



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

DATE: TUESDAY, 25 JUNE 2019

TIME: 5:30 pm

**PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall,
115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ**

Members of the Committee

Councillor Pantling (Chair)
Councillor O'Donnell (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Bajaj, Joshi, Dr. Moore, Rahman and Saini

One Non-Group vacancy (to be notified)

Members of the Committee are summoned to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

for Monitoring Officer

Officer contact: Jason Tyler
Democratic Support, Democratic Services
Leicester City Council,
City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ
Tel. 0116 454 6359
Email. Jason.Tyler@Leicester.gov.uk

Information for members of the public

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- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact: Jason Tyler, **Democratic Support on (0116) 454 6359** or email Jason.Tyler@leicester.gov.uk or call in at City Hall, 115 Charles Street.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the **Communications Unit on 0116 454 4151**

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION

If the emergency alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit and proceed to area outside the Ramada Encore Hotel on Charles Street as directed by Democratic Services staff. Further instructions will then be given.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 6 March 2019 are attached, and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE 2019/20

Members are asked to note the membership of the Committee for 2019/20 as:

Councillor Pantling (Chair)
Councillor O'Donnell (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Bajaj
Councillor Joshi
Councillor Dr Moore
Councillor Rahman
Councillor Saini

1 non-Group vacancy (to be notified)

5. DATES OF MEETINGS OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE 2019/20

Members are asked to note the meeting dates of the Committee for the 2019/20 municipal year as:

25 June 2019
24 July 2019
18 September 2019
20 November 2019
25 March 2020

All meetings to commence at 5.30pm, with any Members training or briefings to take place at 5.00pm.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE [Appendix B](#)

Members are asked to note the Terms of Reference for the Committee as attached.

7. EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S ANNUAL AUDIT FEES LETTER 2019/20 [Appendix C](#)

The external auditor's annual audit fees letter is attached for noting.

8. EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT 2018/19 [Appendix D](#)

The external auditor submits a paper, which provides a report on progress in delivering their responsibilities.

9. POLICY FOR ENGAGEMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR NON-AUDIT WORK 2019/20 [Appendix E](#)

The Director of Finance submits a report, which seeks approval of the Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work.

10. DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2018/19 [Appendix F](#)

The Director of Finance submits a report, which provides an opportunity for the Committee to comment on the Council's Draft Annual Governance Statement 2018–2019, before it is brought back to July's committee for formal approval.

11. DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2018/19

Appendix G

The Director of Finance submits a report, which provides an opportunity for the Committee to comment on the Council's Draft Statement of Accounts 2018-2019, before it is brought back to July's committee for formal approval.

12. PRIVATE SESSION

Members of the Public to Note

Under the law the committee is entitled to consider certain items in private where in the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the matter exempt from publication outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

The Committee is recommended to consider the following reports in private on the grounds it will contain "exempt" information as defined by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, as amended, and consequently makes the following resolution:

"that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following report in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, because it involves the likely disclosure of "exempt" information, as defined in the Paragraph detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and taking all the circumstances into account, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information."

Paragraph 3

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The following reports concern the strength of internal controls of the City Council's financial and management processes and includes references to material weaknesses and areas thereby vulnerable to fraud or other irregularity.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Item 13

Appendix H: INTERNAL AUDIT – 2018/19 PROGRESS AGAINST PLAN

Item 14

Appendix I: INTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Item 15

Appendix J: INTERNAL AUDIT – AUDIT PLAN 2019/20

PRIVATE SESSION

AGENDA

13. INTERNAL AUDIT - 2018/19 PROGRESS AGAINST PLAN **Appendix H**

The internal auditor submits a report, which provides a summary of progress against the Internal Audit Plan 2018-19, summary information on high importance recommendations and progress with implementing them, and information on resources used to progress the plan.

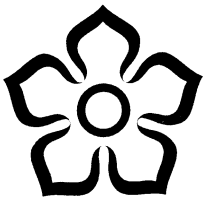
14. INTERNAL AUDIT - ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19 **Appendix I**

The internal auditor submits a report, which provides an annual report on internal audit work conducted during 2018-19. The report also contains information on the internal audit function's conformance to professional standards and its quality assurance framework, which provides an insight into its effectiveness.

15. INTERNAL AUDIT - AUDIT PLAN 2019/20 **Appendix J**

The internal auditor submits a report, which provides an indication of internal audit work planned to be conducted during 2019-20.

16. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS



Leicester
City Council

Appendix A

Minutes of the Meeting of the
AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 6 MARCH 2019 at 5:30 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Riyait (Chair)
Councillor Westley (Vice Chair)

Councillor Alfonso

Councillor Bajaj

* * * * *

53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dr Chowdhury and Dr Moore.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

55. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held 19 December 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

56. KPMG - ANNUAL REPORT - CERTIFICATION OF CLAIMS AND RETURNS

A report from the External Auditors was presented, summarising the work of the auditor on the Council's 2017/18 grant claims and returns.

The report showed an improvement on the previous year's certification work carried out on the Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim. Work was completed and the claim certified on 6 December 2018.

It was noted the Revenue and Benefits Team had worked through the errors previously identified and as a result there was only one recommendation in the

Annual Report to improve the claims completion process; which was outlined in the appendix to the report.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

57. HOUSING BENEFIT SUBSIDY ARRANGEMENTS - UPDATE

The Head of Revenues and Customer Support provided a verbal update on Housing Benefit Subsidy arrangements.

Further to the previous detailed report submitted to the 12 September 2018 meeting, it was noted that:-

- The Council had an improved performance in reducing the level of overpayments by approximately £1m and had also improved the recovery of overpayments.
- The DWP had previously asked for subsidy payments to be returned due to errors in the claim. Improvements had been made and it was now likely the reclaimed subsidy would be paid back.
- Delays had been experienced in the notification of changes of circumstances, through the change to claimants filling in their claims online to the DWP. This notification process had now improved.
- It was confirmed overpayments could be recovered if the error had been made by the local authority.
- It was confirmed that the Council does not offset payments in Housing Benefits against fines a claimant may have received.
- Tenants living in private landlord properties and struggling to pay rent are advised to contact the Citizens Advice Service.
- Officers have worked hard to achieve a reduction in the level of local authority errors.
- There were still recruitment issues in the benefits advice service, even though processing times for claims were still considered to be at a reasonable level.
- The number of Housing Benefit claims had reduced with the transfer of new claims to Universal Credit.

The new external auditors (Grant Thornton) commented that they would work with council staff to try and reduce the workload on the service. It was also noted whilst Universal Credit tended to take the simpler payments away from the Council, the claims remaining with the Council were more complex. So it was not the case that the inherent risk was lowered.

RESOLVED:

That the update report be noted.

58. THE IMPACT OF BREXIT ON LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

The Chief Operating Officer and Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance submitted a report, which set out the findings of the impact/risk analysis carried out on Brexit by Officers. The multi-agency approach undertaken by the Local Resilience Forum was noted and supported.

The majority of risks identified affected business continuity arrangements. Officers confirmed they felt prepared for short term resilience issues. It was noted that the government had recently announced that the Council would receive £210,000 to assist their preparations to address issues and risks as they arose.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the findings of the Brexit impact/risk analysis outlined in Appendix 2 and the possible impact of a no deal Brexit Scenario to council key areas be noted.
- 2) That the actions taken by officers with each impact/risk identified be noted.

59. RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance submitted a report, which presented an update on the Strategic and Operational Risk Registers, Claims data and Health & Safety data.

The Strategic Risk Register (SRR) was constantly reviewed and compiled from the various Divisional Risk Registers. 28 risks in the SRR had been amended, 4 deleted and 5 new risks had been added. When a risk was deleted it did not mean that the risk had disappeared but that its score had been reduced to level below 'high' and was still likely to be retained on Divisional Risk Registers. The number of high level risks has now been reduced to 34. This was following a series of reviews to ensure risks were assessed in a consistent manner by all departments.

It was confirmed there was training of officers and ongoing monitoring. It was confirmed that a rolling annual programme was in place as part of the Council's continuity and emergency management arrangements. Risk management was compulsory for all staff involved in completing registers.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Strategic Risk Register and Operational Risk Register as at 31 January 2019, be noted.
- 2) That the Insurance Claims Data and Health and Safety Data be noted.
- 3) That the progress made with the Divisional Risk Registers be noted.

60. RISK MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY STRATEGY AND POLICIES 2019

The Director of Delivery, Communications and Political Governance submitted a report, which presented the revised Risk Management and Business Continuity Policy Statement and Strategies. These provided an effective framework for the Council to manage and respond to key risks facing its services to help achieve the delivery of its Business Plan. The documents had been reviewed which had led to minor changes in the structure and general format.

The Business Management Strategy was widely circulated within the council and there was a robust system in place to which was regularly tested. The strategy had been reviewed externally. Council data bases were regularly backed up and secured safely offsite. It was confirmed that that data stored electronically was considered to be far more secure than a comparable paper system. Data stored on secure servers was read only and was not stored on any other devices.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Corporate Risk Management Policy Statement and Strategy set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
- 2) That the Corporate Business Continuity Management Policy Statement and Strategy set out in Appendix 2 of the report be approved.

61. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 - BIENNIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

The City Barrister and Head of Standards submitted a report, which advised on the performance of The Council in authorising Regulatory Investigation Powers Act (RIPA) applications, from 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018.

The Council had only applied to the Magistrates for 2 Directed Surveillance Authorisations in the period of the report which had been undertaken by the Corporate Investigations under the Fraud Act 2006.

RESOLVED:

That the report and its contents be noted.

62. THE JOINT DFE AND LGA TEST OF ASSURANCE

The Strategic Director of Social Care and Education submitted a report, which summarised the process and outcome of the Local Authority Test of Assurance undertaken by the Local Government Association (LGA) in November 2018.

The Assurance Test had been required following the decision to combine adult social care and children's services into one department. The Assurance Test had comprised a review of key documents and a 2 day visit to meet with key professionals and practitioners. The areas of focus had been:-

- Leadership and Governance
- Performance and Outcomes
- Commissioning and quality
- National priorities and partnerships
- Resource and workforce management
- Culture and Change

It was noted that Local Government Review Team concluded that the assurance test had been met and had commented that the Council had approached the integration of the Adults and Children's Services with a measured and systematic approach which had given a good foundation for further development. It was also acknowledged that this was a rapidly developing service and its arrangements would need to be kept under review. The review had identified a number of areas for development which were outlined in the report. These would be reassessed in a further review in September 2019.

The Strategic Director commented that there was a strong resilience in the directorate with 4 divisional directors supported effectively by heads of service and a middle management group. Staff morale had improved significantly since the Ofsted report. It was noted that a number of local authorities elsewhere had also combined the two departments. The merger of the two departments had not resulted in any new additions to the Risk Register. The Departmental Leadership Team also kept the continuing development of the department under review.

RESOLVED:

That the outcome of the Test of Assurance be noted and welcomed.

63. PROCUREMENT PLAN 2019/20

The City Barrister and Head of Standards submitted a report, which sought approval of the 2019/20 Procurement Plan and provided information on potential major procurement activity across the Council.

It was noted that the inclusion of an item in the plan did not necessarily mean that the procurement would go ahead. Anticipated contracts would be subject to ongoing challenges as to whether they were required and whether and how they should be procured. The review process could impact upon the anticipated value and/or duration of the contract.

In response to questions, particularly relating to waste management contracts, it was noted that EU thresholds in the plan would not be affected by Brexit.

Although following Brexit contracts would no longer be advertised in the EU journal as legislation had been transferred to UK law. Social Value had now been incorporated into the Procurement Policy which also meant that the 'Real Living Wage' would be implemented into new contracts.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Procurement Plan and the delegated letting of contracts to Divisional Directors in consultation with the Head of Procurement and City Barrister be noted.
- 2) That the summary of waiver and extension activity in the current financial year to date as required by Rule 19.2 of the Contract Procedure Rules be noted.

64. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

At 7.15 pm the Chair adjourned the meeting for 15 minutes.

At 7.30 pm the meeting recommenced with everyone who was present when the meeting was adjourned.

65. GRANT THORNTON - EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN - YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2019

The 'External Audit Plan' report prepared by Grant Thornton, provided an overview of the planned scope and timing of the statutory audit of the Council, for consideration by the Committee. This was the first audit plan from the new auditors, who indicated that the risks were fundamentally the same as in previous reports.

The new payroll system introduced in 2017 had presented the previous auditors with difficulties in auditing the system. Whilst the payroll had not been identified as a significant risk with the current audit plan, an assessment would be carried out in the forthcoming interim visit to determine whether extensive testing in the future would be required.

In response to a question it was confirmed that further information concerning the Council's pension liability could be submitted to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the External Audit Plan be noted and that further details explaining the Council's pension liability be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

66. GRANT THORNTON - INFORMING THE AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENT

The 'Informing the Risk Assessment' report prepared by Grant Thornton, covered important areas of the auditor risk assessment under auditing standards, was considered by the Committee.

