropriate officer
- Community Assets - In accordance with the Council's depreciation policy, assets without a determinable finite useful life are not depreciated. Community Assets generally fall into this category; therefore, no depreciation is charged on these assets.
- Right of Use Assets are amortised / depreciated over the length of their lease.
- Assets Under Construction – no depreciation is charged on these assets.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each

year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Disposals and non-current assets held for sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an asset held for sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously recognised losses in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on assets held for sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as assets held for sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount

before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as held for sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as assets held for sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts.

A proportion of capital receipts relating to housing disposals is payable to the government (50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances and for dwellings, amounts determinable under the Right to Buy and One for One Agreement that the council signed in 2012). The balance of receipts remains within the Capital Receipts Reserve and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

19. Provisions, contingent liabilities, and contingent assets

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the council has an obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the

Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year - where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the council settles the obligation.

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent

liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Contingent assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the council.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

20. Reserves

The council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, local taxation, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the council – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

21. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the

amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of council tax.

22. VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

23. Accounting standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

The council is required to disclose information relating to the impact of changes in accounting standards on the financial statements as a result of new standards that have been issued but are not yet required to be adopted. In the 2024/25 accounts, the council is required to disclose the following changes to Accounting Standards which may have an impact on the council's accounts in 2025/26.

The following standards are likely to be effective for local authorities for the 2025/26 financial year:

IAS 21 The effects of changes in Foreign Exchange Rate IAS 21 prescribes how to include foreign currency transactions and foreign operations in the financial statements of an entity and how to translate financial statements into a presentation currency. The council does not have any foreign operations and is unaffected by these amendments.

IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts establishes the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of Insurance contracts. Its objective is to ensure an entity provides relevant information that faithfully represents those contracts to give users of financial statements a basis to assess the effect that insurance contracts have on the entity's financial position, financial performance and cash flows. The council does not issue insurance contracts and is unaffected by these amendments.

Notes to core financial statement

1 Critical Judgements In Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Section 3, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statements of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

2 Assumptions Made About The Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends, and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024 for which there is a significant risk of adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	Asset valuations for the council's property portfolio are based on market prices and are reviewed annually to ensure that the Council does not materially misstate its non-current assets. The Council's external valuers provided valuations as at 31 March 2025. The carrying value of Property, Plant and Equipment at 31 March 2025 is £368m.	A reduction in the estimated valuations would result in reductions to the Revaluation Reserve and/or a loss as appropriate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If the value of the Council's properties were to reduce by 10%, this would result in a charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and/or Revaluation Reserve of approximately of £36.8m.

Notes to core financial statement

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Pensions Liability	<p>Estimation of the net pension liability depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. An independent firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied, although ultimate responsibility for forming these assumptions remains with the Authority.</p> <p>The carrying amount of the net pension liability at 31 March 2025 is £35.116m.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pensions liability are included in Note 29. The Council's actuaries provide an annual statement of the pension liabilities and assets, which includes the liability linked to leisure staff that were transferred to Everyone Active In May 2019.</p>
Business Rates Appeals Provision	<p>Since the 1 April 2013, Local Authorities are liable for successful appeals against business rates charged to businesses in proportion to their share (40%).</p> <p>All of the 2010 list appeals have been resolved. For the 2017 list, there was £3.9m outstanding with the Valuation Office Agency at this date.</p> <p>An appeals provision of £7.19 m is held in the Collection Fund currently to counter the potential impact of successful appeals in future years.</p>	<p>If the estimated success rate of existing appeals increased in monetary value by 10%, then this would require the Council to increase its share of the provision for appeals by an approximate £290k.</p>
Arrears	<p>Each year the Council reviews the significant balances for Council Tax, Business Rates and sundry debtor arrears. Officers make a judgement on the likelihood of these debts being repaid in the future based on a number of factors, including the age of debts, past experience and the economic climate. We cannot be certain that the current allowance will be sufficient.</p>	<p>If collection rates were to deteriorate, a doubling of the amount of impairment of doubtful debts would require an additional £0.95m for Council Tax debts, and £0.5m for business rates to be set aside as an allowance.</p>

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This list does not include assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value based on a recently observed market price.

Notes to core financial statement

3 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

2024/25	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	1,398	3,653				(5,051)
Revaluation gains and (losses) on Property Plant and Equipment	(178)	1,224				(1,046)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	(458)	0				458
Amortisation of intangible assets	39	136	0	0	0	(175)
Depreciation of Heritage Assets	0					(0)
Capital grants and contributions applied	(1,849)	0	0	0	0	1,849
Transfer of depreciation to Major Repairs Account		(3,789)		3,789		0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	2,514	0	0	0	0	(2,514)
Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans		(1,262)				1,262
Amount of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1)	2,323	0	0	0	(2,322)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	(1,225)	0	0	0	0	1,225
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(2,446)	0				2,446
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	736	0			(736)	0

Notes to core financial statement

2024/25 - continued	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(21)	(2,134)	2,155			0
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	(737)	0	0	737
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals		0	0			0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash		0	0			0
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement						0
Adjustment involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				(6,850)		6,850
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from the finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(27)	0				27
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,628	678				(2,306)
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(3,724)	(1,058)	0	0	0	4,782
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	5,913	0	0	0	0	(5,913)

Notes to core financial statement

2024/25 - continued	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments involving the Accumulated Absences Account:						
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(226)	(68)	0	0	0	294
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Total Adjustments	2,073	(298)	1,418	(3,061)	(736)	603

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24	Usable Reserves					Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	734	3,653				-4,387
Revaluation gains and (losses) on Property Plant and Equipment	4,949	1,882				-6,831
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	3,848	0				-3,848
Amortisation of intangible assets	44	0	0	0	0	-44
Depreciation of Heritage Assets	17					-17
Capital grants and contributions applied	-1,550	0	0	0	0	1,550
Transfer of depreciation to Major Repairs Account		-3,653		3,653		0
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	3,017	0	0	0	0	-3,017
Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans		-2,548				2,548
Amount of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0	1,550	0	0	0	-1,550
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	-1,108	0	0	0	0	1,108
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	-6,936	-2,565				9,501
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:						
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	-223	0			223	0

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 - continued	Usable Reserves					
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	-25	-1,540	1,565			0
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	-100	0	0	100
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals		0	0			0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash		0	0			0
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0					0
Adjustment involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				-2,327		2,327
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from the finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	-256	0				256

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 - continued	Usable Reserves					
	General Fund Balance £'000	Housing Revenue Account £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserves £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £'000
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2,507	838				-3,345
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	-3,522	-1,126	0	0	0	4,648
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	893	0	0	0	0	-893
Adjustments involving the Accumulated Absences Account:						
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Total Adjustments	2,389	-3,509	1,465	1,326	223	-1,895

Notes to core financial statement

4 Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans into the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2024/25.

	Balance at 31/3/2023 £'000	Transfers Out 2023/24 £'000	Transfers In 2023/24 £'000	Balance at 31/3/2024 £'000	Transfers Out 2024/25 £'000	Transfers In 2024/25 £'000	Balance at 31/3/2025 £'000
General Fund:							
General reserves	5,896	(9,367)	8,928	5,457	(2,914)	16,550	19,093
Ivanhoe Sinking Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hermitage Recreation Ground - 3G Pitch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hermitage Recreation Ground Maintenance Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Asset Protection Fund	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)
Total	5,896	(9,367)	8,928	5,457	(2,914)	16,550	19,093
HRA:							
General Earmarked Reserves	115	0	0	115	0	0	115
Total	115	0	0	115	0	0	115

Notes to core financial statement

5 Other Operating Expenditure

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
2,847 Parish Council Precepts	3,046
0 Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	0
(15) (Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	165
2,832 Total	3,211

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2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
1,942 Interest payable and similar charges	1,970
(78) Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	(659)
(2,595) Interest receivable and similar income	(1,912)
4,231 Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties	43
3,499 Total	(559)

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2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
(9,259) Council tax income	(9,633)
(16,205) Non domestic rates	(18,116)
(2,603) Non-ring fenced government grants	(3,229)
(2,556) Capital grants and contributions	(3,672)
(30,623) Total	(34,650)

Notes to core financial statement

8 Movements on Assets

	Costs	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2024		311,989	45,694	12,393	172	388	370,635	1,086
Additions		7,454	393	927	0	28	8,802	0
Accumulated impairment & depreciation written-off to Gross book Value		0	(461)	0	0	0	(461)	(23)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		1,739	(8)	0	0	0	1,731	142
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		(1,452)	102	0	0	0	(1,351)	23
Derecognition - Disposals		(2,003)	0	0	0	0	(2,003)	0
Derecognition - Other		0	(342)	0	0	0	(342)	0
Assets reclassified		(45)	346	0	0	(186)	114	0
At 31 March 2025		317,681	45,722	13,320	172	229	377,126	1,228

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Notes to core financial statement

Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment						Total Property Plant and Equipment	Surplus Assets
	Council Dwelling	Other Land and Buildings	Furniture and Equipment	Community Assets	Assets Under Construction	Plant and Equipment		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 April 2024	(0)	(5)	(8,039)	0	0	(8,044)	0	
Depreciation charge	(3,640)	(490)	(849)	0	0	(4,979)	0	
Accumulated depreciation written-off to Gross book value	0	463	0	0	0	463	0	
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	3,405	3	0	0	0	3,407	0	
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	212	0	0	0	0	212	0	
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	7	0	0	0	7	0	
Derecognition - Disposals	23	0	0	0	0	23	0	
Derecognition - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
At 31 March 2025	(0)	(24)	(8,887)	0	0	(8,912)	0	
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2025	317,681	45,698	4,433	172	229	368,214	1,228	
At 31 March 2024	311,988	45,688	4,354	172	388	362,591	1,086	

Notes to core financial statement

Comparative Movements

	Costs	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property Plant and Equipment £'000	Surplus Assets £'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2023		312,274	51,276	9,343	0	3,773	376,667	198
Additions		4,881	1,124	2,331	172	1,882	10,390	0
Accumulated impairment & depreciation written-off to Gross book Value		0	(373)	0	0	0	(373)	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		(1,867)	-285	0	0	0	-2,153	0
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		(1,735)	(5,188)	0	0	0	(6,923)	0
Derecognition - Disposals		(1,336)	0	0	0	0	(1,336)	0
Derecognition - Other		0	(245)	0	0	0	(245)	0
Assets reclassified		(228)	(616)	718	0	(5,268)	(5,394)	888
At 31 March 2024		311,989	45,694	12,393	172	388	370,635	1,086

Notes to core financial statement

Comparative Movements

Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment	Total Property						Surplus Assets £'000
	Council Dwelling £'000	Other Land and Buildings £'000	Vehicle, Plant, Furniture and Equipment £'000	Community Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Plant and Equipment £'000	
At 1 April 2023	0	(194)	(7,498)	0	0	(7,692)	0
Depreciation charge	(3,640)	(192)	(540)	0	0	(4,372)	0
Accumulated depreciation written-off to Gross book value	0	373	0	0	0	373	0
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	3,625	5	0	0	0	3,630	0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition - Disposals	15	0	0	0	0	15	0
Derecognition - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2024	(0)	(5)	(8,039)	0	0	(8,044)	0

Notes to core financial statement

8 Intangible Assets

2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
2,949	Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) B/fwd 01/04	2,995
46	Additions	355
2,995	Gross Carrying Amount B/Fwd	3,350
(2,079)	Accumulated Amortisation & Impairment B/fwd	(2,123)
(44)	Amortisation in year	(175)
(2,123)	Accumulated Amortisation & Impairment C/fwd	(2,298)
872	Net Carrying Amount Cfw	1,052

8 Heritage Assets

2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
728	Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) B/fwd 01/04	814
26	Additions	300
(28)	Accumulated Depreciation write/off to GCV	(16)
0	Revaluation Recognised in Revaluation Reserve	0
88	Revaluation Recognised in Surplus/Deficit	(285)
814	Gross Carrying Amount (GCA) C/fwd	813
(19)	Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment B/Fwd @ 0'	(6)
(32)	Depreciation Charge in year	(17)
28	Accumulated Depreciation WO to GCV	16
(23)	Depreciation C/fwd	(7)
791	Net Book Value at 31 March	806

Notes to core financial statement

Fixed Assets Valuation

The fixed assets shown in the Balance Sheet are valued on the basis recommended by CIPFA and in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation Principles and Guidance Notes issued by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). Fixed assets are classified into the groupings required by the Code of Practice. The different types of assets have been valued on the following basis:

(i) Operational assets are included in the balance sheet at open market value in existing use or depreciated replacement cost where the asset is of a specialist nature, i.e. there is no market for such an asset.

(ii) Non-operational assets, including investment properties and assets that are surplus to requirements, are included in the balance sheet at open market value.

(iii) Infrastructure and community assets are included in the balance sheet at historic cost, net of any depreciation.

(iv) Council dwellings have been valued using the beacon principal, where a typical property is valued as being representative of a particular house type and location. The valuation for each of the beacon properties selected was on the basis of existing use value – Social Housing.

Category	Date of Last Valuation	Basis of Valuation	Details of Valuers
Council Dwellings	31.03.25	The valuations have been made in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation manual as published by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. In the case of housing stock this is based upon Existing Use Value for Social Housing.	Mr G Harbord (MA,MRICS,IRRV) Wilks Head and Eve
Other Land & Building	31.03.25	The valuations have been made in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation manual as published by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.	Mr G Harbord (MA,MRICS,IRRV) Wilks Head and Eve

Major fixed assets held at 31 March 2024, are:-

2023/24		2024/25
No		No
	Leisure Centres	
2	Leisure Centres with Pools	2
2	Markets	2
4	Cemeteries	4
	Council dwellings	
2,367	Houses	2,345
916	Flats and Maisonettes	915
819	Bungalows	820
	Land	
108	Parks and Open Spaces (acres)	108
	Other	
1	Office Properties	1
3	Depots	3
18	Off Street Car Parks	18
4	Public Conveniences	4
12	Industrial Estates/Business Units	12

Notes to core financial statement

9 Investment Properties

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or repairs, maintenance or enhancement.

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
639	727
(1,038)	(1,219)
(400) Net gain/(loss)	(493)

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
8,906	9,608
Additions:	
0	0
0	296
0	0
0	0
(3,848)	458
Transfers:	
4,549	0
0	0
0	0
9,608 Balance at the end of the year	10,362

Notes to core financial statement

10 Short-Term Debtors

31 March 2024 £'000		31 March 2025 £'000
2,927	Central Government bodies	5,468
5,684	Other local authorities	5,208
40	Public Corporations and trading funds	384
4,851	Other entities and individuals	5,090
13,502	Total Short-Term Debtors	16,150

11 Cash and Cash Equivalents

31 March 2024 £'000		31 March 2025 £'000
0	Cash held by the Council	0
794	Bank current accounts	966
5,000	Short-term deposits and Money Market Funds	19,500
5,794	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	20,466

12 Short-Term Creditors

31 March 2024 £'000		31 March 2025 £'000
7,167	Central Government bodies	969
16,479	Other local authorities	10,588
890	Public Corporations and trading funds	1,582
5,300	Other entities and individuals	6,976
29,836	Total Short-Term Creditors	20,115

Notes to core financial statement

13 Usable Reserves

The Council's usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

14 Unusable Reserves

31 March 2024 £'000		31 March 2025 £'000
142,019	Revaluation Reserve	145,100
144,749	Capital Adjustment Account	150,817
(954)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(927)
(11,974)	Pensions Reserve	(35,116)
1,113	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(4,800)
(528)	Accumulated Absences Account	(234)
274,425	Total Unusable Reserves	254,839

Revaluation Reserve

2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
142,813	Balance at 1 April	142,019
5,313	Upward revaluation of assets	6,124
(3,808)	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(692)
1,505	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	5,432
(1,762)	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(1,604)
(537)	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(747)
(2,299)	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	(2,351)
142,019	Balance at 31 March	145,100

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;
- Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or
- Disposed of and the gains are realised.

The Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

Notes to core financial statement

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions.

The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling posting from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council.

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 3 provides details of the source of all transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
145,010	Balance at 1 April	144,749
	Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	
(4,405)	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(5,051)
(6,831)	Revaluation (losses)/gain on Property, Plant and Equipment	(1,046)
(44)	Amortisation of Intangible assets	(175)
(3,017)	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(2,514)
(1,550)	Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gains/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(2,323)
537	Write-out of gains relating to revalued disposed assets	747
1,762	Write-out of depreciation on revalued assets (HCA)	1,604
(13,547)		(8,759)
	Capital financing applied in the year:	
100	Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	737
2,327	Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	6,850
1,004	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	1,154
2,548	Repayment of Debt	1,262
546	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	696
1,108	Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	1,225
9,501	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	2,446
17,135		14,369
(3,848)	Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	458
0	Movement in the Donated Assets Account credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0
144,749	Balance at 31 March	150,817

Notes to core financial statement

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post employee benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs.

However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible.

A debit balance on the Pensions Reserve shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
1,043 Balance at 1 April	(11,974)
10,349 Actuarial gains or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	22,792
(3,345) Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(2,306)
4,648 Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	4,782
(24,669) Effect of asset ceiling	(48,410)
(11,974) Balance at 31 March	(35,116)

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains per statutory provisions. The Council uses the Account to manage premiums paid on the early redemption of loans. Premiums are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the expense is posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on council tax. In the Council's case, this period is the unexpired term that was outstanding on the loans when they were redeemed.

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 Financial Instruments Adjustment Account £'000	2024/25 £'000
(1,210) Balance at 1 April	(954)
Premiums incurred in the year and charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	
256 Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	27
0 Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0
(954) Balance at 31 March	(927)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax/Rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from Council Tax/Rates payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

Council Tax

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
23 Balance at 1 April	53
30 Amount by which Council Tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(63)
53 Balance at 31 March	(10)

Non-Domestic Rates

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
1,983 Balance at 1 April	1,060
(923) Amount by which Non-Domestic Rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(5,850)
1,060 Balance at 31 March	(4,789)

Notes to core financial statement

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund Balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
(528) Balance at 1 April	(528)
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	
0 Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	294
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	
0	0
(528) Balance at 31 March	(234)

Notes to core financial statement

15 Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
2,595 Interest received	1,912
(1,942) Interest paid	(1,970)
0 Dividends received	0
654	(57)

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing and financing activities:

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
4,435 Depreciation	5,051
3,808 Impairment and downward valuations	692
44 Amortisation	175
880 Increase/(decrease) in creditors	3,413
(3,525) (Increase)/decrease in debtors	(2,648)
(4) (Increase)/decrease in inventories	(8)
13,017 Movement in pension liability	(4,718)
1,550 Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	2,323
(9,039) Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(622)
11,166	3,658

Notes to core financial statement

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following non-cash movements:

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
0 Proceeds from short-term (not considered to be cash equivalents) and long-term investments (includes investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries)	0
(1,565) Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(2,156)
(949) Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	(736)
(2,514)	(2,892)

16 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
(19,296) Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	0
588 Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	(5,509)
1,565 Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	2,156
1,043 Other receipts from investing activities	(2,838)
(16,100) Net cash flows from investing activities	(6,191)

17 Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

2023/24	2024/25
£'000	£'000
470 Repayments of short- and long-term borrowing	(1,269)
11,689 Other payments for financing activities	7,524
12,159 Net cash flows from financing activities	6,255

Notes to core financial statement

18 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The Council's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

2023/24 £'000	Expenditure/Income	2024/25 £'000
Expenditure		
23,770	Employee expenses	24,369
33,424	Other services expenses	35,388
15,811	Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	6,451
(78)	Net pension interest	(659)
1,942	Interest payments	1,970
2,847	Precepts and levies	3,046
0	Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	0
(15)	(Gain) / Loss on the disposal of assets	165
77,701	Total Expenditure	70,730
Income		
(26,982)	Fees, charges and other service income	(32,758)
(2,595)	Interest and investment income	(1,912)
(25,464)	Income from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	(27,749)
(16,691)	Government Grants and Contributions	(20,198)
(2,556)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(1,955)
(74,287)	Total Income	(84,573)
3,413	(Surplus) or deficit on the Provision of Services	(13,843)

Notes to core financial statement

External income received by service

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
0 Chief Executive	0
(39) Human Resources & Organisational Development	(42)
(307) Legal & Support Services	(656)
0 Strategic Director of Place	1
(15) Property & Economic Regeneration	(40)
(892) Planning	(2,144)
(156) Joint Strategic Planning	(165)
(31) Strategic Director of Communities incl. Customer Services	0
(3,153) Community Services	(3,763)
(189) Housing (General Fund)	(227)
0 Strategic Director of Resources	0
(38) Finance	(60)
(1,126) Revenues & Benefits	(1,100)
(12) ICT	(12)
0 Customer Services	(12)
(20,433) Housing Revenue Account	(23,852)
(26,392) Total external income in Cost of Services	(32,073)
(3,146) Other income and Expenditure	(2,640)
(29,538) Total external income	(34,714)

Notes to core financial statement

19 Members' Allowances

The total value of Members Allowances paid during 2024/25 was £345,966 (2023/24: £330,485).

20 Officers' Remuneration

The table below shows the number of employees whose remuneration (including redundancy payments but excluding pension contribution) was £50,000 or above.

2023/24 No of employees	Remuneration Band	2024/25 No of employees
7	£50,000 - £54,999	15
9	£55,000 - £59,999	8
2	£60,000 - £64,999	2
2	£65,000 - £69,999	1
1	£70,000 - £74,999	4
5	£75,000 - £79,999	2
0	£80,000 - £84,999	1
0	£85,000 - £89,999	0
0	£90,000 - £94,999	0
2	£95,000 - £99,999	1
0	£100,000 - £104,999	2
0	£105,000 - £109,999	0
0	£110,000 - £114,999	0
0	£115,000 - £119,999	0
0	£120,000 - £124,999	0
0	£125,000 - £129,999	0

Notes to core financial statement

2024/25 Senior Officers emoluments - salary is between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post information (Post title)	Note	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation (loss of emp) £	Other £	Total exc Pension £	Employers Pension £	Total inc Pension £
Chief Executive		140,529			3,637	144,166	40,388	184,554
Strategic Director of Place		97,842			3,174	101,016	28,137	129,153
Strategic Director of Housing & Customer Services		97,842			3,483	101,325	28,137	129,462
Strategic Director of Resources		91,526			4,820	96,346	26,321	122,667
Head of Legal & Support Services	1	51,681			2,478	54,159	14,954	69,113
Head of Legal & Support Services	2	25,984			2,103	28,087	19,591	47,678
Head of Finance		65,478			4,820	70,298	18,830	89,128
Head of Community Services		74,525			3,338	77,863	21,432	99,295
Head of Housing		74,525			4,817	79,342	21,432	100,774
Head of Planning & Infrastructure		71,939			9,081	81,020	20,688	101,708
Head of Economic Development		70,647			3,174	73,821	20,316	94,137
Head of HR & Organisation Development		70,726			3,387	74,113	20,416	94,529
Head of Joint Strategic Planning		66,771			3,597	70,368	19,202	89,570
Total		1,000,015	0	0	51,909	1,051,924	299,844	1,351,768

Note 1: The Head of Legal & Support Services left on 22/11/2024. The annual salary was £74,524.70

Note 2: The Head of Legal & Support Services started on 22/11/2024. The annual salary was £66,770.55

Notes to core financial statement

2023/24 Senior Officers emoluments - salary is between £50,000 and £150,000 per year

Post information (Post title)	Note	Salary £	Bonus £	Compensation (loss of emp) £	Other £	Total exc Pension £	Employers Pension £	Total inc Pension £
Chief Executive		134,064			3,625	137,689	30,432	168,122
Strategic Director of Place		95,456			3,174	98,630	21,669	120,298
Strategic Director of Housing & Customer Services		95,456			3,381	98,837	21,669	120,505
Strategic Director of Resources	1	46,818			2,794	49,612	10,628	60,240
Head of Legal & Support Services		72,707			3,122	75,829	17,712	93,541
Head of Finance	2	61,722			3,964	65,686	14,162	79,847
Head of Community Services		72,707			3,337	76,044	16,504	92,549
Head of Housing		70,889			4,203	75,092	16,092	91,184
Head of Planning & Infrastructure		68,924			9,076	78,001	15,646	93,646
Head of Economic Development		67,664			3,174	70,838	15,360	86,198
Head of HR & Organisation Development		70,184			3,174	73,358	14,501	87,859
Head of Joint Strategic Planning		63,881			3,679	67,560	15,932	83,491
Total		920,472	0	0	46,702	967,175	210,305	1,177,480

Note 1: The Strategic Director of Resources started on 18/09/2023. The annual salary was £87,329

Note 2: The Head of Finance started on 09/05/2023. The annual salary was £63,881

Notes to core financial statement

21 External Audit Costs

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
	Fees payable with regard to external audit services:-	
149	Azets Audit Services Ltd Audit - Scale Fee	164
	Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns:-	
28	Azets Audit Services Ltd - HBAP (Housing Benefit Assurance Process)	28
	Fees payable for other assurance work completed in respect of Pooling of Housing capital receipts return:	
10	Azets - Pooling of Housing Capital Receipts	10
0	Cabinet Office - National Fraud Initiative	3
187	Total	205

22 Contingent Assets

There are no contingent assets for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Notes to core financial statement

23 Contingent Liabilities

When considering whether the Council has any contingent liabilities to disclose, particular attention has been given to pension liabilities resulting from the outsourcing of our leisure service. In May 2019, the Council entered into a 25 year contract with leisure operator Everyone Active. Everyone Active became liable for pension contributions and additional charges in respect of staff who were TUPE transferred from the Council for the duration of the 25 year contract. The pension admission arrangements meant that those staff who are members of the pension scheme remain pooled with the Council's pension scheme. A bond is in place for the payment of pension liabilities arising up to the sum of £135,000 should Everyone Active have any unpaid liabilities during the term, and the Council has provided a guarantee to the pension fund administrator to cover unpaid liabilities that are in excess of this bond value. The Council is also responsible for any surplus/deficit arising on the plan at the end of the contract.

There is no expectation that there will be a call on the bond or guarantee but it remains a possibility. As such, the Council has not recognised a provision in respect of any possible unpaid liabilities.

Since staff at Everyone Active are pooled with the Council's pension scheme, any projected deficit (or surplus) arising at the end of the contract is already reflected within the pension liability on the Balance Sheet.