The external auditors commented that no significant changes were expected to the risk assessment from previously reported and the Assessment would be updated when required. The auditors had no concerns with the responses they had received to their enquires.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

67. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Director of Finance and the City Barrister & Head of Standards submitted a report seeking approval of updates to the assurance and corporate governance processes at the City Council and to note the position with the committee's terms of reference.

The Chief Accountant presented the report and it was noted that the Local Code of Corporate Governance had been refreshed for 2019/20 to ensure it set out the Council's objectives and reflected the controls currently in place. It also set out how the annual review would be conducted.

It has previously been proposed to review the Committee's Terms of Reference following the publication of the CIPFA revised guidance on Audit Committees. However, to allow full consideration to be given to the new guidance and to allow the settling in of the new audit internal audit arrangements, this had been further delayed and would be completed during 2019/20.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Local Code of Corporate Governance be approved.
- 2) That a report on the Committee's Terms of Reference be brought to a future meeting when it had been reviewed taking into account the revised CIPFA guidance.

68. PRIVATE SESSION

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following report, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, because it involved the likely disclosure of "exempt" information,

as defined in the Paragraph detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and taking all circumstances into account, it was considered that the public interest in maintaining the information as exempt outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Paragraph 3

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Appendix L– Internal Audit Update Report – 2018/19.

69. INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE - PROGRESS AGAINST THE 2018-19 PLAN

The Head of Internal Audit & Assurance Service, Leicestershire County Council submitted a report summarising the progress of Internal Audit work completed during the 2018/19 financial year to 15 February 2019.

Neil Jones, Head of Internal Audit & Assurance Service, Leicestershire County Council outlined the main headlines in the report and provided an overview of audit work planned and completed.

Members noted that a substantial amount of work remained in progress, some of which may not be completed until the new financial year. It was noted this was not unusual. Postponements had increased, following a meeting with the Head of Finance in January to re-assess which audits could feasibly be started. The annual planning process was underway which would determine if postponed audits could be carried over to the new financial year or whether other audits should take priority.

There would be an annual report on the areas of governance, risk management and control. There would be an informed opinion in the annual report.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

70. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.06 pm.

Appendix B

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

1. Constitution

The Council has established a Committee of the Council to be known as the Audit & Risk Committee to report to the Council. This supports the Council's corporate governance responsibilities in relation to internal control, risk management and governance.

2. Membership

The Audit & Risk Committee shall consist solely of non-Executive Councillors. The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Council from amongst the non-Executive Councillors.

The membership of the Committee should reflect the political representation of the Council as a whole.

A quorum of at least three Committee members will be required at all meetings.

3. Attendance at Meetings

The Director of Finance, the Head of Internal Audit and the Internal Audit Manager shall normally be invited to attend meetings. Other officers will be required to attend if called for by the Committee or when relevant items appear on the agenda. All Councillors are entitled to attend public meetings, should they choose to do so. All such attendees shall have the right to speak, at the discretion of the Chair, but not vote at meetings.

4. Frequency of Meetings

Meetings shall be held not less than three times a year. Additionally, special meetings may be convened if an issue arises that, in the opinion of the Chair, cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting.

5. Duties

The duties of the Committee shall be as set out in the annexed schedule to these Terms of Reference.

6. Authority

The Committee approves, on behalf of the Council, the Council's accounts and its internal control, risk management and governance frameworks and any aligned policies and arrangements.

The Committee is authorised by the Council to investigate any activity within its terms of reference. It is authorised to seek any information it requires from any employee and all employees are directed to co-operate with any request made by the Committee. The Committee will advise the Chief Operating Officer as the Head of Paid Service if it has exercised this authority to seek information (other than routine information) from any employee, setting out the information required and the circumstances underlying the request.

The Committee is authorised by the Council, if considered necessary, to secure the attendance of third parties with relevant experience and expertise provided that the Committee shall notify the Chief Operating Officer as the Head of Paid Service before any fees for such attendance are agreed.

7. Communications

The Secretary of the Committee will circulate the agenda and papers for meetings five clear days before the meeting.

The Committee will consider and agree the approved minutes of the Committee at its next meeting.

The Committee's Terms of Reference will be made available on the Council's website. They will be reviewed and, where necessary, updated at least annually.

An annual report of the Committee's activity will be submitted to the Council each year.

Duties of the Audit & Risk Committee

1. Audit Framework

1.1 Internal Audit

- On behalf of the Council, to approve the Head of Internal Audit's annual report and opinion, considering the level of assurance given over the Council's corporate governance arrangements and decide on appropriate actions.
- To consider, challenge and approve (but not direct) Internal Audit's strategy and plan and monitor performance on an annual basis.
- To receive summaries of Internal Audit reports and the main issues arising.
- To review and challenge management's responsiveness to the internal audit findings and recommendations, seeking assurance that appropriate action has been taken where necessary and agreed recommendations have been implemented within a reasonable timescale.
- To monitor and assess the role and effectiveness of the Internal Audit function.

In fulfilling these functions, the Audit & Risk Committee fulfils the role of 'board' for the purposes of the *Public Sector Internal Audit Standards*.

1.2 External Audit

- On behalf of the Council, to review with the external auditor and inspection agencies the findings of their work including any major issues which are unresolved; key accounting and audit judgments; and the levels of errors identified during the audit. The Committee should obtain explanations from management and from external auditors, where necessary, as to why errors might remain unadjusted.
- To consider the scope and depth of external audit work and to assess whether it gives value for money.
- To liaise with Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (as successor body to the Audit Commission for this purpose) over the appointment of the Council's external auditor and conduct such other related functions as required by the local public audit regime.
- To facilitate effective relationships between external and internal audit, inspection agencies and other relevant bodies and ensure the value of these audit relationships is actively promoted.
- To approve any instances of non-audit work by the external auditors in accordance with the *Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work* and report any such instances to the Council.

2. Risk Management Framework

- On behalf of the Council, to consider and challenge the effectiveness of the Council's Risk Management Strategy and Framework, including the Risk Management and Insurance Services function.
- To consider and approve, on behalf of the Council, the Council's Risk Management Strategy and its key risk management policies including the Council's statement of overall risk appetite.
- To approve, on an annual basis, the Risk Management and Insurance Services function's terms of reference and its annual plan.
- To review (and take any actions as a consequence of) reports from the Head of Internal Audit & Risk Management in respect of the status of key current and emerging risks and internal controls relating to those risks (the Operational and Strategic Risk Registers).

3. Internal Control and Governance Framework

- To review the adequacy of the Council's internal control framework through review of its system of internal control and system of internal audit and overseeing the production and approval of the Council's Annual Governance Statement prepared in accordance with the Local Code of Conduct Governance.
- To consider the external auditor's report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the accounts. (The Committee is to do this before approving the Council's published financial statements. The Committee should take note of any adjustments set out in the external auditor's report and agree any such adjustments where management has declined to do so or set out the reasons for not doing so.)
- To maintain an overview of the Council's Constitution in respect of contract procedure rules, finance procedure rules and codes of conduct and behaviour.
- To review and approve, on an annual basis, the Council's anti-fraud, bribery and corruption and its disclosure (whistle-blowing) policies and procedures.
- Annually, to assess all significant risk issues considering:
 - Changes since the last annual assessment and the Council's response;
 - The scope and quality of management's ongoing monitoring of risks and the system of internal control;
 - The incidence of significant control failings in relation to all significant risks and their impact.
- To review regular reports from Internal Audit and Risk Management on risk and internal controls, considering:
 - The effectiveness of systems of internal control across the Council

- Reports on major control issues and their impact on the Council's risk profile.
- To consider and decide on appropriate actions relating to the Council's compliance with its own and other published or regulatory policies, standards and controls, including:
 - Information assurance including compliance with the Data Protection Act;
 - Freedom of Information Act;
 - Health & Safety at Work;
 - The Disclosure Policy
 - Complaints;
 - Raising Concerns at Work; and
 - Others as appropriate.

4. Financial Reporting Framework

- To review and approve the Council's published financial statements, the external auditor's annual opinion and other reports to Members and to monitor management action in response to issues raised.
- To review and approve the annual statement of accounts and the annual Letter of Representation on behalf of the Council, giving particular attention to critical accounting policies and practices, decisions requiring a significant element of judgement, how any unusual transactions should be disclosed and the clarity of the disclosures.
- To bring to the attention of the Council any concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit.

5. Other Matters

- To consider, approve or make recommendations in respect of any other matters referred to it by the City Mayor, Chief Operating Officer (as the Head of Paid Service) or a Director or any Council body.
- To consider any relevant matters reserved for Member-level decision as detailed in Rules of Procedure.
- To present an annual report to the Council on the Committee's conduct, business and effectiveness.

Director of Finance

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24 April 2019

Dear Alison

Planned audit fee for 2019/20

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (the Act) provides the framework for local public audit. Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) has been specified as an appointing person under the Act and the Local Authority (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 and had the power to make auditor appointments for audits of opted- in local government bodies from 2018/19.

For opted-in bodies PSAA's responsibilities also include setting fees and monitoring the quality of auditors' work. Further information on PSAA and its responsibilities are available on the [PSAA website](#).

All grant work, including housing benefit certification, falls outside the PSAA contract, as PSAA no longer has the power to make appointments for assurance on grant claims and returns. Any assurance engagements will therefore be subject to separate engagements agreed between the grant-paying body, the Council and ourselves and separate fees agreed with the Council.

Scale fee

PSAA published the 2019/20 scale fees for opted-in bodies at the end of March 2019, following a consultation process. Individual scale fees have been maintained at the same level as in 2018/19, unless there were specific circumstances which required otherwise. Further details are set out on the [PSAA website](#). The Authority's scale fee for 2019/20 has been set by PSAA at £112,884 which is the same as in 2018/19.

PSAA prescribes that 'scale fees are based on the expectation that audited bodies are able to provide the auditor with complete and materially accurate financial statements, with supporting working papers, within agreed timeframes'.

The audit planning process for 2019/20, including the risk assessment, will continue as the year progresses and fees will be reviewed and updated as necessary as our work progresses.

Scope of the audit fee

There are no changes to the overall work programme for audits of local government audited bodies for 2019/20. Under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the National Audit Office (NAO) is responsible for publishing the statutory Code of Audit Practice and guidance for auditors. Audits of the accounts for 2019/20 will be undertaken under this Code. Further information on the NAO Code and guidance is available on the [NAO website](#).

The scale fee covers:

- our audit of your financial statements;
- our work to reach a conclusion on the economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources (the value for money conclusion); and
- our work on your whole of government accounts return (if applicable).

PSAA will agree fees for considering objections from the point at which auditors accept an objection as valid, or any special investigations, as a variation to the scale fee.

Value for Money conclusion

The Code requires us to consider whether the Council has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. This is known as the Value for Money (VfM) conclusion.

The NAO issued its latest guidance for auditors on value for money work in November 2017. The guidance states that for local government bodies, auditors are required to give a conclusion on whether the Council has put proper arrangements in place.

The NAO guidance identifies one single criterion for auditors to evaluate:

In all significant respects, the audited body had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people.

Billing schedule

Fees will be billed as follows:

Main Audit fee	£
September 2019	28,221
December 2019	28,221
March 2020	28,221
June 2020	28,221
Total	112,884

Outline audit timetable

We will undertake our audit planning and interim audit procedures in November to February. Upon completion of the planning phase of our work we will issue a detailed audit plan setting out our findings and details of our audit approach. Our final accounts audit and work on the VfM conclusion will be completed in May along with our work on the whole of government accounts return.

Phase of work	Timing	Outputs	Comments
Audit planning and interim audit	November 2019 to February 2020	Audit plan	The plan summarises the findings of our audit planning and our approach to the audit of the Council's accounts and VfM.
Final accounts audit	June and July 2020	Audit Findings Report to those charged with governance	This report sets out the findings of our accounts audit and VfM work for the consideration of those charged with governance.

VfM conclusion	January to July 2020	Audit Findings Report to those charged with governance	As above
Whole of government accounts	June and July 2020	Opinion on the WGA return	This work will be completed alongside the accounts audit.
Annual audit letter	August 2020	Annual audit letter to the Council	The letter will summarise the findings of all aspects of our work.

Our team

The key members of the audit team for 2019/20 are:

	Name	Phone Number	E-mail
Engagement Lead	Grant Patterson	0121 232 5296	grant.b.patterston@uk.gt.com
Senior Manager	Nicola Coombe	0121 232 5206	nicola.coombe@uk.gt.com
In Charge Auditor	Janette Scotchbrook	0121 232 5409	Janette.k.scotchbrook@uk.gt.com

Additional work

The scale fee excludes any work requested by the Council that we may agree to undertake outside of our Code audit. Each additional piece of work will be separately agreed, and a detailed project specification and fee agreed with the Council.

Quality assurance

We are committed to providing you with a high quality service. If you are in any way dissatisfied or would like to discuss how we can improve our service, please contact me in the first instance. Alternatively, you may wish to contact Mark Stocks, our Public Sector Assurance regional lead partner, via mark.c.stocks@uk.gt.com.