Part of the outsourced leisure contract allows for utility benchmarking claims to be made by the leisure operator Everyone Active to mitigate the possible increase in energy costs. Following the building of the new Coalville and Whitwick leisure centre (C&WLC) which opened in February 2022, under the contract the Council's position is no utility benchmarking claims can be made until at least 2 years after WCLC opened. This is currently being disputed by Everyone Active and therefore until this is resolved a contingent liability of £424,857 is required to cover these costs.

Notes to core financial statement

24 Grant Income

2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income		
9,259	Council Tax Income	9,633
16,205	Non Domestic Rates	18,096
20	Levy Account Surplus	20
1,168	Funding Guarantee	1,707
97	Services Grant	17
1,220	New Homes Bonus	918
90	Revenue Support Grant	96
8	Other grants	491
2,556	Capital Grants and Contributions	3,672
30,623	Total	34,650
Credited to Services		
10,727	Housing Benefit Subsidy	10,436
183	Housing Benefit Admin Grant	176
135	Local Council Tax Support Grant	0
166	Cost of Collection	168
261	Homelessness	242
542	Rough Sleeping	632
198	Asylum Seekers Dispersal Grant (Home Office)	196
117	Rural England Prosperity	0
366	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	304
100	Nutrient Neutrality	220
0	Food Waste Collection	231
136	Homes for Ukraine	0
216	Ofgem	262

0 Aareon UK Ltd	169
0 Neighbourhood Plan	248
437 Other Grants under £100k each	538
275 Section 106	1,326
112 Sport & Physical Activity	0
115 Other Contributions under £100k each	100
14,087 Total	15,249

Notes to core financial statement

31 March 2024	31 March 2025
£'000	£'000
Capital Grant Receipts in Advance	
1,327 Affordable Housing - S106	1,316
437 Recreation/Playground - S106	592
259 Healthcare - S106	185
5 CCTV - S106	5
0 Police - S106	0
1,837 Highways - S106	300
17 Network Rail - S106	17
0 Parish Councils - S106	0
65 National Forest - S106	0
0 Food Waste - DEFRA	1,064
165 UK Shared Prosperity	749
2,236 DFG	2,416
0 Nutrient Neutrality - MHCLG	2,560
0 National Forest	42
6 Air Quality - DEFRA	6
6,354 Total	9,252

Notes to core financial statement

25 Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council, or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Council - it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and re-distribution of non-domestic rates, and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. housing benefits). Details of transactions with the government are shown below.

It is the nature of local government that the majority of Council Members are heavily involved in the local community through various organisations such as voluntary bodies, societies, groups and so on, often as an appointed Council representative. Members' interests are formally disclosed in a register of interests, the details of which are available on request.

During the year transactions with related parties arose as follows:

2023/24 (Receipts)/ Payments £'000		2024/25 (Receipts)/ Payments £'000
32,891	Central Government Revenue Grants (Benefits/RSG/other grants)	38,481
64,193	Leicestershire County Council (Precept paid less grant income)	69,152
3,868	Leicestershire Fire and Rescue (Precept paid)	4,131
9,893	Leicestershire Police (Precept paid less grant income)	10,525
	Other Related Parties:	
	Two Members serve as directors and one Member is an employee of 2 private companies with which the council transacted during the	
76	year.	76
<u>110,920</u>		<u>122,366</u>

Notes to core financial statement

26 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PFI contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the authority, the expenditure results in an increase in the capital financing requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the authority that has yet to be financed. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
92,388	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	87,549
	Capital Investment	
10,416	Property, plant and equipment	8,949
0	Investment properties	296
46	Intangible assets	123
3,017	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	2,514
	Other investments	6,950
	Sources of finance	
(100)	Capital receipts	(737)
(1,550)	Government grants and other contributions	(1,849)
	Sums set aside from revenue	
(15,484)	Direct revenue contributions	(11,783)
(1,184)	(MRP/ the statutory repayment of loans fund advances)	(2,459)
87,549	Closing capital financing requirement	89,553
	Explanation of movements in year	
0	Increase / (decrease) in underlying need to borrowing (supported by government financial assistance)	0
(4,840)	Increase / (decrease) in underlying need to borrowing (unsupported by government financial assistance)	2,004
0	Assets acquired under finance leases	0
0	Assets acquired under PFI contracts	0
(4,840)	Increase/ (decrease) in capital financing requirement	2,004

Notes to core financial statement

27 Right of Use Assets - leased liability

From 1 April 2024, NWLDC implemented IFRS 16, bringing almost all leases onto the Balance Sheet. This requires recognition of a right-of-use (ROU) asset and a corresponding lease liability measured at the present value of future lease payments. ROU assets are depreciated in line with other PPE, and lease payments are split between reducing the liability and a finance cost.

Lease liabilities are updated for changes in indices or rates, with matching adjustments to ROU assets. Low-value items (under £10k when new) and leases with less than 12 months remaining continue to be expensed directly.

Variable lease payments not fixed at commencement are excluded from initial measurement and are charged to expenditure when incurred. No material contingent rents were identified. A market rent review in 2026 is expected to significantly impact lease valuations for the 2025/26 accounts. The table shows movements in ROU asset values during the year.

	2024/25
Leased Liability	£'000
	OLB
Present Value of ROU as at April 2024	472
Depreciation	(49)
Total	422

Notes to core financial statement

27 Right of Use Assets

The council classifies contracts as leases based on their substance. Contracts and parts of contracts, including those described as contracts for services, are analysed to determine whether they convey the right to control the use of an identifiable asset, through rights both to obtain substantially all the economic benefits or service potential from that asset and to direct its use.

Leases are recognised as right of use assets with a corresponding liability at the date from which the leased asset is available for use (or the IFRS 16 transition date, if later). This includes arrangements with nil consideration, or nominal payments.

	2024/25 £'000
Right of Use Assets	
Land and buildings:	
Not later than one year	7
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	170
Later than 5 years	245
Total	422

Notes to core financial statement

28 Termination Benefits

	No. of compulsory redundancies		No. of other agreed departures		Total no. of exit packages by band		Total cost of exit packages by band	
	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25	2023/24	2024/25
£0 - £20,000	6	0	0	0	6	0	£14,224	£0
£20,001 - £40,000	0	2	0	0	0	2	£0	£51,100
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0
Total	6	2	0	0	6	2	£14,224	£51,100

Notes to core financial statement

29 Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers and other employees, the Council offers retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for employees, which is administered by Leicestershire County Council. This is a funded scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.

The cost of retirement benefits is recognised in the Net Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the Income & Expenditure Account (I & E) after net operating expenditure. The following transactions have been made in the Income and Expenditure Account during the year.

The Annual Report of the Leicestershire County Council Superannuation Fund is available from Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire. Income and Expenditure Account contains details of the Council's participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered by Leicestershire County Council.

The following information was supplied by Hymans Robertson LLP on 10th June 2025.

	2023/24 £'000		2024/25 £'000
Net Cost of Services			
	3,423	Current service cost	2,965
	0	Past service costs	0
	0	Curtailments	0
	3,423		2,965
Net Operating Expenditure			
	5,661	Interest cost	5,845
	(5,739)	Expected return on assets in the scheme	(6,504)
	(78)		(659)
	3,345	Amount charged to Income and Expenditure Account	2,306
Amounts to be met from Government Grants and Local Taxation			
	(60)	Movement on pension reserve	(64)
Actual amount charged against General Fund & HRA for pensions in the year			
	4,588	Employers' contributions payable to the scheme	4,718
	60	Unfunded discretionary benefit payments	64

Notes to core financial statement

On 1 May 2019, 210 individual members of council staff transferred to Everyone Active after the Council has awarded a contract to them to run its leisure centres and associated services. The pension admission arrangements that were agreed means that those staff who are members of the pension scheme remain pooled with the Council's pension scheme. As a result, our future pension liability will continue to reflect staff members who have transferred to Everyone Active for the past service, however, Everyone Active are responsible for the payment of contributions and charges in respect of those staff for the term of the agreement.

The Council is responsible for past payments and payments of employees post the end of the 25 year agreement. The Council acts as guarantor in respect of Everyone Active and their contributions to the pension scheme over the life of the 25 year leisure contract. As part of the contract, Everyone Active secured a bond with Barclays bank to cover the payment of contributions up to the sum of £135,000 should Everyone Active have any unpaid liabilities during the term. Above this level, the Council is responsible for the liabilities are in excess of the bond value.

Employers Membership Statistics

	Average Age 31-Mar-22
Actives	51
Deferred Pensioners	50
Pensioners	69

222

Payroll

	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Assumed total pensionable payroll based on contribution information provided	16,697	16,381

Investment Returns

The return on the fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2025 is estimated based on actual Fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority. Details are given below.

Actual Return for Period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025	6.0%
Total Return for Period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025	6.0%

Notes to core financial statement

Unfunded Benefits

A summary of the membership data in respect of unfunded benefits is shown below.

LGPS Unfunded Pensions	Number at 31 March 2025	Annual Unfunded Pensions (£'000)
Male	13	48
Female	1	2
Dependants	14	15
Total	28	65

Projected Pension Expense For Year 31/03/2026

Analysis of Projected Amount to be charged to operating profit for the year to 31 March 2026.

Period Ended	31 March 2026	
	£'000	% of pay
Projected Current service cost	2,126	13.0%
Interest on Obligation	6,075	37.1%
Expected Return on Plan Assets	(8,353)	(51.1%)
Losses /(Gains) on Curtailment and Settlements	0	0.0%
Total	(152)	(0.9%)

The pension fund has moved from an asset of £12.695m at 31/3/24 to an asset of £37.963m at 31/3/25. This is mainly due to a remeasurement by the actuary.

Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of the actuary's valuation report dated 10 June 2025 and takes into account their assessment of the potential impact of Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) equalisation and the outcome of the McCloud judgement relating to the 2014 reforms of LGPS benefit structure. These numbers are approximate estimates based on employer data as at 31 March 2022.

Notes to core financial statement

The main assumptions used in their calculations have been:

2023/24	Assumptions	2024/25
2.75%	Inflation/Pension Increase Rate	2.75%
3.25%	Salary Increase Rate	3.25%
4.85%	Discount Rate	5.80%

Assets in the County Council Pension Fund are valued at bid price as required under IAS 19.

Assets Category	2023/24		2024/25	
	Value £'000	Asset Distribution %	Value £'000	Asset Distribution %
Equity Securities	432.7	0.32%	932.3	0.65%
Debt Securities	6,409.7	4.81%	5,990.7	4.18%
Private Equity	8,154.6	6.12%	8,308.3	5.80%
Real Estate	8,643.4	6.48%	9,801.6	6.84%
Investment Funds	99,002.9	74.28%	104,839.6	73.21%
Derivatives	7.8	0.01%	(714.8)	-0.50%
Cash and Cash Equivalents	10,639.9	7.98%	14,047.3	9.81%
Total	133,291.0	100.00%	143,205.0	100.00%

Mortality

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2023 model, with a 15% weighting of 2023 (and 2022) data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial adjustment of 0.25% and a long term rate of improvement of 1.5% p.a. for both males and females. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current pensioners	20.8	23.7
Future pensioners *	21.5	25.5

* Figures assume members aged 45 as at the last formal valuation date.

Notes to core financial statement

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
119,024	Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	120,596
3,423	Current Service cost	2,965
5,661	Interest cost	5,845
1,033	Contributions by Members	1,068
(4,402)	Actuarial losses/(Gains)	(21,203)
0	Past service costs/(Gains)	0
0	Losses/(Gains) on Curtailments	0
(60)	Estimated Unfunded Benefits Paid	(64)
(4,083)	Estimated Benefits Paid	(3,965)
120,596	Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	105,242

Reconciliation of fair value of employer assets

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
120,067	Opening Fair Value of Employer Assets	133,291
5,739	Expected Return on Assets	6,504
1,033	Contributions by Members	1,068
4,588	Contributions by the Employer	4,718
60	Contributions in respect of Unfunded Benefits	64
5,947	Actuarial gains/(losses)	1,589
(60)	Estimated Unfunded Benefits Paid	(64)
(4,083)	Estimated Benefits Paid	(3,965)
133,291	Closing Fair Value of Employer Assets	143,205

Notes to core financial statement

Scheme History

Amounts for the current and previous accounting periods

The return on the fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2025 is estimated based on actual fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority and index returns where necessary. Details are given below.

	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
Fair Value of Employer Assets	112,007	121,285	120,067	133,291	143,205
Present Value of Defined Benefit Obligation	(175,301)	(169,461)	(119,024)	(120,596)	(105,242)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(63,294)	(48,176)	1,043	12,695	37,963
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Assets	20,006	6,870	(4,764)	5,947	1,589
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Liabilities	1,427	(502)	(9,332)	(3,764)	(1,094)
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Employer Assets	20,006	6,870	(4,764)	5,947	1,589
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Obligations	(38,641)	14,428	59,598	4,402	21,203
Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) recognised in SRIE	(18,635)	21,298	54,834	10,349	22,792

Notes to the Statement of Recognised Income and Expense (SRIE)

	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
5,947 Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Plan Assets		1,589
4,402 Actuarial Gains/ (Losses) on Obligations		21,203
10,349 Actuarial Gain/(Loss) Recognised in SRIE		22,792
52,094 Cumulative Actuarial Gains and Losses		74,886

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Balance Sheet

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
133,291 Fair Value of Employer Assets	143,205
(119,912) Present Value of Funded Obligations	(104,627)
(684) Present Value of Unfunded Obligations	(615)
12,695 Net (Under)/ Overfunding in Funded Plans	37,963
12,695 Net Asset/(Liability) unadjusted	37,963
(24,669) Effect of asset ceiling - current year	(48,410)
Effect of asset ceiling - prior year	(24,669)
(11,974) Net Asset/(Liability) adjusted	(35,116)
Amount in the Balance Sheet	
(11,974) Liabilities	(35,116)
0 Assets	0

Notes to core financial statement

30 Financial Instruments

A financial Instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Non-exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes, benefits and government grants do not give rise to financial instruments

Financial Liability - an obligation to transfer economic benefits controlled by the council and can be represented by a contractual obligation to deliver cash or financial assets or an obligation to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially unfavourable to the council.