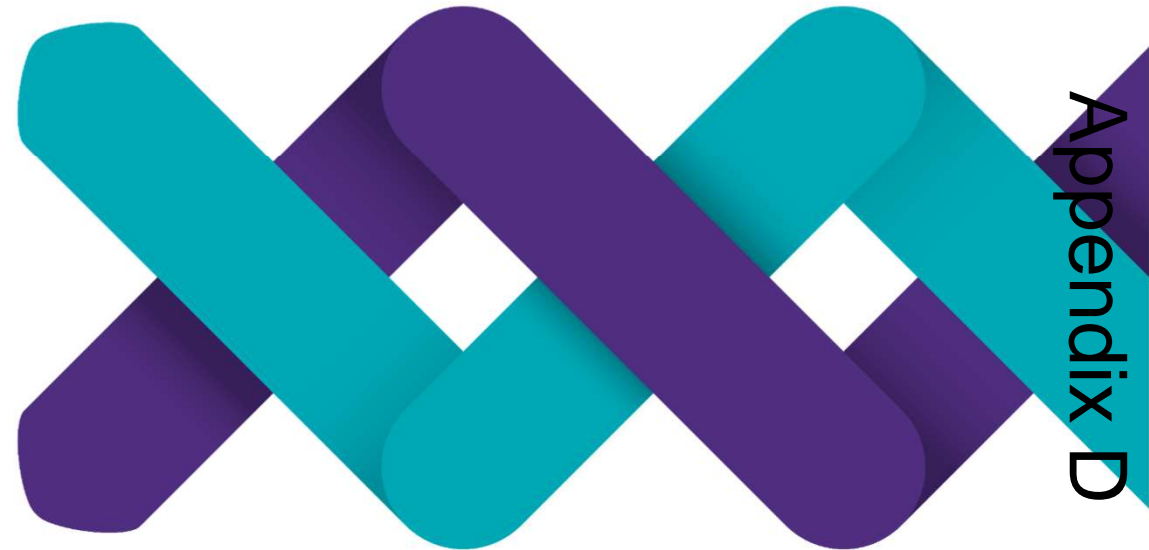
Yours sincerely

Grant Patterson
Engagement Lead
Grant Thornton UK LLP

Audit Progress Report and Sector Update

Leicester City Council
Year ending 31 March 2019

12 June 2019



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Introduction



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This paper provides the Audit and Risk Committee with a report on progress in delivering our responsibilities as your external auditors.

The paper also includes:

- a summary of emerging national issues and developments that may be relevant to you; and
- includes a number of challenge questions in respect of these emerging issues which the Committee may wish to consider (these are a tool to use, if helpful, rather than formal questions requiring responses for audit purposes)

Members of the Audit and Risk Committee can find further useful material on our website, where we have a section dedicated to our work in the public sector. Here you can download copies of our publications www.grantthornton.co.uk ..

If you would like further information on any items in this briefing, or would like to register with Grant Thornton to receive regular email updates on issues that are of interest to you, please contact either your Engagement Lead or Engagement Manager.

PSAA Contract Monitoring

Leicester City Council opted into the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) Appointing Person scheme which starts with the 2018/19 audit. PSAA appointed Grant Thornton as auditors. PSAA is responsible under the Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 for monitoring compliance with the contract and is committed to ensuring good quality audit services are provided by its suppliers. Details of PSAA's audit quality monitoring arrangements are available from its website, www.psa.co.uk.

Our contract with PSAA contains a method statement which sets out the firm's commitment to deliver quality audit services, our audit approach and what clients can expect from us. We have set out commitment to deliver a high quality audit service in the document at Appendix A. We hope this is helpful. It will also be a benchmark for you to provide feedback on our performance to PSAA via its survey in Autumn 2019.

Progress at June 2019

Financial Statements Audit

We have started planning for the 2018/19 financial statements audit and have issued a detailed audit plan, setting out our proposed approach to the audit of the City Council's 2018/19 financial statements.

We have undertaken our interim fieldwork which has included:

- Updated review of the control environment
- Updated understanding of financial systems
- Review of Internal Audit reports on core financial systems
- Early work on emerging accounting issues
- Early substantive testing

Findings in these areas are reported to you on pages 6 to 9.

The statutory deadline for the issue of the 2018/19 opinion is 31 July 2019. We have discussed our plans and timetable with officers and are well placed to meet this deadline.

The final accounts audit is due to begin in early June, with findings reported to the Audit and Risk Committee in our Audit Findings Report on 24 July 2019.

Value for Money

The scope of our work is set out in the guidance issued by the National Audit Office. The Code requires auditors to satisfy themselves that; "the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources". Note that this work applies to the authority only, and not the pension fund.

The guidance confirmed the overall criterion as: "*in all significant respects, the audited body had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people*".

The three sub criteria for assessment to be able to give a conclusion overall are:

- Informed decision making
- Sustainable resource deployment
- Working with partners and other third parties

Details of our initial risk assessment to determine our approach was included in our Audit Plan. Findings to date are reported to you on page 9.

We will report our work in the Audit Findings Report and give our Value For Money Conclusion by the deadline in July 2019.

Other areas

Meetings

We met with the Section 151 Officer in April as part of our ongoing liaison meetings and continue to be in discussions with finance staff regarding emerging developments and to ensure the audit process is smooth and effective.

Events

We provide a range of workshops, along with network events for members and publications to support the Authority. Our Financial Reporting Workshop, which helps to ensure that members of your Finance Team are up to date with the latest financial reporting requirements for accounts, was attended by members of your finance team.

Housing Benefit training

Two of our Housing Benefit specialists visited the Council to deliver bespoke training to the team who will be responsible for delivering the Housing Benefit Subsidy claim.

Publications

Further details of the publications that may be of interest to the Authority are set out in our Sector Update section of this report.

Audit Deliverables

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2018/19 Deliverables	Planned Date	Status
Fee Letter Confirming audit fee for 2018/19.	April 2018	Complete
Accounts Audit Plan We are required to issue a detailed accounts audit plan to the Audit Committee setting out our proposed approach in order to give an opinion on the Authority's financial statements.	March 2019	Complete
Interim Audit Findings We will report to you the findings from our interim audit and our initial value for money risk assessment within our Progress Report. A summary of matters requiring follow up is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• receipt of data migration files in relation to the new payroll system• opening balances review of debtors and creditors balances as well as PFI disclosures• review of workings proposed for the prior period adjustment, to correct previously incorrect treatment of grant held on the balance sheet. The value of this adjustment is approximately £19m• walkthrough of controls in relation to net pension liability once the actuary's report is received• walkthrough of controls in relation to valuation of property, plant and equipment once the valuer's reports are received	June 2019	This report refers
Audit Findings Report The Audit Findings Report will be reported to the July Audit Committee.	July 2019	Not yet due
Auditors Report This is the opinion on your financial statement, annual governance statement and value for money conclusion.	July 2019	Not yet due
Annual Audit Letter This letter communicates the key issues arising from our work.	August 2019	Not yet due

Results of Interim Audit Work

The findings of our interim audit work, and the impact of our findings on the accounts audit approach, are summarised in the table below:

	Work performed	Conclusions and recommendations
Internal audit	<p>We have completed a high level review of internal audit's overall arrangements. Our work has not identified any issues which we wish to bring to your attention.</p> <p>We have also reviewed internal audit's work on the Authority's key financial systems to date. Under audit standards we are prevented from directing the work of internal audit and therefore cannot gain direct assurance from it; however we have not identified any significant weaknesses from our review of their work which impact upon our responsibilities.</p> <p>We are grateful to internal audit for the support they have provided to us in our first year with the Council. This has included sharing documentation (with permission of officers), and has been particularly useful as part of our consideration of the transfer to the new payroll system. This is discussed further below.</p>	Our review of internal audit work has not identified any weaknesses which impact on our audit approach.
Entity level controls	<p>We have obtained an understanding of the overall control environment relevant to the preparation of the financial statements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and enforcement of integrity and ethical values • Commitment to competence • Participation by those charged with governance • Management's philosophy and operating style • Organisational structure • Assignment of authority and responsibility • Human resource policies and practices 	Our work has identified no material weaknesses which are likely to adversely impact on the Council's financial statements.
Review of information technology controls	<p>We are in the process of performing a high level review of the general IT control environment, as part of the overall review of the internal controls system. This will conclude whether or not controls are implemented in accordance with expectations.</p>	Our work has identified no material weaknesses to date, which are likely to adversely impact on the Council's financial statements, but we note that this work is ongoing as at the time of writing.

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Results of Interim Audit Work (continued)

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	Work performed	Conclusions and recommendations
Transfer of payroll system	<p>We have considered the data migration as part of our work on payroll. We conducted testing on the former system earlier on in the year in anticipation of the data migration taking place. We identified no issues with the work undertaken.</p> <p>We have seen the data migration plan and the review conducted by internal audit in January 2019. We note that internal audit have identified action points that have been designated a “red risk” rating: one of these was that due to the tight timescales of the project, documentation was not available to provide assurance to internal audit that the data being transferred was reconciled at the actual time of the migration.</p>	<p>We have reviewed the control sheet which sets out each migration workbook and concludes whether the files reconciled. We have asked for the workbooks themselves so we can review the reconciliations undertaken. This will demonstrate that the data from the old system has been transferred to the new system completely and accurately. This is a key piece of evidence for the financial statements audit as it will provide assurance that the figures reported in relation to employee remuneration are from a new payroll system that has been appropriately reconciled to the old one.</p>
Understanding business processes	<p>We have completed our documentation and understanding of those areas of the Authority’s financial statements which encompass significant transactions.</p> <p>This has included consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash • Collection Fund • Payroll • Property, Plant and Equipment • Borrowings • Housing Revenue Account • Accounts Receivable and Payable • Welfare Benefits 	<p>Our work has not identified any weaknesses which impact on our audit approach.</p> <p>Note that we will conduct further walkthrough testing with regard to controls in place in respect of the valuation of the pension fund net liability, and the valuation of property plant and equipment, which we also identified to be a risk, when the actuary’s and valuer’s reports, respectively, are received during our audit.</p>
Opening balances	<p>We noted in our audit plan that following our review of the work of predecessor auditors on the balances as at 31 March 2018, we would be undertaking additional work on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm opening balances of long-term market loans, Leicester Fire Service borrowing, the bond issue and transferred debt liability to reasonable and appropriate audit evidence. • When we review the Council’s PFI models we will agree opening balances as well as closing balances and confirm the rationale for the accounting treatment. • Undertake substantive testing on the opening debtors and creditors balances. 	<p>We have completed our work on the opening balances of the various borrowings and have no issues to report.</p> <p>Our work on the Council’s PFI models will be undertaken as part of our visit in June and July.</p> <p>In relation to substantive testing on creditors balances, when asked for an analysis of the breakdown the finance team identified that a number of grants were being treated incorrectly as creditors/receipts in advance. The value of the error is in the region of £19m, and is therefore material. This is therefore being treated as a prior period error, and will be adjusted in the financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2019. This will have no impact on the general fund. This will be reported on further in our Audit Findings Report, once we have seen the proposed workings in support of the adjustment.</p>

Results of Interim Audit Work (continued)

	Work performed	Conclusions and recommendations
Early substantive testing	<p>Grants We have undertaken sample testing of transactions of grant income up to month 10 (ie up to and including January 2019). We will top up this testing during our audit in May.</p> <p>Employee Remuneration We have undertaken substantive analytical review of payroll up to month 10 (ie up to and including January 2019). We will top up this testing during our audit in May.</p> <p>PFI We have obtained the PFI models used by the Council and are comparing them with our own models to ensure the outputs are comparable.</p>	Our work to date has not identified any weaknesses which impact on our audit approach or findings which we need to bring to your attention.
Cold review of 2017-18 financial statements	We conducted a technical review of the Council's 2017-18 accounts and provided recommendations for improvement as well as queries to the Council's finance team.	The finance team has provided responses to all issues raised and we will ensure that, where applicable, the draft financial statements for 31 March 2019 reflect consideration of the points discussed.