The council's financial liabilities held during the year are measured at amortised cost and comprised

- long-term loans from the Public Works Loans board and commercial lenders
- overdraft facility with Lloyds Bank
- trade payables for goods and services received

Financial Asset - a right to future economic benefits controlled by the council that is represented by cash, equity instruments or a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets or a right to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that is potentially favourable to the council.

The council's financial assets held during the year are accounted for under the following classifications:

Amortised Cost - cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest and the business model is to collect the cash flows only:

- Cash in hand
- bank current and deposit accounts
- Fixed term deposits
- loans to other local authorities
- trade receivables for goods and services provided

Fair value through Profit and Loss:

- Money Market Funds
- loans where the cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instruments Balances

Financial Liabilities	Long term		Short term	
	31 March 2024	31 March 2025	31 March 2024	31 March 2025
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>Loans at amortised cost:</i>				
PWLB	(51,141)	(49,851)	(1,262)	(1,290)
LOBO/Other Loans	(4,173)	(4,168)	0	0
Long-term Borrowing	(55,314)	(54,020)	(1,262)	(1,290)
Other Long Term Liabilities - deferred	(53)	(46)	(7)	(7)
Total Borrowing	(55,367)	(54,065)	(1,269)	(1,297)
<i>Liabilities at amortised cost:</i>				
Trade payables-Included in creditors	0	0	(5,914)	(6,294)
Total Financial Liabilities	(55,367)	(54,065)	(7,183)	(7,591)

Financial Assets	Long term		Short term	
	31 March 2024	31 March 2025	31 March 2024	31 March 2025
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Principal	0	0	25,000	10,000
Loss allowance *	0	0	0	0
Total Investments	0	0	25,000	10,000
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Principal	0	0	5,000	0
Loss allowance	0	0	0	0
<i>At Fair Value through Profit and Loss:</i>				
Money Market Funds	0	0	794	20,466
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	0	0	5,794	20,466
<i>At amortised cost:</i>				
Trade Receivables-Included in Debtors	0	0	7,109	5,072
Accrued Interest	0	0	0	0
Loss allowance	0	0	(1,428)	(1,266)
Total Trade Receivables	0	0	5,681	3,806
Total Financial Assets	0	0	36,475	34,272

* Loss allowances are not required for UK Central or Local Government investments and the remaining Expected Credit Losses are immaterial.

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instrument - Fair Values

Financial Instruments classified at amortised cost are carried in the balance sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value has been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31 March 2025. All other financial instruments are carried in the balance sheet at Fair Value.

Fair Values are shown in the table below split by their level in the Fair Value hierarchy:

Level 1 - FV derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities e.g. bond prices

Level 2 - FV calculated from inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the instrument e.g. interest rates or yields for similar instruments

Level 3 - FV determined using unobservable inputs e.g. non-market data such as cash-flow forecasts or estimated creditworthiness

	Fair Value level	Balance Sheet 2023/24 £'000	Fair Value 2023/24 £'000	Balance Sheet 2024/25 £'000	Fair Value 2024/25 £'000
<i>Financial Liabilities held at amortised cost:</i>					
Long Term Loans From PWLB	2	(51,374)	(44,263)	(49,851)	(44,262)
Long Term LOBO/Other Loans	2	(3,940)	(3,844)	(4,168)	(3,844)
Other Long Term Liabilities		(61)	(61)	(53)	(53)
Sub-Total		(55,375)	(48,168)	(54,072)	(48,159)
<i>Liabilities for which Fair Value is not disclosed:</i>					
Trade payables-Creditors		(5,914)	(5,914)	(6,294)	(6,294)
Total Financial Liabilities		(61,289)	(54,082)	(60,366)	(54,453)

The Fair Value of liabilities is higher than the balance sheet value as the council has a portfolio of loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the current rates available for similar loans.

The Fair Values for Financial Assets are calculated as follows:

	Fair Value level	Balance Sheet 2023/24 £'000	Fair Value 2023/24 £'000	Balance Sheet 2024/25 £'000	Fair Value 2024/25 £'000
<i>Financial Assets held at amortised cost:</i>					
Investments with Local Authorities	2	30,000	30,451	10,000	10,108
Investments with Banks	2	0	0	0	0
Investments with Central Government	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Financial Assets held at Fair value:</i>					
Money Market Funds	1	0	0	20,466	20,466
Total		30,000	30,451	30,466	30,574
<i>Assets for which Fair Value is not disclosed:</i>					
Cash and Cash equivalents		1,099	1,099	969	969
Trade Receivables-Debtors		5,681	5,681	3,806	3,806
Total Financial Assets		36,780	37,231	35,242	35,350

The Fair Value of assets is higher than the balance sheet value as the interest rate on similar investments is now lower than that obtained when the investment was originally made.

Notes to core financial statement

Financial Instruments Gains/Losses

There are no gains or losses recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account or the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and losses in relation to Financial Instruments.

Financial Instruments - Nature and Extent of Risk

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers.

Prior to the beginning of each financial year, the Council agrees and publishes an Investment Strategy as part of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement. The Investment Strategy sets out the minimum credit rating criteria for counterparties who are banks and other financial institutions. The Council relies to some extent on credit ratings and utilises the services of a Treasury Consultant to monitor and advise of changes to these ratings.

The minimum credit rating criteria, set out in the Investment Strategy, are kept under constant review. As a result of liquidity problems (the credit crunch) experienced by banks and financial institutions since Autumn 2007, the minimum criteria were increased to provide additional security to the Council's investments. This is reviewed annually to ensure that security is maintained in line with current economic conditions.

As a result of the Council's prudent approach to investment, which places security and liquidity above yield, the Council has never experienced any losses on investments. Nevertheless, theoretical considerations suggest that an investment with any institution carries some risk, albeit very small. The events which could give rise to these risks are rare or unforeseen and it is therefore very difficult to assess and quantify. Subject to these rare or unforeseen risks, the assessment that the maximum exposure is nil is considered to be a practical and pragmatic assessment.

Loss allowances on treasury investments have been calculated by reference to historic default data published by credit rating agencies, adjusted for current and forecast economic conditions and with a delay in cash flow having been assumed. As shown in the financial instruments balances tables on the previous page. At 31 March 2025, no loss allowances related to treasury investments.

Notes to core financial statement

A summary of the credit quality of the of the council's investments at 31 March is shown below:

Rating	31 March 2024		31 March 2025	
	Long Term £'000	Short Term £'000	Long Term £'000	Short Term £'000
A+	0	0	0	0
A	0	0	0	0
BBB+	0	0	0	0
Unrated Local Authorities	0	30,000	0	10,000
Money Market Funds	0	0	0	19,500
UK Government	0	0	0	0
Total Investments	0	30,000	0	29,500

The Council has £20,658,129 of Debtors (31/3/24: £17,766,678), for which a provision for doubtful debts of £4,508,272 has been made (31/3/24: £4,253,795). Of this debtors figure, £8,380,481 relates to sundry debtors, £10,099,978 to Council Tax and Business Rates and £2,177,669 to Housing Tenant Rents. Debtors are analysed by type and the doubtful debt provision is based on the credit quality of debtors.

232 The council does not allow credit for customers therefore all unpaid balances are past due date for payment. The gross sundry debtor age analysis is shown in the table below:

Age	31 March 2024 £'000	31 March 2025 £'000
Less than three months	6,287	3,275
Three to six months	34	117
Six months to one year	446	236
More than one year	4,483	4,753
Total	11,250	8,381

The table below breaks this down to debtor type:

Type	30 March 2024		31 March 2025	
	Gross Debt £'000	Loss Allowance £'000	Gross Debt £'000	Loss Allowance £'000
Central Gov't Bodies	2,927	0	5,468	0
Other Local authorities	5,684	0	5,208	0
NHS Bodies	0	0	0	0
Public Corporations and trading funds	40	0	384	0
Other entities and Individuals	9,104	(4,254)	9,599	(4,508)
Total	17,755	(4,254)	20,658	(4,508)

Notes to core financial statement

Liquidity Risk

The Council has ready access to borrowing at favourable rates from the Public Works Loan Board and other local authorities, and at higher rates from banks and building societies. There is no perceived risk that the Council will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments. Instead, the risk is that the Council will be bound to replace a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Council's strategy is to ensure an even maturity debt profile to mitigate against this risk.

The maturity analysis of financial instruments is shown below:

Type	31 March 2024			31 March 2025		
	Liabilities £'000	Assets £'000	Net £'000	Liabilities £'000	Assets £'000	Net £'000
Maturity in 1 year*	1,270	(30,000)	(28,730)	1,290	(29,500)	(28,210)
Maturity in 1 - 2 years	1,300	0	1,300	1,319	0	1,319
Maturity in 2 - 5 years	2,490	0	2,490	1,752	0	1,752
Maturity in 5 - 10 years	1,870	0	1,870	1,244	0	1,244
Maturity in over 10 years	49,480	0	49,480	49,475	0	49,475
Total	56,410	(30,000)	26,410	55,080	(29,500)	25,580

Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the authority. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effect:

- borrowings at variable rates - the interest expense will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates - the fair values of the liabilities will fall
- investments at variable rates - the investment income will rise
- investments at fixed rates - the fair value of assets will fall

Investments measured at amortised cost and loans borrowed are not carried at fair value, so changes in their fair value will have no impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the provision of services. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments measured at fair value will be reflected in Other Comprehensive Income or the Surplus or Deficit on the provision of services as appropriate.

Price Risk

The Council does not invest in equities and is therefore not exposed to this risk.

Notes to core financial statement

31 Provisions

This provision for Business Rates appeals was created as a result of the adoption in 2013/14 of the Business Rates Retention scheme which means that the Council now bears part of the risk for future appeals. Under the former business rates scheme, appeals were borne by the Government. The Council's estimate of the value of outstanding appeals up to 31 March 2025 is £7.2m (31/3/24: £6.1m), the value of appeals used in completing the Collection Fund position as at 31 March 2025. The Council has made a provision for 40% of this figure totalling £2.9m (31/3/24: £2.4m) within the 2024/25 accounts. This is split into short term provisions: £717k and long term provisions: £2.16m.

32 Jointly Controlled Partnerships

The Council has entered into a partnership with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and Harborough District Council to provide shared administration of Revenues and Benefits and will continue for the foreseeable future. The Partnership is currently hosted by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council on behalf of the other partners.

All partners contribute towards the operation of the partnership which is classified as a Jointly Controlled Operation. On this basis, each partner accounts for their share of contributions within their Statement of Accounts. The funding provided by North West Leicestershire District Council in 2024/25 was £1.444 million (2023/24: £1.382m).

Notes to core financial statement

33 Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This analysis statement shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision-making purposes between the council's directorates/services/departments. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2024/25

	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Recharges £'000	Contributions to/from Reserves £'000	Investment Properties & other £'000	Revised Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis £'000	Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000
Chief Executive	193	(212)	0	0	(19)	0	(19)
Human Resources & Organisational Development	779	(731)	0	0	48	8	56
Legal and Support Services	1,725	(1,237)	46	0	534	0	534
Strategic Director of Place	132	(146)	0	0	(14)	0	(14)
Property & Economic Regeneration	3,285	(88)	259	(173)	3,284	281	3,565
Planning	1,413	680	1,324	0	3,417	0	3,417
Joint Strategic Planning	(46)	17	6	0	(23)	0	(23)
Community Services	7,192	1,783	292	(252)	9,016	727	9,743
Housing - General Fund	388	403	0	0	791	79	870
Strategic Director of Resources	264	(274)	0	0	(10)	0	(10)
Finance	1,131	(1,509)	566	0	188	0	188
Revenues & Benefits	964	874	0	0	1,838	0	1,838
ICT	1,290	(1,316)	27	0	0	88	88
Customer Services	926	(1,006)	19	0	(61)	0	(61)
Internal Audit	120	(143)	0	0	(23)	0	(23)
Business Change	(6)	1	57	0	52	0	52
Corporate and Democratic Core	179	1,347	0	0	1,526	0	1,526
Non-Distributed Costs	113	12	0	0	125	19	144
Housing Revenue Account	(7,815)	(465)	0	0	(8,280)	4,565	(3,715)
Recharges	(2,012)	2,012	0	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	10,216	0	2,597	(424)	12,389	5,767	18,155
Other Income and Expenditure	(18,030)	0	(15,494)	424	(33,100)	1,102	(31,999)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(7,815)	0	(12,897)	0	(20,712)	6,869	(13,843)

Notes to core financial statement

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

2023/24

	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Recharges £'000	Contributions to/from Reserves £'000	Investment Properties & other £'000	Revised Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue a/c £'000	Adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis £'000	Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000
Chief Executive	193	(203)	0	0	(10)	0	(10)
Human Resources & Organisational Development	670	(569)	0	0	101	0	101
Legal and Support Services	1,659	(1,100)	125	0	683	0	683
Strategic Director of Place	165	(158)	0	0	7	0	7
Property & Economic Regeneration Planning	3,725	(336)	45	(137)	3,296	(46)	3,251
Joint Strategic Planning	2,139	656	283	0	3,077	0	3,077
Community Services	(52)	22	0	0	(30)	0	(30)
Housing - General Fund	8,144	1,625	256	(246)	9,780	3,786	13,566
Strategic Director of Resources	208	362	10	0	581	497	1,077
Finance	240	(281)	43	0	2	0	2
Revenues & Benefits	1,244	(1,110)	184	0	318	0	318
ICT	896	799	23	0	1,718	0	1,718
Customer Services	1,234	(1,256)	0	0	(22)	79	57
Internal Audit	977	(1,025)	25	0	(23)	0	(23)
Business Change	84	(97)	8	0	(5)	0	(5)
Corporate and Democratic Core	(2)	0	36	0	34	0	34
Non-Distributed Costs	46	1,097	0	0	1,143	0	1,143
Housing Revenue Account	255	6	0	0	260	1,429	1,689
Recharges	(5,222)	(384)	0	0	(5,606)	6,656	1,049
Net Cost of Services	14,650	0	1,038	(384)	15,304	12,400	27,705
Other Income and Expenditure	(19,175)	0	(2,654)	384	(21,445)	(2,847)	(24,292)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(4,524)	0	(1,616)	0	(6,140)	9,553	3,413

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

Analysis of adjustments between funding basis and accounting basis

2024/25	Adjustment for capital purposes £'000	Net change for the pensions adjustment £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Chief Executive and Other Services	0	0	0	0
Human Resources & Organisational Dev	8	0	0	8
Legal and Commercial Services	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Place	0	0	0	0
Property & Economic Development	281	0	0	281
Planning & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0
Joint Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0
Community Services	727	0	0	727
Housing - General Fund	79	0	0	79
Strategic Director of Resources	0	0	0	0
Finance	0	0	0	0
Revenues & Benefits	0	0	0	0
ICT	88	0	0	88
Customer Services	0	0	0	0
Internal Audit	0	0	0	0
Business Change	0	0	0	0
Corporate and Democratic Core	0	0	0	0
Non-Distributed Costs	19	0	0	19
Housing Revenue Account	5,013	(380)	(68)	4,565
Recharges	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	6,215	(380)	(68)	5,767
Other Income and Expenditure	(1,489)	(2,096)	4,687	1,102
Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	4,726	(2,476)	4,618	6,869

Notes to core financial statement - continued

Expenditure and Funding Analysis continued

2023/24	Adjustment for capital purposes £'000	Net change for the pensions adjustment £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Chief Executive and Other Services	0	0	0	0
Human Resources & Organisational Dev	0	0	0	0
Legal and Commercial Services	0	0	0	0
Strategic Director of Place	0	0	0	0
Property & Economic Development	(46)	0	0	(46)
Planning & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0
Joint Strategic Planning	0	0	0	0
Community Services	3,786	0	0	3,786
Housing - General Fund	497	0	0	497
Strategic Director of Resources	0	0	0	0
Finance	0	0	0	0
Revenues & Benefits	0	0	0	0
NICT	79	0	0	79
Customer Services	0	0	0	0
Internal Audit	0	0	0	0
Business Change	0	0	0	0
Corporate and Democratic Core	0	0	0	0
Non-Distributed Costs	1,429	0	0	1,429
Housing Revenue Account	5,535	(288)	1,409	6,656
Recharges	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of Services	11,280	(288)	1,409	12,400
Other Income and Expenditure	(1,654)	(1,015)	(179)	(2,847)
Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	9,626	(1,303)	1,230	9,553

Section 4 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Housing income and expenditure account

2023/24		NOTES	2023/24	
£'000	£'000		Income	£'000
	(19,216)	Rents - Dwellings	H4	(20,440)
(36)		Rents - Garages / Sites		(35)
(14)		Rents - Shops		(15)
(9)		Rents - Other		(2)
	(60)			(52)
	(683)	Charges for Services and Facilities		(735)
	(331)	Other Income		(492)
	0	RTB Discounts repaid		0
	(20,290)	Total income		(21,719)
		Expenditure		
	11,726	Repairs and Maintenance		9,311
		Supervision and Management		
502		- General		2,755
3,075		- Special		1,659
	3,578			4,414
		Capital Charges		
	3,653	- Depreciation of Fixed Assets	H8	3,789
	1,882	- Impairment of Fixed Assets	H9	1,224
	0	- Initial Gain on Donated Assets		0
	493	Increase / (decrease) in provision for Bad or Doubtful Debts		(743)
	8	Debt Management Expenses		8
	21,340	Total expenditure		18,004
	1,049	Net cost of HRA services included in income and expenditure account		(3,715)
	384	Housing Share of Corporate and Democratic Costs		465
		Housing Share of other amounts included in the whole authority cost of		
	0	services but not allocated to specific services		0
	1,434	Net cost of HRA services		(3,250)
	10	(Gain) or Loss on Sale of HRA Fixed Assets		187
	1,847	Interest Payable and Similar Items		1,753

2023/24			NOTES	2023/24	
£'000	£'000	Income		£'000	£'000
	(816)	Interest on Balances			(973)
	0	Amortisation of Premiums and Discounts			0
	0	Capital Grants and Contributions			0
	2,474	(Surplus) / deficit on HRA services			(2,283)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

2023/24	Statement of movement on the HRA balance	2024/25
£'000		£'000
2,474	(Surplus) / Deficit on Housing Income and Expenditure Account	(2,283)
3,509	Amounts Required by Statute to be Taken into Account (detailed below)	297
5,984	Total	(1,986)
(7,261)	HRA Balance Brought Forward	(1,277)
(1,277)	HRA Balance Carried Forward	(3,263)
<hr/>		
2023/24	Analysis of the movement in the HRA balance	2024/25
£'000		£'000
Amounts required to be taken into account		
Items included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but excluded from the movement on HRA balance for the year		
(10)	Gain or (Loss) on Sale of HRA Fixed Assets	(189)
0	Amortisation of Premiums and Discounts	0
0	RTB Discounts repaid	0
0	Employee Benefits adjustment	68
(838)	Net charges for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS 19	(678)
(5,535)	Impairment/Revaluation of Fixed Assets	(5,013)
0	Initial Gain on Donated Assets	0
(6,382)		(5,812)
Items not included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but included in the movement on HRA balance for the year		
3,653	Transfer To/(From) Major Repairs Reserve	3,789
0	Right to Buy Admin Contribution	0
1,126	Employer's contributions payable to Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund	1,058
2,548	Principal Repaid on Self Financing Loans	1,262
2,565	Capital Expenditure funded by the HRA	0
0	Transfer To/(From) Reserves	0
9,892	Total	6,109
3,509	Net additional amount required by statute to be debited or (credited) to the HRA balance for the year	297

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H1 Movement in dwelling stock

The Council was responsible for managing an average of 4,080 lettable dwellings during 2024/25. The movement in the stock was as follows:-

2023/24		2024/25
4,121	Stock at 1st April	4,102
(16)	Less: Right to buy Sales	(23)
0	Less: Other Sales	0
0	Less: Demolitions	0
(3)	Less: Transfers out of stock	0
0	Add: Other Adjustments	1
0	Add: New Build and Gifted units	0
0	Add: Transfers back into stock	0
4,102		4,080

H2 Property types in dwelling stock

The properties owned by the Council at 31st March 2025 comprise the following:-

	Flats/Maisonettes	Bungalows	Houses	Total
In stock				
Bed sits	53	4	0	57
1 Bedroom	533	330	10	873
2 Bedroom	320	478	416	1,214
3 Bedroom	8	8	1,770	1,786
4 Bedroom	1	0	144	145
5 Bedroom	0	0	5	5
	915	820	2,345	4,080
Transferred out of stock				
Bed sits	0	0	0	0
1 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
2 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
3 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
4 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
5 Bedroom	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
Total owned	915	820	2,345	4,080

The dwellings transferred out of stock are mainly long-term empty properties. However, they are still owned by the Council and are included in the value shown in note H3.

H3 Balance sheet value of council's housing revenue account stock

2023/24		2024/25
Balance		Balance
£'000		£'000
311,757	Dwellings	317,681
1,961	Other Land and Buildings	1,646
313,718	Operational assets	319,327
0	Surplus Assets	0
186	OLB (Land and Assets under construction)	0
186	Non-operational assets	0
313,904	Total assets	319,327

The vacant possession value of dwellings within the Council's HRA as at 31st March 2025 was £1.74m (2024: £1.15m). The vacant possession value of the dwellings within the HRA show the economic cost to Government of providing Council Housing at less than open market rents.

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H4 Rent income

Rent income can be analysed as follows:-

This is the total rent income due for the year after an allowance is made for empty properties/voids etc. The Average weekly rent was £89.93 per week in 2024/25 (2023/24: £90.95), representing an average decrease of 1.12% (2023/24: 7.64% increase). During 2024/25, 2.45% of lettable properties were void (2023/24: 1.19% void).

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
15,033 Collectable from Tenants	15,631
4,183 Rent Rebates	4,809
19,216 Sub-Total Dwelling Rents	20,440
60 Non - Dwelling Rents	52
19,276 Total Rent	20,491

H5 Rent arrears

The rent arrears (net of accounts in credit) as a proportion of gross rent income were 3.31% (2023/24: 4.91%). The arrears figures are as follows:-

Amounts written off during the year were £156,283 (2023/24: £ 44,572) representing a reduction in Doubtful Debt allowance. At 31 March 2025, the Provision for doubtful debts was £1,089,066 (2023/24: £1,210,036).

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
1,531 Total Current and Former Tenant Arrears	1,463
(650) Less: Accounts in credit	(752)
881 Net Arrears	711

H6 Major repairs reserve

2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000
(2,910) Balance at 1st April	(4,235)
(3,653) Amounts transferred to Reserve during year	(3,789)
Amounts transferred from Reserve to finance Capital Expenditure:	
2,327 Dwellings	6,850
(4,235) Balance at 31 March	(1,174)

Notes to the housing revenue account (HRA)

H7 Capital expenditure and receipts

Total Capital Expenditure within the Council's HRA during the financial year was £7,587K. The sources of funding are shown below:

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
2,327	Major Repairs Reserve	6,850
0	Section 106 Receipts	0
2,565	Revenue Contribution	0
0	Other Contributions	0
9	Capital Receipts	737
4,901		7,587

Total Capital Receipts from disposals of Council Dwellings within the Council's HRA stock in 2024/25 were £2.085m.

H8 Depreciation of HRA fixed assets

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
3,640	Dwellings (excl. garages)	3,428
13	Other Land and Buildings	225
0	Surplus Assets	136
3,653	Operational assets	3,789

H9 Revaluation/impairment (reversal) of HRA fixed assets

2023/24		2024/25
£'000		£'000
1,882	Dwellings (excl. garages)	1,217
0	Other Land and Buildings	7
0	Surplus Assets	0
1,882	Operational assets	1,224

Section 5 Collection Fund

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Collection Fund

2023/24 £'000	Collection fund income and expenditure account	2024/25	
		£'000	£'000
	Income		
(78,344)	Council Tax (Net of benefits, discounts for prompt payment and transitional relief)		(83,455)
	Transfers from General Fund:-		
0	- Council Tax Benefit		1
(113)	- CTLS Discretionary		(22)
(27)	Section 13a		(12)
(102,280)	Business Ratepayers		(109,825)
(180,764)	Total Income		(193,313)
	Expenditure		
	Council Tax Precepts and Demands:-		
55,518	Leicestershire County Council	59,385	
9,944	Leicestershire Police	10,613	
2,886	Leicestershire Fire and Rescue	3,028	
9,204	N.W.L.D.C. (including Parish and Special Expenses)	9,685	
234	Contribution towards previous year's deficit	97	
465	Provision for bad/doubtful debts	1,224	
78,251			84,031
	Non-Domestic Rates (NDR):		
49,093	Share of NDR - Government	55,193	
8,837	Payment to Leicestershire County Council	9,935	
982	Payment to Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service	1,104	
39,274	Share of NDR - N.W.L.D.C.	44,154	
3,846	Contribution towards previous year's surplus/deficit	2,708	
1,742	Provision for bad/doubtful debts	1,032	
1,551	Provision for appeals	1,075	
156	Costs of Collection	168	
2,846	Disregarded amounts	2,888	
108,326			118,256
	186,577 Total Expenditure		202,287
(233)	Movement on fund - (Surplus)/Deficit for the year - Council Tax		543
6,046	Movement on fund - (Surplus)/Deficit for the year - NDR		8,431
(217)	Collection Fund Balance at 1st April 2024 - Council Tax		(450)
(4,942)	Collection Fund Balance at 1st April 2024 - NDR		1,104
(450)	Collection Fund Balance at 31st March 2025 - Council Tax		93
1,104	Collection Fund Balance at 31st March 2025 - NDR		9,535

Notes to the Collection Fund

C1 General

This Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

C2 Council tax

The Council's tax base i.e. the number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band (adjusted for dwellings where discounts apply) converted to an equivalent of band D dwellings, was calculated as follows:-

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Band	Estimated number of taxable properties after effect of discount	Ratio	Band 'D' Equivalent dwellings
A	7,323	6/9	4,882
B	11,875	7/9	9,236
C	7,167	8/9	6,371
D	6,710	9/9	6,710
E	5,027	11/9	6,144
F	1,953	13/9	2,821
G	947	15/9	1,579
H	46	18/9	92
	41,049		37,835
Less: 2% Allowance for Valuation Appeals and irrecoverables			756
Council tax base for 2024/25			37,079

C3 Income from business rates

The Council collects Non-Domestic Rates for its area which are based on local rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate. The total amount, less certain reliefs and other deductions, is paid to a central pool (the NNDR pool) managed by Central Government, which in turn redistributes the pool back to local authorities general fund.