Results of Interim Audit Work (continued)

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	Work performed	Conclusions and recommendations
<p>Value for money</p>	<p>In our audit plan we identified the following matters, which we determined were worthy of further consideration and were therefore designated as 'significant risks':</p> <p>Financial resilience</p> <p>The Authority has historically managed its finances well, achieving financial targets: the scale and pace of change for local government will affect future projections and it is important the Authority is on track to identify and produce savings required to deliver balanced budgets in the future.</p> <p>The Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy considered by Cabinet on 21 February noted that budgets for the period 2013/14 to 2015/16 contributed £42m to reserves. This has provided resilience to the Council and allowed for the phasing of savings and service redesign - known as the "managed reserves strategy". The Council has sufficiency of reserves to balance the budget in 2019/20, but clearly reserves can only be used once.</p> <p>As would be expected, our work in this area is still ongoing pending the outturn for the year ending 31 March 2019 and any subsequent impact on future years.</p> <p>OFSTED</p> <p>There was a joint local review by CQC and OFSTED of the Council and Leicester City CCG's SEND services. This review led to a letter being issued in June 2018 noting that a written statement of action was required because of significant weaknesses identified in the local area's practice.</p> <p>Subsequent to our initial risk assessment being undertaken we have obtained the statement of action submitted to OFSTED and reviewed how the Council is ensuring that these actions are undertaken and progress against the plan monitored.</p> <p>There has also been an additional OFSTED visit undertaken in January 2019, the results of which were published on 14 February. This was a focussed visit to Leicester City Council's Children Services, which involved inspectors looking at the local authority's arrangements for children in need and those subject to a child protection plan, including children receiving help and support from the disabled children's service. There was no overall "rating" assigned as part of this visit, but while it identified there was still work to do, it also included positive messages in relation to the improvement of the quality of social work practice.</p> <p>In June 2018 adults social care and children's services combined to form a new Social Care & Education Department under the operational leadership of Strategic Director Steven Forbes (who was named DCS and DASS). In relation to this topic, we note that the outcome of the Test of Assurance undertaken by the Local Government Association (which was positive) was presented to and discussed at the previous Audit Committee.</p> <p>We will continue to review how the progress following OFSTED reviews is being monitored and we will report in further detail as part of our Audit Findings Report.</p>	<p>We will continue to review key papers and hold discussions with key officers over the coming months to determine the impact, if any, on our VFM conclusion, and will report back to the Audit Committee in our Audit Findings Report in July.</p>

Sector Update

Councils are tackling a continuing drive to achieve greater efficiency in the delivery of public services, whilst facing the challenges to address rising demand, ongoing budget pressures and social inequality.

Our sector update provides you with an up to date summary of emerging national issues and developments to support you. We cover areas which may have an impact on your organisation, the wider NHS and the public sector as a whole. Links are provided to the detailed report/briefing to allow you to delve further and find out more.

Our public sector team at Grant Thornton also undertake research on service and technical issues. We will bring you the latest research publications in this update. We also include areas of potential interest to start conversations within the organisation and with Audit and Risk Committee members, as well as any accounting and regulatory updates.

- [Grant Thornton Publications](#)
- [Insights from local government sector specialists](#)
- [Reports of interest](#)
- [Accounting and regulatory updates](#)

More information can be found on our dedicated public sector and local government sections on the Grant Thornton website by clicking on the logos below:



Public Sector



Local
government

Public Sector Audit Appointments – Report on the results of auditors’ work 2017/18

This is the fourth report published by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) and summarises the results of auditors’ work at 495 principal local government and police bodies for 2017/18. This will be the final report under the statutory functions from the Audit Commission Act 1998 that were delegated to PSAA on a transitional basis.

29 The report covers the timeliness and quality of financial reporting, auditors’ local value for money work, and the extent to which auditors used their statutory reporting powers.

For 2017/18, the statutory accounts publication deadline came forward by two months to 31 July 2018. This was challenging for bodies and auditors and it is encouraging that 431 (87 per cent) audited bodies received an audit opinion by the new deadline.

The most common reasons for delays in issuing the opinion on the 2017/18 accounts were:

- technical accounting/audit issues;
- various errors identified during the audit;
- insufficient availability of staff at the audited body to support the audit;
- problems with the quality of supporting working papers; and
- draft accounts submitted late for audit.

All the opinions issued to date in relation to bodies’ financial statements are unqualified, as was the case for the 2016/17 accounts. Auditors have made statutory recommendations to three bodies, compared to two such cases in respect of 2016/17, and issued an advisory notice to one body.

The number of qualified conclusions on value for money arrangements looks set to remain relatively constant. It currently stands at 7 per cent (32 councils, 1 fire and rescue authority, 1 police body and 2 other local government bodies) compared to 8 per cent for 2016/17, with a further 30 conclusions for 2017/18 still to be issued.

The most common reasons for auditors issuing qualified VFM conclusions for 2017/18 were:

- the impact of issues identified in the reports of statutory inspectorates, for example Ofsted;
- corporate governance issues;
- financial sustainability concerns; and
- procurement/contract management issues.

All the opinions issued to date in relation to bodies’ financial statements are unqualified, as was the case for the 2016/17 accounts.

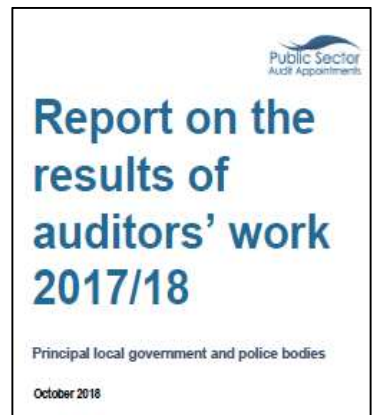
The report is available on the PSAA website:

<https://www.psa.co.uk/audit-quality/reports-on-the-results-of-auditors-work/>

PSAA Report

Challenge question:

Has your Authority identified improvements to be made to the 2018/19 financial statements audit and Value for Money Conclusion?



National Audit Office – Local auditor reporting in England 2018

The report describes the roles and responsibilities of local auditors and relevant national bodies in relation to the local audit framework and summarises the main findings reported by local auditors in 2017-18. It also considers how the quantity and nature of the issues reported have changed since the Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG) took up his new responsibilities in 2015, and highlights differences between the local government and NHS sectors.

Given increasing financial and demand pressures on local bodies, they need strong arrangements to manage finances and secure value for money. External auditors have a key role in determining whether these arrangements are strong enough. The fact that only three of the bodies (5%) the NAO contacted in connection with this study were able to confirm that they had fully implemented their plans to address the weaknesses reported suggests that while auditors are increasingly raising red flags, some of these are met with inadequate or complacent responses.

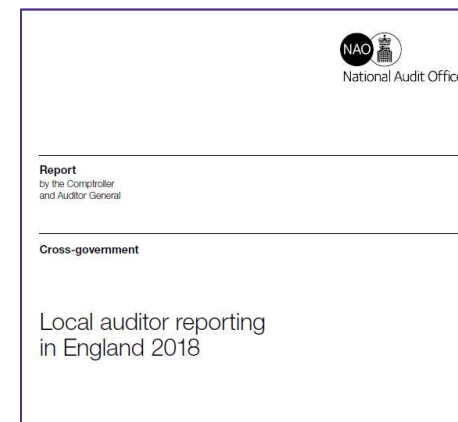
Qualified conclusions on arrangements to secure value for money locally are both unacceptably high and increasing. Auditors qualified their conclusions on arrangements to secure value for money at an increasing number of local public bodies: up from 170 (18%) in 2015-16 to 208 (22%) in 2017-18. As at 17 December 2018, auditors have yet to issue 20 conclusions on arrangements to secure value for money, so this number may increase further for 2017-18.

The proportion of local public bodies whose plans for keeping spending within budget are not fit-for-purpose, or who have significant weaknesses in their governance, is too high. This is a risk to public money and undermines confidence in how well local services are managed. Local bodies need to demonstrate to the wider public that they are managing their organisations effectively, and take local auditor reports seriously. Those charged with governance need to hold their executives to account for taking prompt and effective action. Local public bodies need to do more to strengthen their arrangements and improve their performance.

Local auditors need to exercise the full range of their additional reporting powers, where this is the most effective way of highlighting concerns, especially where they consider that local bodies are not taking sufficient action. Departments need to continue monitoring the level and nature of non-standard reporting, and formalise their processes where informal arrangements are in place. The current situation is serious, with trend lines pointing downwards.

The report is available on the NAO website:

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/local-auditor-reporting-in-england-2018/>



NAO Report

Challenge question:

Has your Authority responded appropriately to any concerns or issues raised in the External Auditor's report for 2017/18?



National Audit Office – Local authority governance

The report examines whether local governance arrangements provide local taxpayers and Parliament with assurance that local authority spending achieves value for money and that authorities are financially sustainable.

Local government has faced considerable funding and demand challenges since 2010-11. This raises questions as to whether the local government governance system remains effective. As demonstrated by Northamptonshire County Council, poor governance can make the difference between coping and not coping with financial and service pressures. The Department (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) places great weight on local arrangements in relation to value for money and financial sustainability, with limited engagement expected from government. For this to be effective, the Department needs to know that the governance arrangements that support local decision-making function as intended. In order to mitigate the growing risks to value for money in the sector the Department needs to improve its system-wide oversight, be more transparent in its engagement with the sector, and adopt a stronger leadership role across the governance network

Not only are the risks from poor governance greater in the current context as the stakes are higher, but the process of governance itself is more challenging and complex. Governance arrangements have to be effective in a riskier, more time-pressured and less well-resourced context. For instance, authorities need to:

- maintain tight budgetary control and scrutiny to ensure overall financial sustainability at a time when potentially contentious savings decisions have to be taken and resources for corporate support are more limited; and
- ensure that they have robust risk management arrangements in place when making commercial investments to generate new income, and that oversight and accountability is clear when entering into shared service or outsourced arrangements in order to deliver savings.

Risk profiles have increased in many local authorities as they have reduced spending and sought to generate new income in response to funding and demand pressures. Local authorities have seen a real-terms reduction in spending power (government grant and council tax) of 28.6% between 2010-11 and 2017-18. Demand in key service areas has also increased, including a 15.1% increase in the number of looked after children from 2010-11 to 2017-18. These pressures create risks to authorities' core objectives of remaining financially sustainable and meeting statutory service obligations. Furthermore, to mitigate these fundamental risks, many authorities have pursued strategies such as large-scale transformations or commercial investments that in themselves carry a risk of failure or under-performance.

The report is available on the NAO website:

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/local-authority-governance-2/>

NAO Report

Challenge question:

Has your Authority got appropriate governance and risk management arrangements in place to address the risks and challenges identified in the NAO report?



CIPFA – Financial Resilience Index plans revised

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has refined its plans for a financial resilience index for councils and is poised to rate bodies on a “suite of indicators” following a consultation with the sector.

CIPFA has designed the index to provide reassurance to councils who are financially stable and prompt challenge where it may be needed. To understand the sector’s views, CIPFA invited all interested parties to respond to questions it put forward in the consultation by the 24 August.

CIPFA has also responded to concerns about the initial choice of indicators, updating the selection and will offer authorities an advanced viewing of results.

Plans for a financial resilience index were put forward by CIPFA in the summer. It is being designed to offer the sector some external guidance on their financial position.

CIPFA hailed the “unprecedented level of interest” in the consultation.

Responses were received from 189 parties, including individual local authorities, umbrella groups and auditors. Some respondents called for a more “forward-looking” assessment and raised fears over the possibility of “naming and shaming” councils.

CIPFA chief executive Rob Whiteman said with local government facing “unprecedented financial challenges” and weaknesses in public audit systems, the institute was stepping in to provide a leadership role in the public interest.

“Following the feedback we have received, we have modified and strengthened the tool so it will be even more helpful for local authorities with deteriorating financial positions,” he said.

“The tool will sit alongside CIPFA’s planned Financial Management Code, which aims to support good practice in the planning and execution of sustainable finances.”

CIPFA is now planning to introduce a “reserves depletion time” category as one of the indicators. This shows the length of time a council’s reserves will last if they deplete their reserves at the same rate as over the past three years.

The consultation response document said this new category showed that “generally most councils have either not depleted their reserves or their depletion has been low”.

“The tool will not now provide, as originally envisaged, a composite weighted index but within the suite of indicators it will include a red, amber, green (RAG) alert of specific proximity to insufficient reserve given recent trajectories,” it said.

It also highlighted the broad support from the sector for the creation of the index. “There was little dissent over the fact that CIPFA is doing the right thing in drawing attention to a matter of high national concern,” it said.

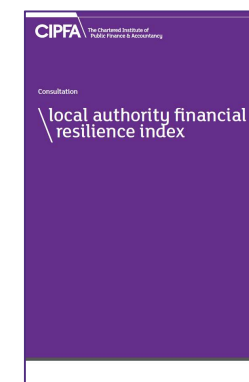
“Most respondents agreed to the need for transparency – but a sizable number had concerns over the possibly negative impacts of adverse indicators and many councils wanted to see their results prior to publication.”

As such, CIPFA plans to provide resilience measurements first to the local authorities and their auditors via the section 151 officer rather than publishing openly.

CIPFA Consultation

Challenge question:

Has your Director of Finance briefed members on the Council’s response to the Financial Resilience Index consultation?



ICAEW Report: expectations gap

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) has published a paper on the 'expectation gap' in the external audit of public bodies.

Context:

The expectation gap is the difference between what an auditor actually does, and what stakeholders and commentators think the auditors obligations might be and what they might do. Greater debate being whether greater education and communication between auditors and stakeholders should occur rather than substantial changes in role and remit of audit.

What's the problem?