The total Non-Domestic Rateable Value at the 31st March 2025 was £234,291,790 (2023/24: £228,110,919).

The National Non-Domestic multiplier for the year was 54.6p (2023/24 51.2p).

The Small Business Rate Multiplier was 49.9p (2023/24: 49.9p).

C4 Provisions

The provision for the Council's share of potential cost of settling outstanding business rates appeals, was created as a result of the introduction of the Business Rates Retention scheme. As part of this scheme, billing authorities acting as agents on behalf of major preceptors (10%), Central Government (50%) and themselves are required to make a provision for refunding ratepayers who have appealed against the rateable value of their properties. Although under the scheme, the Council is able to retain a larger share of the business rates locally, it also now bears the risks and uncertainties linked to the level of rateable value appeals. The Council has made a provision of £2.88m in its accounts (2023/24: £2.45m).

Section 6 Glossary

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Glossary of main financial terms

Amortisation

A reduction in the value of an intangible asset over time, due to wear and tear.

Budget

A statement defining the council's policies over a specified period in terms of finance. Budgets usually include statements about the use of other resources (e.g. numbers of staff) and provide some information on performance measures.

Budget requirement

The estimated revenue expenditure on general fund services that needs to be financed from the council tax after deducting income from fees and charges, certain specific grants and any funding from reserves. It is used to decide the criteria for capping local authority revenue expenditure.

Capital expenditure

(or capital spending) - Section 40 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 defines 'expenditure for capital purposes'. This includes spending on the acquisition of assets either directly by the local authority or indirectly in the form of grants to other persons or bodies. Expenditure that does not fall within this definition must be charged to a revenue account.

Capital receipts

The proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets. Capital receipts can be used to finance new capital expenditure within rules set down by the Government, but they cannot be used to finance revenue expenditure.

Collection fund

A statutory fund maintained by a billing authority, which is used to record local taxes and non-domestic rates collected by the authority, along with payments to precepting authorities, the national pool of non-domestic rates and its own general fund.

Contingency

Money set aside in the budget to meet the cost of unforeseen items of expenditure, or shortfalls in income, and to provide for inflation where this is not included in individual budgets.

Contingent liability

Money that may be owed, but the exact amount is unclear.

Council tax

The main source of local taxation to local authorities. Council tax is levied on households within its area by the billing authority and the proceeds are paid into its Collection Fund for distribution to precepting authorities and for use by its own General Fund.

Council tax benefit

Assistance provided by billing authorities to adults on low incomes to help them pay their council tax bill. The cost to authorities of council tax benefit is largely met by government grant.

Current expenditure

Running costs, including employee costs, premises costs and supplies and services, but not including debt charges.

Deferred charge

Spending on an asset that has a lasting value but is not owned e.g. improvement grants.

Depreciation

A measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful life of a fixed asset.

Earmarked reserve

Money set aside for a specific purpose.

Estimates

The amounts expected to be spent, or received as income, during an accounting period. The term is also used to describe detailed budgets, which are either being prepared for the following year, or have been approved for the current year.

Original estimate

The estimates for a financial year approved by the council before the start of the financial year.

Revised estimate

An updated revision of the estimates for a financial year.

Supplementary estimate

An amount, which has been approved by the authority, to allow spending to be increased above the level of provision in the original or revised estimates.

External audit

The independent examination of the activities and accounts of local authorities to ensure the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices and to ensure the authority has made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Fees and charges

Income raised by charging users of services for the facilities. For example, local authorities usually make charges for the use of leisure facilities, the collection of trade refuse, etc.

Finance lease

A lease, usually of land, or land and buildings, which is treated in the Government's capital control system as a credit arrangement as if it were similar to borrowing. Other types of lease are termed 'operating leases'.

Financial regulations

A written code of procedures approved by the authority, intended to provide a framework for proper financial management. Financial regulations usually set out rules on accounting, audit, administrative procedures and budgeting systems.

General fund

The main revenue fund of a billing authority. Day-to-day spending on services is met from the fund. Spending on the provision of housing, however, must be charged to a separate Housing Revenue Account.

Housing benefit

An allowance to persons on low income (or none) to meet, in whole or part, their rent. Benefit is allowed or paid by local authorities but central government refunds part of the cost of the benefits and of the running costs of the service to local authorities. Benefit paid to the authority's own tenants is known as rent rebate and that paid to private sector tenants as rent allowance. See also Council Tax Benefit.

Housing revenue account (HRA)

Local authorities are required to maintain a separate account - the HRA - which sets out the expenditure and income arising from the provision of housing. Other services are charged to the General Fund.

HRA subsidy

A government grant paid to some housing authorities towards the cost of providing, managing and maintaining dwellings and paying housing benefits to tenants.

IAS 19

A statement of recommended practice to account for the cost of pensions.

IFRS

International Financial Reporting Standards

Impairment

A reduction in the value of an asset, arising (for example) from a significant reduction in Market Value.

LOBO

A commercial loan method of borrowing, which gives options for both parties – ("Lenders options; borrowers options").

Minimum revenue provision (MRP)

The minimum amount which must be charged to an authority's revenue account each year and set aside as provision for credit liabilities, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

National non-domestic rate (NNDR)

A levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by the Government multiplied by the 'rateable value' of the premises they occupy. NNDR is collected by billing authorities on behalf of central government and then redistributed among all local authorities and police authorities on the basis of population. Also known as 'business rates', the 'uniform business rate' and the 'non-domestic rate'.

Net expenditure

Gross expenditure less specific service income, but before deduction of Revenue Support Grant.

Non-recurring

Items that are in a budget for one year only.

Operating lease

A type of lease, usually of computer equipment, office equipment, furniture, etc. which is similar to renting and which does not come within the Government's capital control system. Ownership of the asset must remain with the lessor for a lease to be classed as an operating lease.

Outturn

Actual income and expenditure in a financial year.

Pension fund

An employees' pension fund maintained by an authority, or group of authorities, in order to make pension payments on retirement of participants. It is financed from contributions from the employing authority, the employee and investment income.

Precept

The levy made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from council tax payers on their behalf.

Precepting authorities

Those authorities which are not billing authorities, i.e. do not collect the council tax and non-domestic rate. County councils, police authorities and joint authorities are 'major precepting authorities' and parish, community and town councils are 'local precepting authorities'.

Provisions and reserves

Amounts set aside in one year to cover expenditure in the future. Provisions are for liabilities or losses which are likely or certain to be incurred, but the amounts or the dates on which they will arise are uncertain. Reserves are amounts set aside which do not fall within the definition of provisions and include general reserves (or 'balances'), which every authority must maintain as a matter of prudence.

Public works loan board (PWLB)

A central government agency which provides long- and medium-term loans to local authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the Government itself can borrow. Local authorities are able to borrow a proportion of their requirements to finance capital spending from this source.

Revenue support grant (RSG)

A grant paid by central government to aid local authority services in general, as opposed to specific grants, which may only be used for a specific purpose. The grant makes up the difference between expenditure at SSA and the amount which would be collected in council tax for that level of expenditure (CTSS) and the amount of non-domestic rate redistributed.

Section 137 expenditure

Under Section 137 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1972, local authorities are allowed to spend a limited amount to do things they are not otherwise empowered to do, but which they consider to be in the interests of residents.

Specific grants

The term used to describe all government grants - including supplementary and special grants - to local authorities other than RSG, capital grants and HRA subsidy. Not to be confused with specified capital grants.

Specified capital grant (SCG)

Certain government grants towards capital spending, for example house renovation grants. Local authorities must apply a special accounting treatment to these grants, i.e. reduce their credit approvals by the amount of the grant received. SCGs all relate to housing.

Ultra vires

Local authorities are empowered to do only those things authorised by statute. If they do anything not authorised by statute, that action is said to be ultra vires (i.e. beyond their powers).

Value for money (VFM)

A much-used term that describes a service or product that demonstrates a good balance between its cost, quality and usefulness to the customer. A VFM audit takes into account the economy, efficiency and effectiveness (known as the 'three Es') of a local authority service, function or activity.

Virement

The permission to spend more on one budget head when this is matched by a corresponding reduction on some other budget head, i.e. a switch of resources between budget heads. Virement must be properly authorised by the appropriate committee or by officers under delegated powers.

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NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – THURSDAY, 26
FEBRUARY 2026

Title of Report	TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE REPORT - QUARTER 3	
Presented by	Anna Crouch Head of Finance	
Background Papers	Council 20 February 2025 <u>CAPITAL STRATEGY, TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS - 2025/26</u> Audit and Governance Committee 12 November 2025 <u>TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE REPORT - QUARTER 2</u>	Public Report: Yes
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	There are no legal implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Deputy Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	There are no staffing or corporate implications as a direct result of this report.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To inform the Committee of the Council's Treasury Management Activity for the period April to December 2025.	
Recommendations	THAT THE COMMITTEE NOTES THE TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2025-26 QUARTER 3 ACTIVITY REPORT (APPENDIX A).	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Treasury Management activity is underpinned by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code), which requires local authorities to produce Prudential Indicators and a Treasury Management Strategy Statement annually on the likely financing and investment activity. The Treasury Management Strategy was approved by Council on the 20 February 2025.
- 1.2 As a minimum, the code requires that the Council approves reports on the performance of the Treasury Management function at least twice per year (mid-year and at year end). The Council goes beyond this requirement by issuing quarterly reports to the Audit and

Governance Committee which provide additional updates and includes the new requirement in the 2021 Code, mandatory from 1 April 2023, of quarterly reporting of the treasury management prudential indicators.

- 1.3 Appendix A is the quarter three report for the financial year 2025/26 designed to inform the Committee of the Council's treasury activity and enable scrutiny of activity and performance.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 In compliance with the requirements of the CIPFA Code, Appendix A provides the Committee with a summary report of the Treasury Management activity for the period April 2025 to December 2025. A prudent approach has been taken in relation to investment activity with priority being given to security and liquidity over yield.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	The Treasury Strategies and Prudential Indicators help the Council achieve all its properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning and Regeneration - Communities and Housing - Developing a clean and green district - Clean, Green and Zero Carbon - A Well-Run Council
Policy Considerations:	Not applicable
Safeguarding:	Not applicable
Equalities/Diversity:	Not applicable
Customer Impact:	Not applicable
Economic and Social Impact:	Not applicable
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	The Council aims to be a responsible investor and will consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues when investing. Where practical, when making investment decisions ESG will be considered and counterparties with integrated ESG policies and commitments to carbon reduction.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Not applicable
Risks:	Borrowing and investment both carry an element of risk. This risk is mitigated through the adoption of the Treasury and Investment Strategies, compliance with the CIPFA code of Treasury Management and the retention of Treasury Management advisors (Arlingclose) to proffer expert advice.
Officer Contact	Anna Crouch Head of Finance anna.crouch@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

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Treasury Management Activity Quarter 3 Report 2025/26**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve treasury management semi-annual and annual reports.
- 1.2 The Council goes beyond this requirement by issuing quarterly reports which provide additional updates and includes the new requirement in the 2021 Code, mandatory from 1 April 2023, of quarterly reporting of the treasury management prudential indicators.
- 1.3 This report is for the third quarter of the financial year 2025/26.
- 1.4 The Council's treasury management strategy for 2025/26 was approved at the Council meeting on 20 February 2025. The Council has invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. Successful identification, monitoring and control of risk remain central to the Council's treasury management strategy.

2. External Context (provided by Arlingclose)

- 2.1 Economic background: Early in the first quarter was dominated by US trade tariffs and the negative impact on equity and bond markets. While this was reversed somewhat in the second quarter with equity markets making gains, it also saw a divergence in US and UK government bond yields. UK yields persisted at higher levels as investors demanded higher returns in the form of term premia due to the more uncertain UK fiscal and economic position.
- 2.2 The latter part of the period included the government's November autumn Budget. Despite much speculation and drip-feeding of potential policies in the weeks leading up to the event, what was ultimately announced was generally deemed more muted than had been anticipated, helping ease investors' fears of significantly higher government borrowing.
- 2.3 UK consumer price inflation (CPI) was 3.2% in November 2025, down from 3.6% in the previous month and lower than the 3.5% expected, but still well above the Bank of England (BoE) target. Core CPI eased to 3.2% from 3.4%, against forecasts of it staying at 3.6%.
- 2.4 According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), the UK economy expanded by 0.7% in the first quarter of the calendar year, by 0.3% in Q2 and 0.1% in Q3. Of the subsequent monthly figures, the ONS estimated that GDP fell by 0.1% in October.
- 2.5 The labour market continued to ease over the period as unemployment rose, vacancies fell and inactivity remained flat. In the three months to October 2025, the unemployment rate rose to 5.1%, higher than the level previously expected by the BoE, while the employment rate slipped to 74.9%.
- 2.6 The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Report projected GDP would expand by a modest 0.2% in calendar Q4 2025. Estimates of inflation in the report were quickly out of date when CPI fell quicker than expected in November. Predictions of a modestly growing economy were

echoed by the Office for Budget Responsibility in its Economic and Fiscal Outlook published with the Autumn Statement which revised down its estimate of annual GDP to around 1.5% between 2025 and 2030.