Short-term solvency vs. Longer-term value:

- LG & NHS: Facing financial pressures, oversight & governance pressures
- **Limited usefulness of auditors reports:** 'The VFM conclusion is helpful, but it is more about the system/arrangements in place rather than the actual effectiveness of value for money'
- **Other powers and duties:** implementing public interest reports in addition to VFM
- **Restricted role of questions and objections:** Misunderstanding over any objections/and or question should be resolved by the local public auditor. Lack of understanding that auditors have discretion in the use of their powers.
- **Audit qualification not always acted on by those charged with governance:** 'if independent public audit is to have the impact that it needs, it has to be taken seriously by those charged with governance'
- **Audit and Risk Committees not consistently effective:** Local government struggles to recruit external members for their Audit and Risk Committees, they do not always have the required competencies and independence.
- **Decreased audit fees:** firms choose not to participate because considered that the margins were too tight to enable them to carry out a sufficient amount of work within the fee scales.
- **Impact of audit independence rules:** new independence rules don't allow for external auditors to take on additional work that could compromise their external audit role
- **Other stakeholders expectations not aligned with audit standards**

- **Increased auditor liability:** an auditor considering reporting outside of the main audit engagement would need to bill their client separately and expect the client to pay.

Future financial viability of local public bodies

Local public bodies are being asked to deliver more with less and be more innovative and commercial. CFOs are, of course, nervous at taking risks in the current environment and therefore would like more involvement by their auditors. They want auditors to challenge their forward-looking plans and assumptions and comment on the financial resilience of the organisation..

The ICAEW puts forward two solutions:

Solution a) If CFO's want additional advisory work, rather than just the audit, they can separately hire consultants (either accountancy firms not providing the statutory audit or other business advisory organisations with the required competencies) to work alongside them in their financial resilience work and challenging budget assumptions.

Solution b) Wider profession (IFAC, IAASB, accountancy bodies) should consider whether audit, in its current form, is sustainable and fit for purpose. Stakeholders want greater assurance, through greater depth of testing, analysis and more detailed reporting of financial matters. It is perhaps, time to look at the wider scope of audit. For example, could there be more value in auditors providing assurance reports on key risk indicators which have a greater future-looking focus, albeit focused on historic data?

More information can be found in the link below (click on the cover page)



The expectations gap

Challenge question:

How effectively is the audit meeting client expectations?



Brexit Room - Increasing readiness and resilience within your locality

34

Local authorities have always navigated uncertainty and faced challenges on behalf of communities and this role has never been more important than now. Whilst the outcome of Brexit remains uncertain at a national level, it is essential for councils to set a path to ensure the continued delivery of vital services and the best possible outcomes for their local communities and economies. Whatever happens over the coming weeks and months, it is important that councils identify key Brexit scenarios and use these to frame robust local contingency plans.

From our conversations with the sector we know that local authorities are at different stages in their preparation for this big change.

Here's a brief summary of the issues that we are seeing:

Organisations

- Engaging non-EEA nationals within the workforce to ensure they understand their residency rights and are not receiving incorrect information from other sources
- Loss of access to key EU databases on policing and trading standards and changes to data sharing arrangements
- Uncertainty around continuation of EU funding beyond 2020 and the implementation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Services and suppliers

- Engaging with key suppliers to assess their risk profiles and resilience
- Dealing with the immediate strain on key services such as social care and trading standards
- Potential disruption to live procurement activities and uncertainty around the national procurement rulebook post OJEU.

Place

- Considering scenarios for economic shock, the associated social impact in the short, medium and long-term and the potential impact on local authority financial resilience
- Potential impacts on major local employers, key infrastructure investment programmes and transport improvements
- Civil contingencies and providing reassurance and support to residents and businesses.

Our approach

The Brexit Room is a flexible and interactive half-day workshop designed to sharpen your thinking on the impact Brexit could have on:

Your organisation – including considerations on workforce, funding, and changes to legislation

Your services and suppliers – ensuring that critical services are protected and building resilience within supply chains

Your place – using our proprietary Place Analytics tools we will help you to understand potential impacts on your local communities and economy and develop a place-based response, working with partners where appropriate.

We can work with you to identify key risks and opportunities in each of these areas whilst building consensus on the priority actions to be taken forward. You will receive a concise and focused write-up of the discussion and action plan to help shape the next stages of your work on Brexit.

For more information, follow the link below:

<https://www.grantthornton.co.uk/insights/brexit-local-leadership-on-the-front-line/>

Brexit

Challenge question:

How well advanced are your authority's plans for Brexit?



Institute of Fiscal Studies: Impact of ‘Fair Funding Review’

The IFS has published a paper that focuses on the issues arising in assessing the spending needs of different councils. The government’s ‘Fair Funding Review’ is aimed at designing a new system for allocating funding between councils. It will update and improve methods for estimating councils’ differing abilities to raise revenues and their differing spending needs. The government is looking for the new system to be simple and transparent, but at the same time robust and evidence based.

35

Accounting for councils’ spending needs

The IFS note that the Review is seeking a less subjective and more transparent approach which is focused on the relationship between spending and needs indicators. However, like any funding system, there will be limitations, for example, any attempt to assess needs will be affected by the MHCLG’s funding policies adopted in the year of data used to estimate the spending needs formula. A key consideration will be the inherently subjective nature of ‘spending needs’ and ‘needs indicators’, and how this will be dealt with under any new funding approach. Whilst no assessment of spending needs can be truly objective, the IFS state it can and should be evidence based.

The IFS also note that transparency will be critical, particularly in relation to the impact that different choices will have for different councils, such as the year of data used and the needs indicators selected. These differentiating factors and their consequences will need to be understood and debated.

Accounting for councils’ revenues

The biggest source of locally-raised revenue for councils is and will continue to be council tax. However, there is significant variation between councils in the amount of council tax raised per person. The IFS identify that a key decision for the Fair Funding Review is the extent to which tax bases or actual revenues should be used for determining funding levels going forward.

Councils also raise significant sums of money from levying fees and charges, although this varies dramatically across the country. The IFS note that it is difficult to take account of these differences in a new funding system as there is no well-defined measure of revenue raising capacity from sales, fees and charges, unlike council tax where the tax base can be used.

The overall system: redistribution, incentives and transparency

The IFS also identify that an important policy decision for the new system is the extent to which it prioritises redistribution between councils, compared to financial incentives for councils to improve their own socio-economic lot. A system that fully and immediately equalises for differences in assessed spending needs and revenue-raising capacity will help ensure different councils can provide similar standards of public services. However, it would provide little financial incentive for councils to tackle the drivers of spending needs and boost local economics and tax bases.

Further detail on the impact of the fair funding review can be found in the full report <https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/publications/comms/R148.pdf>.



National Audit Office – The health and social care interface

The NAO has published its latest ‘think piece on the barriers that prevent health and social care services working together effectively, examples of joint working in a ‘whole system’ sense and the move towards services centred on the needs of the individual. The report aims to inform the ongoing debate about the future of health and social care in England. It anticipates the upcoming green paper on the future funding of adult social care, and the planned 2019 Spending Review, which will set out the funding needs of both local government and the NHS.

36

The report discusses 16 challenges to improved joint working. It also highlights some of the work being carried out nationally and locally to overcome these challenges and the progress that has been made. The NAO draw out the risks presented by inherent differences between the health and social care systems and how national and local bodies are managing these.

Financial challenges – include financial pressures, future funding uncertainties, focus on short-term funding issues in the acute sector, the accountability of individual organisations to balance the books, and differing eligibility criteria for access to health and social care services.

Culture and structure – include organisational boundaries impacting on service management and regulation, poor understanding between the NHS and local government of their respective decision-making frameworks, complex governance arrangements hindering decision-making, problems with local leadership holding back improvements or de-stabilising joint working, a lack of co-terminus geographic areas over which health and local government services are planned and delivered, problems with sharing data across health and social care, and difficulties developing person-centred care.

Strategic issues – include differences in national influence and status contributing to social care not being as well represented as the NHS, strategic misalignment of organisations across local systems inhibiting joint local planning, and central government’s unrealistic expectations of the pace at which the required change in working practices can progress..

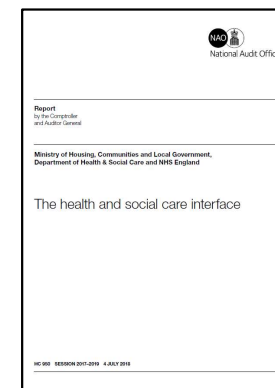
This ‘think piece’ draws on the NAO’s past work and draws on recent research and reviews by other organisations, most notably the Care Quality Commission’s review of health and social care systems in 20 local authority areas, which it carried out between August 2017 and May 2018. The NAO note that there is a lot of good work being done nationally and locally to overcome the barriers to joint working, but often this is not happening at the scale and pace needed.

The report is available to download from the NAO’s website at:
<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/the-health-and-social-care-interface/>

The health and social care interface

Challenge question:

Has the Audit and Risk Committee considered the 16 challenges to joint working and what can be done to mitigate these?



A Caring Society – bringing together innovative thinking, people and practice

The Adult Social Care sector is at a crossroads. We have yet to find a sustainable system of care that is truly fit for purpose and for people. Our Caring Society programme takes a step back and creates a space to think, explore new ideas and draw on the most powerful and fresh influences we can find, as well as accelerate the innovative social care work already taking place.

37 We are bringing together a community of influencers, academics, investors, private care providers, charities and social housing providers and individuals who are committed to shaping the future of adult social care.

At the heart of the community are adult social care directors and this programme aims to provide them with space to think about, and design, a care system that meets the needs of the 21st Century, taking into account ethics, technology, governance and funding.

We are doing this by:

- hosting a 'scoping sprint' to determine the specific themes we should focus on
- running three sprints focused on the themes affecting the future of care provision
- publishing a series of articles drawing on opinion, innovative best practices and research to stimulate fresh thinking.

Our aim is to reach a consensus, that transcends party politics, about what future care should be for the good of society and for the individual. This will be presented to directors of adult social care in Spring 2019, to decide how to take forward the resulting recommendations and policy changes.

Scoping Sprint (Oct 2018)

Following opening remarks by Hilary Cottam (social entrepreneur and author of Radical Help) and Cllr Georgia Gould (Leader of Camden Council) the subsequent debate identified three themes for Grant Thornton to take forward:

1. Ethics and philosophy: What is meant by care? Should the state love?

2. Care in a place: Where should the power lie? How are local power relationships different in a local place?
3. Promoting and upscaling effective programmes and innovation

Sprint 1 – What do we really mean by 'Care'? (Dec 2018)

Julia Unwin, Chair of the Civil Societies Futures Project, and Sam Newman of Partners4Change sparked debate on why we need society to be brave enough to talk about care and the different levels at which 'care' can be applied to create a Caring Society.

Sprint 2 – A new role for the state? (7 Feb 2019)

Donna Hall, CEO of Wigan Council and Andrew of Reform, will start the debate on how can the state – nationally and locally – develop and adapt itself to be in service to a caring society.

To find out more or get involved:

- Join the conversation at #acaringssociety
- [Why we need to create a caring society](#)
- [Creating a caring society – the start of the debate](#) – the key themes from our first round table
- [Social care must take the starring role in its own story](#) – why the definition of social care is so important if the system is to change
- [Markets, trust & governance](#) – how social care can evolve to become a driver of local care economies
- [The future care leader](#) – Fiona Connolly, director of adult social care at Lambeth, discusses the importance of local care leaders working across the entire health system

Challenge question:

How is your authority engaging in the debate about the future of social care?



Care Homes for the Elderly – Where are we now?

It is a pivotal moment for the UK care homes market. In the next few months the government is to reveal the contents of its much-vaunted plans for the long-term funding of care for older people.

Our latest Grant Thornton report draws together the most recent and relevant research, including our own sizeable market knowledge and expertise, to determine where the sector is now and understand where it is heading in the future. We have spoken to investors, providers and market consultants to showcase the diversity and innovation that care homes can offer.

38 Flourishing communities are not a 'nice to have' but an essential part of our purpose of shaping a vibrant economy. Growth simply cannot happen sustainably if business is disconnected from society. That is why social care needs a positive growth framing. Far from being a burden, the sector employs more people than the NHS, is a crucible for technological innovation, and is a vital connector in community life. We need to think about social care as an asset and invest and nurture it accordingly.

There are opportunities to further invest to create innovative solutions that deliver improved tailored care packages to meet the needs of our ageing population.

The report considers a number of aspects in the social care agenda

- market structure, sustainability, quality and evolution
- future funding changes and the political agenda
- the investment, capital and financing landscape
- new funds and methods of finance
- future outlook.

The decline in the number of public-sector focused care home beds is a trend that looks set to continue in the medium-term. However, it cannot continue indefinitely as Grant Thornton's research points to a significant rise in demand for elderly care beds over the coming decade and beyond.

A strategic approach will also be needed to recruit and retain the large number of workers needed to care for the ageing population in the future. Efforts have already begun through education programmes such as Skills for Care's 'Care Ambassadors' to promote social care as an attractive profession. But with the number of nurses falling across the NHS as well, the Government will need to address the current crisis.

But the most important conversation that needs to be had is with the public around what kind of care services they would like to have and, crucially, how much they would be prepared to pay for them. Most solutions for sustainable funding for social care point towards increased taxation, which will generate significant political and public debate. With Brexit dominating the political agenda, and the government holding a precarious position in Parliament, shorter-term funding interventions by government over the medium-term look more likely than a root-and-branch reform of the current system. The sector, however, needs to know what choices politicians, and society as a whole, are prepared to make in order to plan for the future.

Copies of our report can be requested on our website



Grant Thornton

Challenge question:

How effective is the Council's engagement with the social care sector?



In good company: Latest trends in local authority trading companies

Our recent report looks at trends in LATC's (Local Government Authority Trading Companies). These deliver a wide range of services across the country and range from wholly owned companies to joint ventures, all within the public and private sector.

Outsourcing versus local authority trading companies

The rise of trading companies is, in part, due to the decline in popularity of outsourcing. The majority of outsourced contracts operate successfully, and continue to deliver significant savings. But recent high profile failures, problems with inflexible contracts and poor contract management mean that outsourcing has fallen out of favour. The days of large scale outsourcing of council services has gone.

Advantages of local authority trading companies

- Authorities can keep direct control over their providers
- Opportunities for any profits to be returned to the council
- Provides suitable opportunity to change the local authority terms and conditions, particularly with regard to pensions, can also bring significant reductions in the cost base of the service
- Having a separate company allows the authority to move away from the constraints of the councils decision making processes, becoming more agile and responsive to changes in demand or funding
- Wider powers to trade through the Localism act provide the company with the opportunity to win contracts elsewhere

Choosing the right company model

The most common company models adopted by councils are:

Wholly
owned

Joint
Ventures

Social
Enterprise

Wholly owned companies are common because they allow local authorities to retain the risk and reward. And governance is less complicated. Direct labour organisations such as Cormac and Oxford Direct Services have both transferred out in this way.

JVs have become increasingly popular as a means of leveraging growth. Pioneered by Norse, Corserv and Vertas organisations are developing the model. Alternatively, if there is a social motive rather than a profit one, the social enterprise model is the best option, as it can enable access to grant funding to drive growth.

Getting it right through effective governance

While there are pitfalls in establishing these companies, those that have got it right are: seizing the advantages of a more commercial mind-set, generating revenue, driving efficiencies and improving the quality of services. By developing effective governance they can be more flexible and grow business without micromanagement from the council.

LATC's need to adapt for the future

- LATC's must adapt to developments in the external environment
 - These include possible changes to the public procurement rules after Brexit and new local authority structures. Also responding to an increasingly crowded and competitive market where there could be more mergers and insolvencies.
- Authorities need to be open to different ways of doing things, driving further developments of new trading companies. Relieving pressures on councils to find the most efficient ways of doing more with less in today's austere climate.

Overall, joint ventures can be a viable alternative delivery model for local authorities. Our research indicates that the numbers of joint ventures will continue to rise, and in particular we expect to see others follow examples of successful public-public partnerships.



[Download the report here](#)

Links

Grant Thornton website links

<https://www.grantthornton.co.uk/>

<http://www.grantthornton.co.uk/industries/publicsector>

<https://www.grantthornton.co.uk/en/insights/a-caring-society/>

<https://www.grantthornton.co.uk/en/insights/care-homes-where-are-we-now/>

<https://www.grantthornton.co.uk/en/insights/the-rise-of-local-authority-trading-companies/>

National Audit Office link

40 <https://www.nao.org.uk/report/the-health-and-social-care-interface/>

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/local-auditor-reporting-in-england-2018/>

<https://www.nao.org.uk/report/local-authority-governance-2/>

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government links

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/social-housing-green-paper-a-new-deal-for-social-housing>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/728722/BRR_Pilots_19-20_Prospectus.pdf

Institute for Fiscal Studies

<https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/publications/comms/R148.pdf>

Public Sector Audit Appointments

<https://www.psa.co.uk/audit-quality/reports-on-the-results-of-auditors-work/>

Local Government audits 2018/19 and beyond

Grant Thornton's External Audit commitment

Audit 2018/19

Our team



Grant Patterson, Engagement Lead

As your engagement lead, Grant will have the ultimate responsibility for the delivery of your audit service. He will lead our relationship with the Council and take overall responsibility for delivering high quality audits, which meet the highest professional standards while adding value.

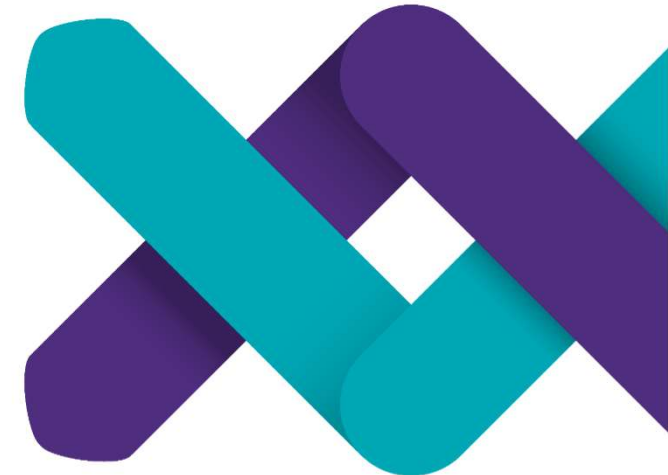


Nicola Coombe, Audit Manager

As the engagement manager, Nic is responsible for overseeing the delivery of our service and managing the audit process.

"I have always been extremely pleased with the work done by colleagues from Grant Thornton, there is continuity of staff delivering the team who presented the bid. This continuity remains through the cycle of work that takes place during the year; allowing the team to continue to understand the corporate objectives whilst allowing us to ensure we comply with the required standards. The team are very friendly and approachable with an accommodating style".

Director of Finance, local audited body



Our commitment to our local government clients

- Senior level investment
- Local presence enhancing our responsiveness, agility and flexibility.
- High quality audit delivery
- Collaborative working across the public sector
- Wider connections across the public sector economy, including with health and other local government bodies
- Investment in Health and Wellbeing, Social Value and the Vibrant Economy
- Sharing of best practice and our thought leadership.
- Invitations to training events locally and regionally – bespoke training for emerging issues
- Further investment in data analytics and informatics to keep our knowledge of the areas up to date and to assist in designing a fully tailored audit approach

42

"I have found Grant Thornton to be very impressive.....they bring a real understanding of the area. Their insights and support are excellent. They are responsive, pragmatic and, through their relationship and the quality of their work, support us in moving forward through increasingly challenging times. I wouldn't hesitate to work with them."

Director of Finance, County Council



Our relationship with our clients – why are we best placed?

- We work closely with our clients to ensure that we understand their financial challenges, performance and future strategy.
- We deliver robust, pragmatic and timely financial statements and Value for Money audits
- We have an open, two way dialogue with clients that support improvements in arrangements and the audit process
- Feedback meetings tell us that our clients are pleased with the service we deliver. We are not complacent and will continue to improve further
- Our locally based, experienced teams have a commitment to both our clients and the wider public sector
- We are a Firm that specialises in Local Government, Health and Social Care, and Cross Sector working, with over 25 Key Audit Partners, the most public sector specialist Engagement Leads of any firm
- We have strong relationships with CIPFA, SOLACE, the Society of Treasurers, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Care and others.
- We propose a realistic fee, based on known local circumstances and requirements.

New opportunities and challenges for your community

The Local Government economy

Local authorities face unprecedented challenges including:

- Financial Sustainability – addressing funding gaps and balancing needs against resources
- Service Sustainability – Adult Social Care funding gaps and pressure on Education, Housing, Transport
- Transformation – new models of delivery, greater emphasis on partnerships, more focus on economic development
- Technology – cyber security and risk management

At a wider level, the political environment remains complex:

- The government continues its negotiation with the EU over Brexit, and future arrangements remain uncertain.
- We will consider your arrangements for managing and reporting your financial resources as part of our work in reaching our Value for Money conclusion.
- We will keep you informed of changes to the financial reporting requirements for 2018/19 through on-going discussions and invitations to our technical update workshops.

Delivering real value through:

- Early advice on technical accounting issues, providing certainty of accounting treatments, future financial planning implications and resulting in draft statements that are 'right first time'
- Knowledge and expertise in all matters local government, including local objections and challenge, where we have an unrivalled depth of expertise.
- Early engagement on issues, especially on ADMs, housing delivery changes, Children services and Adult Social Care restructuring, partnership working with the NHS, inter authority agreements, governance and financial reporting
- Implementation of our recommendations have resulted in demonstrable improvements in your underlying arrangements, for example accounting for unique assets, financial management, reporting and governance, and tax implications for the Cornwall Council companies
- Robust but pragmatic challenge – seeking early liaison on issues, and having the difficult conversations early to ensure a 'no surprises' approach – always doing the right thing
- Providing regional training and networking opportunities for your teams on technical accounting issues and developments and changes to Annual Reporting requirements
- An efficient audit approach, providing tangible benefits, such as releasing finance staff earlier and prompt resolution of issues.

Grant Thornton in Local Government

Our client base and delivery

- We are the largest supplier of external audit services to local government
- We audit over 150 local government clients
- We signed 95% of our local government opinions in 2017/18 by 31 July
- In our latest independent client service review, we consistently score 9/10 or above. Clients value our strong interaction, our local knowledge and wealth of expertise.



Our connections

- We are well connected to MHCLG, the NAO and key local government networks
- We work with CIPFA, Think Tanks and legal firms to develop workshops and good practice
- We have a strong presence across all parts of local government including blue light services
- We provide thought leadership, seminars and training to support our clients and to provide solutions



Our people

- We have over 25 engagement leads accredited by ICAEW, and over 250 public sector specialists
- We provide technical and personal development training
- We employ over 80 Public Sector trainee accountants



Our quality

- Our audit approach complies with the NAO's Code of Audit Practice, and International Standards on Auditing
- We are fully compliant with ethical standards
- Your audit team has passed all quality inspections including QAD and AQRT



Our technical support

- We have specialist leads for Public Sector Audit quality and technical
- We provide national technical guidance on emerging auditing, financial reporting and ethical areas
- Specialist audit software is used to deliver maximum efficiencies





Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

Audit & Risk Committee

25th June 2019

Annual Approval of the Policy for Engagement of the External Auditor for Non-Audit Work

Report of the Director of Finance

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To seek the Audit and Risk Committee's approval of the *Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work*.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is recommended to approve the attached *Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work*.

3. Summary

- 3.1. At its meeting, on 28 June 2017, the Audit and Risk Committee approved the *Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work*.
- 3.2. The Audit and Risk Committee's Terms of Reference (and this policy itself) require this policy to be reviewed and approved annually.

4. Report

- 4.1 The policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-Audit Work is attached at **Appendix 1**. The purpose of this is to protect the:
 - Council's interests by ensuring that any such work is properly arranged and approved
 - External Auditor's independence and objectivity.
- 4.2 This policy does not replace the Council's existing Procurement processes but adds an extra layer of security into that process where the external auditors are concerned. The Policy outlines the approval processes and corporate reporting mechanisms that will be put in place for any non-audit work that the external auditor is asked to perform.

- 4.3 The role of the Committee in the approval process for non-audit work by the external auditor is included in the Terms of Reference for the Committee. These are also reviewed and approved annually.
- 4.4 The policy has been reviewed, the only element that has been changed is at paragraph 3.1 statutory and audit related work. This paragraph has been amended to clarify when approval will be required for additional work in this area.
- 4.5 During 2018/19 the only work Grant Thornton undertook was in relation to the certifying of housing capital receipts return for 2017/18. In 2019/20 Grant Thornton will complete the work for certifying the pooling of housing capital receipts return, the Housing Benefit Grant Claim and Teacher’s Pensions Audit all in relation to 2018/19. This will be for an additional fee.

FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial Implications

There are no significant financial implications arising directly from this report – Amy Oliver, Chief Accountant

4.2. Legal Implications

The external auditor’s responsibilities and powers are set out in the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the National Audit Office’s Code of Audit Practice. The Council’s requirements for preparing and publishing its financial statements and annual governance statement, which are subject to external audit, are set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. - Emma Jackman, Head of Law (Commercial, Property & Planning), ext .37 1426

5. Other Implications

Other Implications	Yes/No	Paragraph or references within the report
Equal Opportunities	No	
Climate Change	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	
Corporate Parenting	No	
Health Inequalities Impact	No	

Other Implications	Yes/No	Paragraph or references within the report
Risk Management	Yes	The report concerns the Council's governance and assurance processes, a purpose of which is to give assurance that risks are being managed appropriately by the business.

6. Report Author

Amy Oliver, Chief Accountant Ext 54 5667

Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-audit Work

1. Introduction and purpose of this policy

It is important that the independence of our external auditor in reporting to those charged with governance and to management of Leicester City Council (the Council), does not appear to be compromised, but equally the Council should not be deprived of expertise where it is needed and can be leveraged from the auditor as a whole.