- 2.7 Arlingclose, the Council's treasury adviser, held a central view that Bank Rate would be cut further in 2025/26 with most BoE policymakers remaining more worried about weak GDP growth than higher inflation. In line with Arlingclose's central forecast, Bank Rate was reduced to 3.75% in December. Further cuts are expected in 2026, with the central forecast being that Bank Rate will be eased to around 3.25%.
- 2.8 The US Federal Reserve continued cutting rates, reducing Fed Funds Rate target range by 0.25% at its December meeting to 3.50%-3.75%. The meeting minutes noted that most policymakers judged that further rate cuts would be likely in 2026 if inflation continues to ease, however, they were still divided in their assessment of the risks between inflation and unemployment.
- 2.9 The European Central Bank (ECB) held its key interest rates in December for a fourth consecutive meeting, maintaining the deposit rate at 2.0% and the main refinancing rate at 2.15%. The ECB maintained that future policy decisions will remain data-dependent, that inflation is close to its 2% target and that the euro area economy continues to expand despite a challenging global environment, including heightened geopolitical risks and trade tensions.
- 2.10 Financial markets: After declining sharply early in the period, sentiment in financial markets has been mostly buoyant, but risky assets remained volatile. Bond yields initially declined early in the period, but increasing uncertainty around the UK's economic and fiscal outlook caused medium and longer yields to rise. Yields remained elevated until the third quarter when the potential negative impact of the UK Budget were deemed less than expected and yields eased modestly.
- 2.11 Equity markets gained the previous declines seen in the April sell-off and have continued to rise, even in the face of ongoing uncertainty around the existence of an AI-related 'bubble' and concentration in US and global stock markets.
- 2.12 Over the period, the 10-year UK benchmark gilt yield started at 4.65% and ended at 4.48%. However, these nine months saw significant volatility with the 10-year yield hitting a low of 4.39% and a high of 4.82%. It was a similar picture for the 20-year gilt which started at 5.18% and ended at 5.11% with a low and high of 5.05% and 5.55% respectively. The Sterling Overnight Rate (SONIA) averaged 4.10% over the nine months to 31st December.
- 2.13 Credit review: Arlingclose maintained its recommended maximum unsecured duration limit on the majority of the banks on its counterparty list at 6 months. The other banks remain on 100 days.
- 2.14 Earlier in the period, Fitch upgraded NatWest Group and related entities to AA- from A+ and placed Clydesdale Bank's long-term A- rating on Rating Watch Positive. Fitch later upgraded Clydesdale Bank and HSBC, but downgraded Lancashire CC and Close Brothers.
- 2.15 In May, Moody's downgraded the United States sovereign long-term rating to Aa1 and affirmed OP Corporate's rating at Aa3. Moody's later upgraded Transport for London, Allied Irish Banks, Bank of Ireland, Toronto-Dominion Bank, DZ Bank, Nordea and HSBC and downgraded Close Brothers.
- 2.16 After spiking in April following the US trade tariff announcements, UK credit default swap (CDS) prices trended down before picking up modestly in October and November. They declined

again in December and ended the year in line with levels seen in the first half of the year and most of 2024.

- 2.17 European banks' CDS prices have generally been flatter and lower compared to the UK, as have Singaporean and Australian lenders while some Canadian bank CDS prices have remained elevated since the beginning of the period in part due to ongoing trade tensions with the US.
- 2.18 At the end of the period CDS prices for all banks on Arlingclose's counterparty list remained within limits deemed satisfactory for maintaining credit advice at current durations.
- 2.19 Financial market volatility is expected to remain, and CDS levels will be monitored for signs of ongoing credit stress. As ever, the institutions and durations on the Council's counterparty list recommended by Arlingclose remain under constant review.

3. Local Context

- 3.1 On 31 March 2025, the Council had net borrowing of £25.6m arising from its revenue and capital income and expenditure. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), while usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. These factors are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Balance Sheet Summary

	31.3.25 Estimated £m	31.3.26 Estimated £m
General Fund CFR	34.81	33.62
HRA CFR	50.88	49.60
Total CFR	85.69	83.22
External borrowing	55.08	53.79
Internal borrowing	30.61	29.43
Total Borrowing	85.69	83.22

- 3.2 The treasury management position at 31 December 2025 and the change over the six months in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Treasury Management Summary

	31.3.25 Balance £m	Movement £m	31.12.25 Balance £m	31.12.25 Rate %
Long-term borrowing	53.80	-0.00	53.80	3.49%
Short-term borrowing	1.30	-0.60	0.70	2.23%
Total borrowing	55.10	-0.60	54.50	3.48%
Long-term investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Short-term investments	10.00	12.75	22.75	4.04%
Cash and cash equivalents	19.50	-1.00	18.50	3.92%
Total investments	29.50	11.75	41.25	3.99%
Net borrowing	25.60	-12.37	13.23	

4. Borrowing

- 4.1 CIPFA's 2021 Prudential Code is clear that local authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return and that it is not prudent for local authorities to make any investment or spending decision that will increase the capital financing requirement, and so may lead to new borrowing, unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the Council.
- 4.2 PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield and the Council intends to avoid this activity to retain its access to PWLB loans.
- 4.3 The Council currently holds £10.1m in commercial investments that were purchased prior to the change in the CIPFA Prudential Code. These commercial investments are primarily for local regeneration and growth with a secondary objective of financial return. Before undertaking further additional borrowing the Council will review the options for exiting these investments.
- 4.4 As shown in table 1 the Council has internally borrowed £29.43m. This internal borrowing foregoes a potential interest income rate of 3.99%. Current one-year external borrowing rates with the PWLB (Certainty Rate) are 4.46% as at 31 December 2025. An additional rate for HRA specific borrowing has been implemented from June 2023 which is 0.4% lower than standard PWLB rates.
- 4.5 Due to the borrowing rate exceeding our interest income rate, it is appropriate to remain internally borrowed at this point.

5 Borrowing Strategy and Activity

- 5.1 As outlined in the treasury strategy, the Council's chief objective when borrowing has been to strike an appropriate risk balance between securing lower interest costs and achieving cost certainty over the period for which funds are required, with flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change being a secondary objective. The Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio.
- 5.2 After substantial rises in interest rates since 2021 central banks have now begun to reduce their policy rates, albeit slowly. Except in the much longer term, gilt yields have decreased slightly over the period, reflecting expectations of lower interest rates, a tepid economy and to some extent an improvement in the UK governments fiscal position following tax rises in the autumn budget.

- 5.3 The PWLB certainty rate for 10-year maturity loans was 5.38% at the beginning of the period and 5.34% at the end. The lowest available 10-year maturity/certainty rate was 5.17% and the highest was 5.62%. Rates for 20-year maturity loans ranged from 5.71% to 6.30% during the period, and 50-year maturity loans from 5.46% to 6.14%.
- 5.4 The cost of short-term borrowing from other local authorities has been similar to Base Rate during the period at 4.0% to 4.5%.
- 5.5 CIPFA's 2021 Prudential Code is clear that local authorities must not borrow to invest primarily for financial return and that it is not prudent for local authorities to make any investment or spending decision that will increase the capital financing requirement and so may lead to new borrowing, unless directly and primarily related to the functions of the Council. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield unless these loans are for refinancing purposes. The Council has no new plans to borrow to invest primarily for financial return.
- 5.6 On 31 December 2025 the Council held £54.5m of loans, following repayment of principal of £641k. A breakdown of outstanding loans is shown below in table 3.

Table 3: Borrowing Position

	31.3.25 Balance £m	Net Movement £m	31.12.25 Balance £m	31.12.25 Weighted Average Rate %	31.12.25 Weighted Average Maturity (years)
Public Works Loan Board	51.1	-0.6	50.5	3.40%	13.11
Banks (fixed-term)	3.9	0.0	3.9	0.34%	2.01
Local authorities (long-term)	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.14%	0.01
Local authorities (short-term)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	0.00
Total borrowing	55.1	-0.6	54.5	3.48%	15.13

- 5.7 There remains a strong argument for diversifying funding sources, particularly if rates can be achieved on alternatives which are below gilt yields + 0.80%. The Council will evaluate and pursue these lower cost solutions and opportunities with its advisor Arlingclose.

6. Treasury Investment Activity

- 6.1 CIPFA revised TM Code defines treasury management investments as those which arise from the Council's cash flows or treasury risk management activity that ultimately represents balances which need to be invested until the cash is required for use in the course of business.

Table 4: Treasury Investment Position

	31.3.25 Balance £m	Net Move ment £m	31.12.25 Balance £m	31.12.25 Income Return %	31.12.25 Weighted Average Maturity days
Banks & building societies (unsecured)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00%	0.0
Government (incl. local authorities)	10.0	12.8	22.8	4.04%	99.2
Money Market Funds	19.5	-1.0	18.5	3.92%	0.4
Total investments	29.5	11.8	41.3	3.99%	99.63

- 6.2 The Council holds significant invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. During the year, the Council's investment balances ranged between £28.9m and £60.0m due to timing differences between income and expenditure. The investment position is shown in table 4 below.
- 6.3 Both the CIPFA Code and government guidance require the Council to invest its funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its treasury investments before seeking the optimum rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income.
- 6.4 As demonstrated by the liability benchmark in this report, the Council expects to be a long-term investor and treasury investments therefore include both short-term low risk instruments to manage day-to-day cash flows and longer-term instruments where limited additional risk is accepted in return for higher investment income to support local public services.
- 6.5 Bank Rate reduced from 4.50% to 4.25% in May 2025, followed by further reductions to 4.00% in August 2025 and to 3.75% in December 2025. Short term interest rates have largely followed these levels. The rates on DMADF deposits ranged between 3.66% and 4.46% and money market rates between 3.59% and 4.54%. Arlingclose, the Council's advisors, are predicting 1 further reduction of 25 base points in Bank of England rates within the first quarter of calendar year 2026.
- 6.6 The progression of risk and return metrics are shown in the extracts from Arlingclose's quarterly investment benchmarking in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Investment Benchmarking – Treasury investments managed in-house

	Credit Score	Credit Rating	Bail-in Exposure	Weighted Average Maturity (days)	Rate of Return %
31/12/2025	4.46	-AA	45%	69	3.98%
Similar LAs	4.55	A+	58%	53	4.70%
All LAs	4.59	A+	60%	13	4.56%

- 6.7 Most asset classes achieved positive performance over the first three quarters of the 2025/26 financial year, although conditions remained volatile and heavily influenced by political and macroeconomic developments.

- 6.8 The Council has budgeted £444,082 in interest income from investments after deductions in 2025/26. The actual income received by 31 December 2025 was £941,472. The forecasted income to 31 March 2026 is £1.17m.
- 6.9 Interest rates can and have been extremely volatile over the financial year and are likely to be similarly volatile in the upcoming months. Therefore, for the purpose of budget setting these forecasts are reduced by 20% to ensure that there is not an overreliance placed on interest return for creating a balanced budget.
- 6.10 The updated forecast of £1.17m will be split between the General Fund (GF) and Housing Revenue Account (HRA). This split will be 33.86% to the GF and 66.14% to HRA. The percentage split is worked using the investment balances for both funds throughout the year as a percentage of the overall investment fund. This is subject to change.
- 6.11 Interest forecasts are notoriously difficult to predict and are subject to change particularly in an unstable interest rate environment and constantly changing economic environment.

7. Non-Treasury Investments

- 7.1 The definition of investments in CIPFA's revised 2021 Treasury Management Code covers all the financial assets of the Council as well as other non-financial assets which the Council holds primarily for financial return. Investments that do not meet the definition of treasury management investments (i.e. management of surplus cash) are categorised as either for service purposes (made explicitly to further service objectives) and/or for commercial purposes (made primarily for financial return).
- 7.2 Investment Guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and Welsh Government also broadens the definition of investments to include all such assets held partially or wholly for financial return.
- 7.3 The Council held £10.1m of investments made for commercial purposes. This consisted entirely of directly owned property and land. A full list of the Council's non-treasury investments is available in the Investment Strategy 2025-26 document. These investments are forecast to generate £410,000 in investment income in 2025/26 for the Council after taking account of direct costs.
- 7.4 The main purpose of these investments is regeneration of the local area rather than investment income. All commercial investments are located within the district.