This policy therefore seeks to set out what threats to audit independence theoretically exist and thus provides a definition of non-audit work which can be shared by the Council and the auditor. It then seeks to establish the approval processes and corporate reporting mechanisms that will be put in place for any non-audit work that the auditor is asked to perform.

2. Threats to independence

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales sets out threats to independence as:

Self interest	Where an interest in the outcome of their work or in a depth of relationship with the Council may conflict with the auditors' objectivity
Self-Audit	Where the auditors may be checking their own colleagues' work and might feel constrained from identifying risks and shortcomings
Advocacy	May be present in an engagement but could become a threat if an auditor becomes an advocate for an extreme position in an adversarial matter
Familiarity	Where the level of constructive challenge provided by the auditor is diminished as a result of assumed knowledge or relationships that exist

3. Defining types of non-audit work and the associated approval process

In order to provide the Council with a transparent mechanism by which non-audit work can be reviewed and progressed without too great an administrative burden falling on the Council, the following three categories of work have been agreed as applying to the professional services available from the auditor:

Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-audit Work

3.1. Statutory and non-audit related work not requiring Audit and Risk Committee approval

Certain projects are clearly audit related and the external auditor is best placed to do the work, e.g. for grant certification work. This includes the Housing Benefits Grant Claim, Housing Capital Receipts Return and Teacher's Pension. Therefore, no separate approval will be required for these three items of work.

Any other such assignments not detailed above will not require Audit and Risk Committee approval, unless the individual fees exceed £20,000.

3.2 Audit related and advisory services requiring prior Audit and Risk committee approval

There are projects and engagements where the auditors are best placed to perform the work:

- Due to their network within and knowledge of the business (e.g. taxation advice, due diligence and accounting advice);
- Due to their previous experience or market leadership.

It is proposed that prior Audit and Risk Committee approval is sought for projects of this nature, with no de-minimus.

3.3 Projects that are not permitted

Some projects are not to be performed by the external auditors. These projects represent a real threat to the independence of the audit team, such as where the external auditors would be in a position of auditing their own work (for example, systems implementation).

More detail on each type of work is set out in Appendix A.

The Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for approving any instances of non-audit work by the external auditors in accordance with this policy and to report any such instances to the Council.

For the avoidance of doubt, seeking approval from the Audit and Risk Committee involves the business sponsor of the proposed work obtaining a proposed scope and fee estimate from the auditor before the work commences. If the fee exceeds the proposed limits or falls into a category of work that requires approval, details of the scope and fee proposal should be submitted to the Director of Finance and then to the

Policy for Engagement of External Auditors for Non-audit Work

Audit and Risk Committee Chair. If approved, the project should be logged by Democratic Services to be noted at the next Audit and Risk Committee meeting in order that a schedule of non-audit fees can be maintained and Council updated.

In cases where it is undecided which category services fall into, they will default to the category that requires Audit and Risk Committee approval and be expected to take that route, until such as time as this policy is reviewed and updated by the Audit and Risk Committee.

4. Reviewing and updating this policy

The auditor will include within our annual ISA 260 report (report to those charged with governance), an appendix that summarises any additional work performed for the Council and a review of the effectiveness of this policy.

The Audit and Risk Committee will formally agree on an annual basis that it is content with the structure, content and operation of this policy.

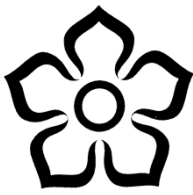
Examples of Work Types

The table below sets out examples of the different work types that could be requested from the external auditor. As it would not be practical to consider all the services, the table below documents the characteristics that drive the classification of services into the different work steams. This table is intended to provide illustrative examples of how the implementation of this policy would be approached should the Council request assistance from the auditor.

	Statutory and audit related (Not requiring Audit and Risk Committee approval, unless fee is in excess of £20,000)	Audit and assurance related and non-audit advisory services (Sensitive projects requiring referral without de minimis)	Projects that are not permitted
Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on areas core to the financial statements audit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requiring independent objective assessment of information or procedures Staff secondments Other advisory services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in management
Acquisitions / Disposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accountants' reports Reporting on financial assistance Audit of carve out financial statements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due diligence and related advice Completion accounts audit Agreement of price adjustment as a result of completion accounts Advice on integration activities Preparation of forecast of investment proposals 	
Internal Audit and Risk Management Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of specialist skills / training Advice on methodology and systems Co-sourcing Advice and design of policies, systems or procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full outsourcing Systems implementation
Taxation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of draft returns Submission of returns and correspondence with tax authorities Advice on tax matters Transfer pricing Valuation for the purposes of taxation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of accounting entries for tax Handling taxation payments

Examples of Work Types

	Statutory and audit related (Not requiring Audit and Risk Committee approval, unless fee is in excess of £20,000)	Audit and assurance related and non-audit advisory services (Sensitive projects requiring referral without de minimis)	Projects that are not permitted
General Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on accounts preparation and application of accounting standards • Training for accounting and risk management projects • Booking keeping services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of accounting entries • Preparation of financial information



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All

Appendix F

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETING

Audit and Risk Committee

25th June 2019

Draft Annual Governance Statement 2018 - 2019

Report of the Director of Finance

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To provide an opportunity for the committee to comment on the Council's Draft Annual Governance Statement 2018 – 2019, before it is brought back to July's committee for formal approval.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. The committee is asked to consider the Draft Annual Governance Statement 2018 – 2019 and recommend any changes it sees fit.

3. SUMMARY

- 3.1. The Council is required to publish, as part of its financial accounts reporting, an Annual Governance Statement. This statement should assure the people of Leicester that the Council operates in accordance with the law and has due regard to proper standards of behaviour and that it safeguards the public purse. This statement has to be agreed and approved by Committee by the end of July as this forms part of the statement of accounts.

4. REPORT

- 4.1. The format of the statement is dictated to a large extent by the principles of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)/Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government'. The draft Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 is attached at Appendix 1.
- 4.2. The draft Annual Governance Statement is being presented here for comment before final approval in July.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report, although the annual governance statement helps to provide assurance about the proper use of the Council’s resources.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct Legal implications. Kamal Adatia, City Barrister and Head of Standards – 37 1401.

7. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/ NO	Paragraph/References Within Supporting information
Risk Management	Yes	All of the paper.
Climate Change	No	
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	Yes	All of the paper.
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	
Corporate Parenting	No	
Health Inequalities Impact	No	

8. Consultations

Chief Operating Officer and All Strategic Directors
All Divisional Directors
All City Officers
Finance Division Senior Management Team

9. Summary of Appendices

Appendix A – Draft Annual Governance Statement

10. Report Author

Amy Oliver
Chief Accountant – Corporate Accountancy
X54 5667

Alison Greenhill
Director of Finance

Annual Governance Statement

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19

1. Introduction

The Council is committed to good corporate governance and complies with the CIPFA/SOLACE “Delivering Good Governance Framework” (2016). The Framework requires local authorities to be responsible for ensuring that:

- their business is conducted in accordance with all relevant laws and regulations
- public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for
- resources are used economically, efficiently and effectively to achieve agreed priorities which benefit local people

This statement is produced in fulfilment of the requirements under the Accounts and Audit Regulations, 2015, to prepare an annual governance statement.

2. The Arrangements

The Council works within the governance arrangements summarised in Appendix 1, and has an approved Local Code of Corporate Governance. The following describes how the Council meets the requirements of good governance through the core principles, systems, policies and procedures it has in place. Appendix 2 demonstrates how this has been assessed to inform the Annual Governance Statement.

We have the following codes and rules:

- Finance Procedure Rules
- Code of Conduct for Members
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Anti-fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Information Governance & Risk Policy

The City Mayor has set out a strategic vision in terms of a number of key pledges which relate to:

- Connecting Leicester
- Quality public transport
- Transforming the Waterside
- Increasing school places
- Attracting investment, jobs and skills

The key pledges are supported by the following key plans:

- Economic Action Plan
- Local Transport Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Sustainability Action Plan
- Children’s Improvement Plan
- Heritage Action Plan
- Homelessness Strategy
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Departmental performance targets
- Budget Strategy
- Corporate Risk Management Strategy

We monitor:

- Delivery of the key plans and strategies
- Performance indicators, particularly in relation to children’s and adults’ social care
- Delivery of the Budget

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

2. The Arrangements (continued)

We are transparent in our decision making through:

- Open Council & committee meetings with published minutes
- Published Executive decisions
- Scrutiny of Executive projects through committees
- Call in periods for Executive decisions
- Public engagement through consultation, representations and petitions
- Use of social media and engagement with the press and media
- Stakeholder engagement on key projects and partnership working
- Publication of Freedom of Information Act responses and transparency data

We are supported by:

- Democratic Services including Member and Civic Support Services, who also support member development
- An Organisational Development Team, who ensure effective development of employees
- A Communications function which includes PR, Media and Digital Media Teams

- A staff intranet and established internal communication channels, which provide guidance to staff
- Partnership working on key priorities
- An Information Assurance Team to support our data policies

We review processes and delivery throughout the year supported by:

- Internal Audit
- External Audit
- Information Governance
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Annual review of the Local Code of Corporate Governance
- Annual review of the Assurance Framework

Additional information on many of the areas detailed above can be found on the Council's website;

www.leicester.gov.uk

3. Review of Effectiveness

The Council's review of processes enables the identification of any areas of the Council's activities where there are significant weaknesses in financial controls, governance arrangements or the management of risk. Overall, from this year's work, it can be concluded that controls are operationally sound and that the Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA 'Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government'. This has been supported by the internal audit opinion which stated:

“The HoIAS will conclude Leicester City Council's control environment (its framework of governance, risk management and control) is overall adequate and effective.”

Risk management and internal control are significant part of the governance framework and are designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. We cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives however the above controls provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Areas of significant risk or priorities for action have been identified and are detailed in the tables, along with an update of the issues identified last year.

Issues Identified in 2017/18

The areas of significant risk or priorities for action that have been identified are listed in the table:

Issue Identified	Action taken to Date
<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy – Like all local authorities, the Council's financial viability is a key concern at a time of deep funding cuts.</p>	<p>A balanced budget has been agreed for 2019/20 and a further round of savings is planned through the spending review programme. Budget performance is closely monitored.</p>
<p>2015 OFSTED Inspection - an inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After, and Care Leavers graded Leicester's children's services as inadequate. A follow up inspection took place in 2017 which rated the authority as requiring improvement.</p>	<p>Since the last full inspection in 2017, we have: (i) developed an improvement plan, (now implemented) that addresses the 11 recommendations of that inspection outcome and; (ii) had a short Focused Visit this January which showed a positive step forward in our improvement journey. We have also established a new Improvement Board (IB) to support us until the next full inspection (anticipated around April/July 2020). The Board has an independent chair (ex DCS) and supported by an independent consultant offers focused audits and reviews as directed by the Board.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Areas of significant risk or priorities for action have been identified and are detailed in the tables, along with an update of the issues identified last year.

Issues Identified in 2018/19

The areas of significant risk or priorities for action that have been identified are listed in the table:

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy - Like all local authorities, the Council's financial viability is a key concern at a time of deep funding cuts and growth in the costs of Adult and Children Social Care. The future funding for the Council beyond 2019/20 is still uncertain. Further to this the Government is yet set out a plan to manage the pressures within Children's and Adult Social Care going forward.</p>	<p>A balanced budget has been agreed for 2019/20 and a further round of savings are planned for 2020/21 through the spending review programme. Budget performance is closely monitored.</p>
<p>2015 OFSTED Inspection – An inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After, and Care Leavers graded Leicester's children's services as inadequate. A follow up inspection took place in 2017 which rated the authority as requiring improvement.</p>	<p>The action being taken to date as described above will continue during 2019/20</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Issues Identified in 2018/19 (continued)

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>EU exit particularly in the event of no-deal being reached.</p>	<p>An impact assessment has been undertaken to identify possible risks and impacts of a no-deal EU exit and this will continue to be reviewed and updated and mitigating actions taken forward as appropriate. The Council is linked into a wider network of East Midlands authorities via a Chief Executives group which is identifying and sharing emerging issues and reporting these up to MHCLG on a weekly basis, and anything arising from this as appropriate will feed into the Council's impact assessment and actions. The Executive along with the Audit and Risk Committee will be updated as appropriate on the Council's assessment and actions.</p> <p>The Local Resilience Forum (LRF) of which the Council is a key member, is planning for risks which may require a multi-agency response. The Council will continue to work with the LRF to ensure there are robust arrangements in place and that we are prepared to respond as necessary with the appropriate resources. This includes joint working in relation to communications and community engagement as appropriate.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Issues Identified in 2018/19 (continued)

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>Cybersecurity – the potential for loss or compromise of IT systems and/or associated data through cyber security attacks.</p>	<p>The Council will continue to ensure close monitoring of existing perimeter and internal security protection.</p> <p>We have further implemented measures to raise staff awareness and training via an internal IT Security Team.</p> <p>The Council has also implemented a number of improved security toolsets including a Security and Incident Event Management System.</p>
<p>SEND</p>	<p>A Joint Area Review (Care Quality Commission and Ofsted) was undertaken in May 2018 of Leicester’s partnership and working arrangements across Special Educational Needs (SEND) provisions. The outcome was that there were areas of weakness (including strategic oversight; quality of Education, Health and Care Plans / EHCPs) but areas of good practice identified. As a result of the Area Review the Council and its partners (health) were required to submit a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) which was signed off by Ofsted/ CQC in September 2018. The new SEND Improvement Board has oversight of the WSOA and has standing representation from statutory partners, education community and parent/carer representation. At the time of the Area Review there were no plans for those areas required to submit a WSOA (some 44% of areas reviewed) to be re-reviewed. However DfE changed this and now those areas with a WSOA are to be re-reviewed, usually with about one year to 18 months post the original Area Review.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

4. Conclusion

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

The Annual Governance Statement will be approved alongside the audited accounts in July 2019. At that time it will be signed by the City Mayor, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Finance. In this pre-audit Statement of Accounts the AGS is unsigned.