8. Treasury Performance

- 8.1 The Council measures the financial performance of its treasury management activities both in terms of its impact on the revenue budget and its relationship with benchmark interest rates.
- 8.2 As discussed in section 6.9, investment interest income during the reporting period was £941,472 after deductions. The Council's investment interest return percentage on 31 December 2025 was 3.99%. For comparison purposes the Daily Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) which is used for benchmarking purposes was 3.73%. For similar local authorities the most recent benchmarking data, which is from 31 December 2025 showed an investment return of 4.70%. This is shown in Appendix 1.
- 8.3 Since the beginning of the reporting period the Council, as per forecast, has paid £641,000 in

interest on borrowing. The weighted average interest rate on borrowing is 3.48%. For comparison purposes the current PWLB Maturity Loan rate for new 10-year loans is 5.34%. Our average rate therefore represents a good rate of borrowing in the current environment.

- 8.4 During the 2025/26 financial year, the Council is forecasting pay back of £1.29m in principal on its PWLB loans. The £1.29m is for the annuity loans whereby regular payments are made throughout the lifetime of the loan. There is no intention to borrow to replace these loans as the Council currently has the resources to absorb this.
- 8.5 The Council is forecast to undertake new borrowing of £1.9m for the HRA in the 2025/26 financial year, however, none has so far been undertaken. There has therefore been an equal increase in the internal borrowing.
- 8.6 On 10 April 2024 amended legislation and revised statutory guidance were published on Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Most of the changes take effect from the 2025/26 financial year, although there is a requirement that for capital loans given on or after 7 May 2024 sufficient MRP must be charged so that the outstanding CFR in respect of the loan is no higher than the principal outstanding, less the Expected Credit Loss (ECL) charge for that loan. No capital loans have been given since May 2024.
- 8.7 The regulations also require that local authorities cannot exclude any amount of their CFR from their MRP calculation unless by an exception set out in law. Capital receipts cannot be used to directly replace, in whole or part, the prudent charge to revenue for MRP (there are specific exceptions for capital loans and leased assets).

9. Compliance

- 9.1 The S151 Officer reports that all treasury management activities undertaken during the quarter complied fully with the CIPFA Code of Practice.
- 9.2 Compliance with the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for external debt is demonstrated in table 6 below.

Table 6: Debt and the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary

	2025/26 Maximum Debt Q1	31.12.25 Actual £m	2025/26 Operational Boundary £m	2025/26 Authorised Limit £m	Complied?
Borrowing	55.1	54.5	90.8	100.8	YES

- 9.3 Since the operational boundary is a management tool for in-year monitoring it is not significant if the operational boundary is breached on occasions due to variations in cash flow, and this is not counted as a compliance failure. However, there were no days in the reporting period in which the operational boundary was breached.

Table 7: Investment Limits

	Q3 Maximum During Period £m	31.12.25 Actual £m	2025/26 Limit £m	Complied?
The UK Government	20.2	12.7	Unlimited	YES
Local authorities & other government entities	10.0	10.0	60.0	YES
Secured investments	0.0	0.0	60.0	YES
Banks (unsecured)	0.0	0.0	60.0	YES
Building societies (unsecured)	0.0	0.0	5.0	YES
Registered providers (unsecured)	0.0	0.0	12.5	YES
Money market funds	21.0	18.5	60.0	YES
Strategic pooled funds	0.0	0.0	25.0	YES
Real estate investment trusts	0.0	0.0	12.5	YES
Other investments	0.0	0.0	2.5	YES
Total	51.2	41.2		

10. Treasury Management Prudential Indicators

10.1 The Council measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators.

10.2 **Security:** The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to credit risk by monitoring the value-weighted average credit rating of its investment portfolio. This is calculated by applying a score to each investment (AAA=1, AA+=2, etc.) and taking the arithmetic average, weighted by the size of each investment. Unrated investments are assigned a score based on their perceived risk.

Table 8: Security

	31.3.25 Actual	31.12.25 Actual	2025/26 Target	Complied?
Portfolio average credit rating	A+	-AA	A-	YES

10.3 **Liquidity:** The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to liquidity risk by monitoring the amount of cash available to meet unexpected payments within a rolling three-month period, without additional borrowing. Due to recent changes in Treasury Officers, a very

prudent approach has been taken to cashflow forecasts.

Table 9: Liquidity

		31.12.25 Actual £m	2025/26 Target £m	Complied?
Total cash available within 3 months	90	31.3	2.5	YES

- 10.4 **Interest Rate Exposures:** This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on the one-year revenue impact of a 1% rise or fall in interests is shown in table 10 below.

Table 10: Interest Rate Exposures

Interest rate risk indicator	31.12.25 Actual	2025/26 Limit	Complied?
Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>rise</u> in interest rates	321,770	600,000	YES
Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>fall</u> in interest rates	-321,770	-600,000	YES

- 10.5 The impact of a change in interest rates is calculated on the assumption that maturing loans and investment will be replaced at current rates. Due to all our investments maturing in year and the majority of our borrowing maturing in later years this means that we would benefit from an increase in interest rates (as we replace investments with higher rates but not borrowing) but are negatively impacted by a decrease in interest rates for the same reason.
- 10.6 This is demonstrated in the above figures which show a positive return from an increase and a negative return from a decrease in interest rates. Both impacts are within reasonable limits for the revenue budget. The Council also takes further precautions by reducing its interest forecast by a risk-adjusted amount of 20% as discussed in paragraph 6.9.
- 10.7 For context, the changes in interest rates during the quarter were:

Table 11: Interest Rate Changes

Context - Interest Rate changes	31/3/2025	31/12/2025
Bank Rate	4.75%	3.75%
1-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.02%	4.46%
5-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.17%	4.78%
10-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.62%	5.34%
20-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	6.11%	5.88%
50-year PWLB certainty rate, maturity loans	5.87%	5.71%

- 10.5 **Maturity Structure of Borrowing:** This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to

refinancing risk. [This indicator covers the risk of replacement loans being unavailable, not interest rate risk.] The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of all borrowing were:

Table 12: Maturity Structure of Debt

	31.03.26 Actual £m	31.03.26 Actual %	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Complied ?
Under 12 months	1.3	2.46%	0%	70%	YES
12 months and within 24 months	0.6	1.07%	0%	30%	YES
24 months and within 5 years	1.8	3.38%	0%	30%	YES
5 years and within 10 years	0.6	1.19%	0%	30%	YES
10 years and within 20 years	43.8	81.33%	0%	90%	YES
20 years and above	5.7	10.57%	0%	30%	YES
Totals	53.8	100%			

10.6 Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment.

10.7 **Principal Sums Invested for Periods Longer than a year:** The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The limits on the long-term principal sum invested to final maturities beyond the period end were:

Table 13: Long Term Investments

	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	No Fixed Date
Actual principal invested beyond year end	£10m	£0m	£0m	£0m
Limit on principal invested beyond year end	£60m	£10m	£10m	£10m
Complied?	YES	YES	YES	YES

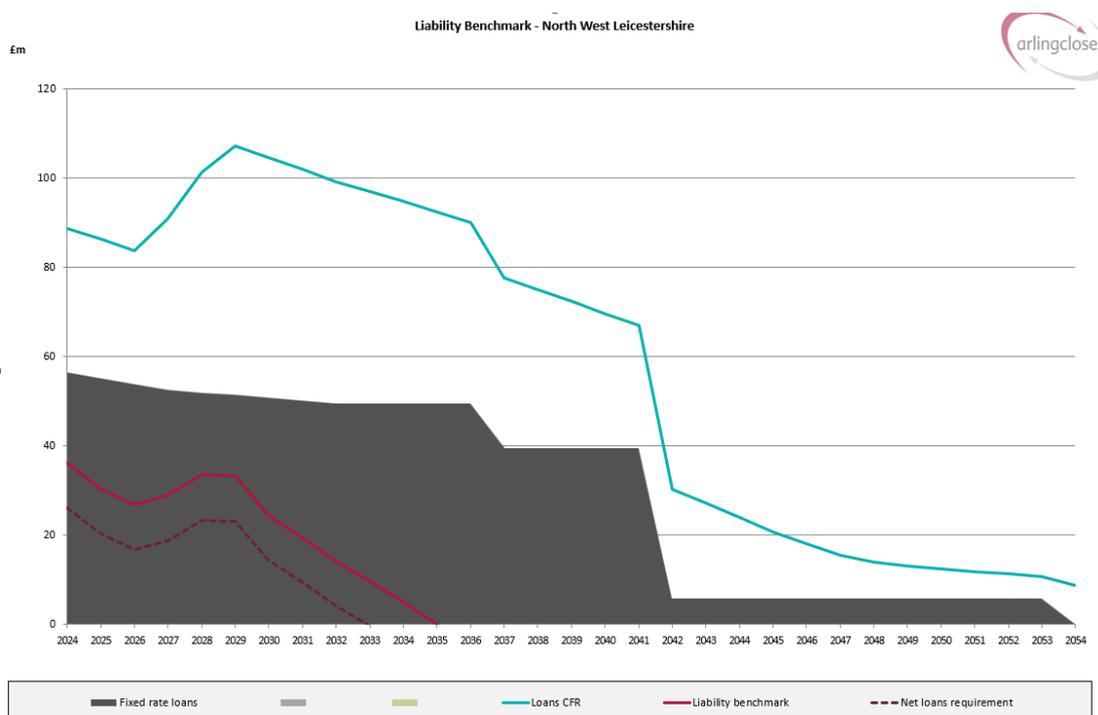
10.8 **Liability Benchmark:** This indicator compares the Council's actual existing borrowing against a liability benchmark that has been calculated to show the lowest risk level of borrowing. The liability benchmark is an important tool to help establish whether the Council is likely to be a long-term borrower or long-term investor in the future and so shape its strategic focus and decision making. It represents an estimate of the cumulative amount of external borrowing the Council must hold to fund its current capital and revenue plans while keeping treasury investments at the minimum level of £10m required to manage day-to-day cash flow.

10.9 **Table 14: Liability Benchmark**

	31.3.25 Actual	31.3.26 Forecast	31.3.27 Forecast	31.3.28 Forecast
Loans CFR	83.8	90.9	101.4	107.2

Less: Balance sheet resources	-66.9	-72.0	-78.0	-84.1
Net loans requirement	16.8	18.9	23.4	23.1
Plus: Liquidity allowance	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Liability benchmark	26.8	28.9	33.4	33.1
Existing external borrowing	-53.5	-53.8	-51.7	-51.1

10.10 Following on from the medium-term forecast above, the long-term liability benchmark assumes no capital expenditure funded by borrowing before 2025/26, minimum revenue provision on new capital expenditure based on a variable asset life depending on asset type (This can vary from 5 – 50 years) and income, expenditure and reserves all increasing by inflation of 2.5% p.a. This is shown in the chart below together with the maturity profile of the Council's existing borrowing.



10.11 The Liability Benchmark shows the underlying need to borrow (Loans CFR) in the blue line at the top of the graph, the grey shaded area as existing loans and the strong red line as the requirement for external borrowing. This graph demonstrates that by using internal resources the Council is likely to not have an external borrowing requirement in 2025/26. However, there is little room for adjustment and the Liability Benchmark graph is an estimate and subject to significant change. This situation may evolve and create a borrowing requirement in the next couple of years.



Investment Benchmarking
31 December 2025

North West Leicestershire
43 English Non-Met Districts Average
129 LAs Average

Internal Investments	£41.3m	£36.5m	£58.4m
Cash Plus & Short Bond Funds	£0.0m	£1.2m	£0.7m
Strategic Pooled Funds	£0.0m	£10.8m	£10.6m
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	£41.3m	£48.5m	£69.7m

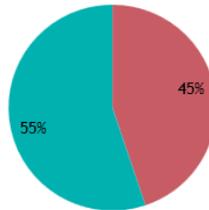
Security			
Average Credit Score	4.46	4.55	4.59
Average Credit Rating	AA-	A+	A+
Average Credit Score (time-weighted)	4.56	4.34	4.46
Average Credit Rating (time-weighted)	A+	AA-	AA-
Number of Counterparties / Funds	8	13	12
Proportion Exposed to Bail-in	45%	58%	60%

Liquidity			
Proportion Available within 7 days	45%	49%	54%
Proportion Available within 100 days	76%	69%	74%
Average Days to Maturity	69	53	13

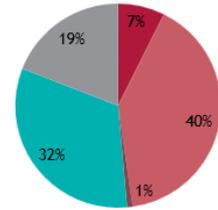
Market Risks			
Average Days to Next Rate Reset	89	74	56
Strategic Fund Volatility	-	3.0%	5.0%

Yield			
Internal Investment Return	3.98%	3.96%	3.94%
Cash Plus Funds - Income Return	-	3.44%	3.46%
Strategic Funds - Income Return	-	4.92%	4.91%
Total Investments - Income Return	3.98%	4.10%	4.08%
Cash Plus Funds - Capital Gain/Loss	-	1.31%	1.29%
Strategic Funds - Capital Gain/Loss	-	2.14%	2.32%
Total Investments - Total Return	3.98%	4.70%	4.56%

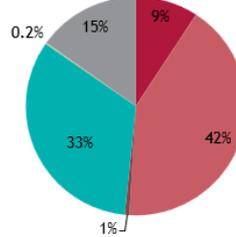
North West Leicestershire



English Non-Met Districts



All Arlingclose Clients



Notes

- Unless otherwise stated, all measures relate to internally managed investments only, i.e. excluding external pooled funds.
- Averages within a portfolio are weighted by size of investment, but averages across authorities are not weighted.
- Pooled fund returns are 1-year to the end of the quarter.
- Credit scores are calculated as AAA = 1, AA+ = 2, etc.
- Volatility is the standard deviation of weekly total returns, annualised.

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