The Council had the following governance arrangements in place during 2018/19.

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Mayor, Executive and Council

- Provide leadership, develop and set policy
- Key risks are considered by the Executive quarterly

Decision making

- Decisions are recorded on the Council's website
- There is a period of grace in which decisions are open to review

Risk management

- Risk registers identify both operational and strategic risks
- Key risks are considered by Corporate Management Team quarterly

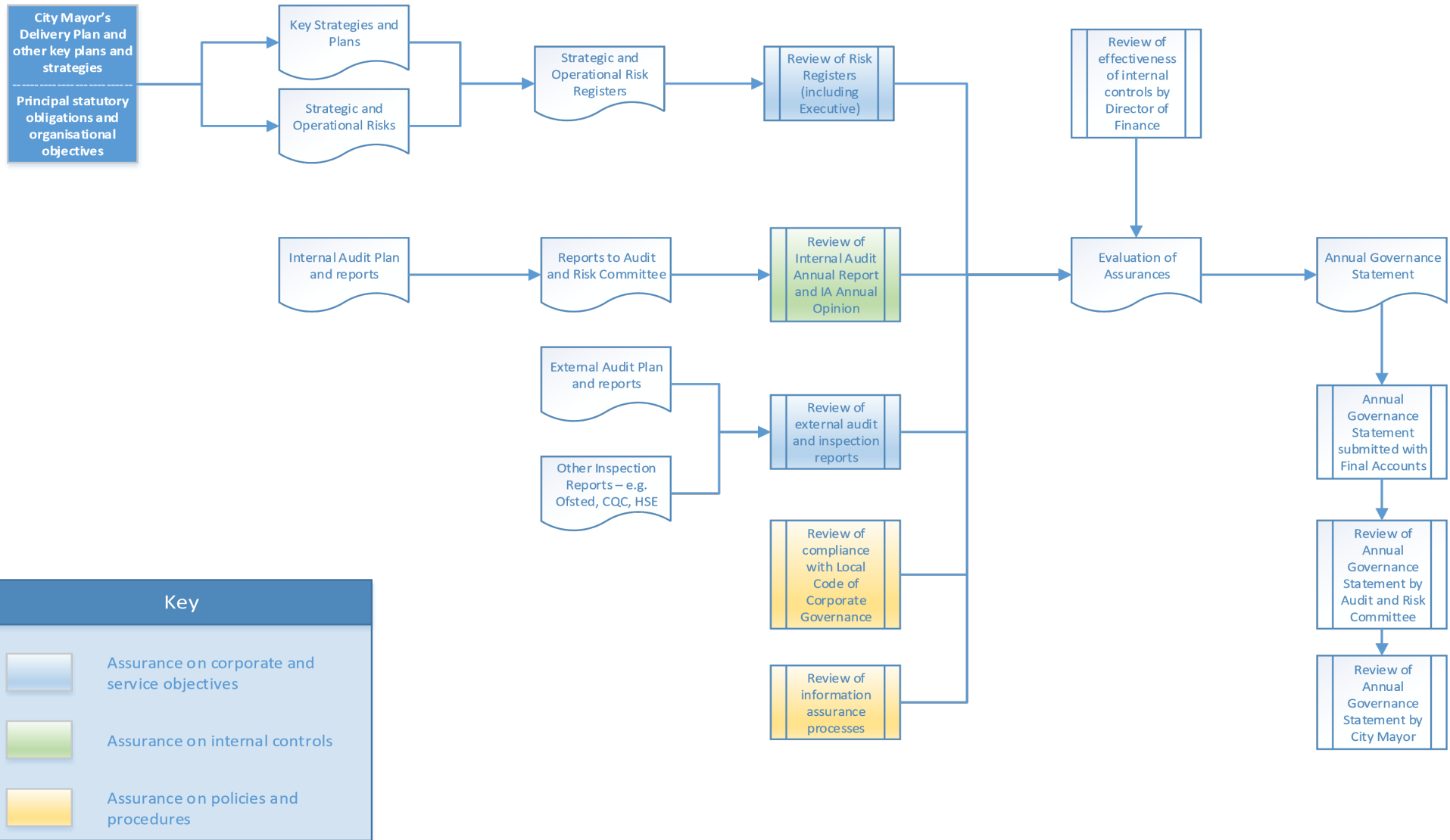
Scrutiny and review

- Scrutiny committees review Council policy and can challenge decisions
- Audit and Risk Committee approves the annual accounts and reviews policies & procedures that ensure good governance of the Council. Along with approving of the Internal Audit Annual Report and opinion

Corporate Management Team (CMT)

- Provides service level management and interface with the political leadership
- Head of Paid Service is the Chief Operating Officer, who is responsible for all Council staff and leading an effective CMT.
- Director of Finance is the s.151 Officer and is responsible for safeguarding the Council's financial position and ensuring value for money
- Monitoring Officer is the City Barrister & Head of Standards who is responsible for ensuring legality and promoting high standards of public conduct
- CMT includes all strategic and operational directors

The following diagram, shows how the Council has assessed its governance arrangements to inform the Annual Governance Statement





Leicester
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED:
ALL WARDS (CORPORATE ISSUE)**

AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

25th June 2019

DRAFT STATUTORY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2018/19

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To provide an opportunity for the committee to comment on the Council's Draft Statement of Accounts 2018-2019, before it is brought back to July's committee for formal approval.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. The committee is asked to consider the draft Statement of Accounts for 2018/19, and recommend any changes it sees fit.

3. SUMMARY

- 3.1. The statutory accounts are prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK. Separate management accounts are presented to the Executive and to the Overview Select Committee, which set out the revenue and capital outturn for the authority. The financial position of the authority is presented in a different way in the Statement of Accounts. The outturn reports focus on the in-year financial performance in a format consistent with the Council's budgets, while the Statement of Accounts shows the in-year performance in a standard format adopted by all local authorities, including a balance sheet showing the underlying financial position.
- 3.2. Despite the wide variations in the way the position is presented, the key point is that both the outturn reports and the accounts are consistent.
- 3.3. The core financial statements are:

- Movement in Reserves Statement

This shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority. This statement distinguishes between "usable reserves" which can be used to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation and "unusable reserves" which are effectively accounting entries and not

available to spend. The level of uncommitted general balances at 31st March 2019 was £15.0m, in line with the Council's financial strategy.

- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This shows the Council's actual performance for the year in accordance with the Code of Practice. This means that the accounts are prepared on a different basis than that used to set the Council's budget and raise council tax. There are a number of statutory adjustments that are made to the surplus or deficit shown on this statement to arrive at the balance on the General Fund shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement above.

- Balance Sheet

The balance sheet shows the net worth of the Council in terms of its assets and liabilities. It shows the net value of the organisation including the balances and reserves, its long-term indebtedness, and its fixed and net current assets employed in its operations.

- Cash Flow Statement

This statement summarises the movements in cash holdings during the year in common with the presentation required for commercial companies, although the statement is of less significance in the local authority context.

3.4 In the 2018/19 Statement of Accounts, the Council has been required to make a prior period adjustment in relation to its treatment of grants. In prior years, a number of grants were held on the balance sheet as creditors (i.e. grants which had not been spent on the purposes for which they were given). This policy is not in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice: for 18/19, grants without conditions attached have been recognised in the accounts as income and then the funds ringfenced in earmarked reserves. The implementation of this change has increased the balances held in earmarked reserves at the end of 2016/17 and 2017/18.

3.5 The Council's Draft Statement of Accounts was published on the website on the 23rd May 2019.

3.6 The external audit is starting on the 3rd June; any recommendations made will be reported to your committee in July, along with any alterations made to the draft Statement of Accounts at the auditors' request.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The report is exclusively concerned with financial issues.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. As the report is for noting there are no legal implications arising from the

recommendations contained in this report.
Emma Jackman, Head of Law (Commercial, Property & Planning)

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

<u>OTHER IMPLICATIONS</u>	<u>YES/NO</u>	<u>PARAGRAPH REFERRED</u>
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights / People on low incomes	No	
Corporate Parenting	No	
Health Inequalities Impact	No	

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. CONSULTATIONS

All departments are consulted during the Authority's close down period.

9. SUMMARY OF APPENDICES

Appendix A – Draft Statement of Accounts

10. AUTHOR

Amy Oliver
Chief Accountant – Corporate Accountancy
X 54 5667

Alison Greenhill
Director of Finance



DRAFT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Leicester City Council

2018/19

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Introductory Statements

Narrative Statement

This report sets out to provide the context for the Council's financial statements and to demonstrate how the Council has achieved its desired objectives for 2018/19.

1.0 Introduction

Leicester City Council is a unitary authority in the East Midlands, consisting of 54 councillors, representing 22 wards in the city, overseen by a directly elected mayor.

The Council's responsibilities are wide-ranging and include services it is legally required to provide (e.g adult social care and waste collection) as well as discretionary services such as parks, open spaces and leisure centres.

Leicester City Council employs more than 12,000 staff, who are responsible for delivering services to a diverse range of customers. Examples of the areas in which they work are below:

- 732 employees working in Neighbourhood and Environmental Services
- 700 employees working in Adult Social Care
- 700 employees working in Children's Social Care
- 1,000 employees working in Housing
- 267 employees working in Public Health & Sports
- Over 6,500 employees working within our schools.

The council has reduced its gender pay gap to 0.46% based on a mean hourly rate. This is significantly lower than the public sector average of 17.99%.

The vision of the Council is that we will work with creativity and drive for the benefit of the people that live and work in our city. To achieve this, we have committed to five values:

- Confidence
- Clarity
- Respectfulness
- Fairness
- Accountability

The Mayor's vision for the Council is to enhance people's confidence and pride in our city, because when people feel proud about where they live they become part of it. The Mayor's key pledges in 2018/19 are:

- Connecting Leicester
- Quality public transport
- Transforming the Waterside
- Increasing school places
- Attracting investment, jobs and skills

These key pledges set the medium to the long strategies of the Council.

Some of the key outcomes from the Mayor's pledges in 2018/19 have been:

- Continuing significant infrastructure works to improve local transport routes through the City.
- The Council continues to manage its budget without crisis.
- The first new homes have been built at Ashton Green and a development partner has been secured to deliver the next 350 homes. An additional £10million from Homes England has been secured.
- An additional 1306 school places
- Continued improvement/commitment in Children's Service for children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers since the 2017 opinion.

Narrative Statement

2.0 Financial Performance

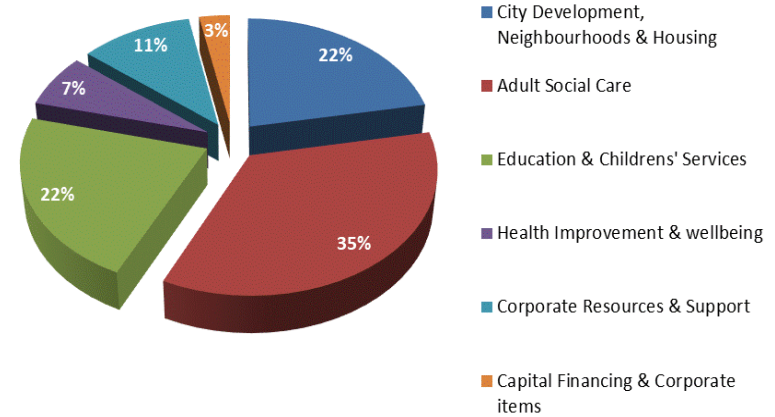
Since 2010/11 there have been significant funding reductions, and this is forecast to continue. The Council has addressed the issue through a programme of spending reviews, which are seeking savings from a range of service areas. This approach is complemented by a 'managed reserves strategy', whereby reserves have been consciously increased to buy time to implement future reductions in a planned way.

Net expenditure on provision of services was £294m in 2018/19 and £349m in 2017/18. The chart below sets out the spend by General Fund service area.

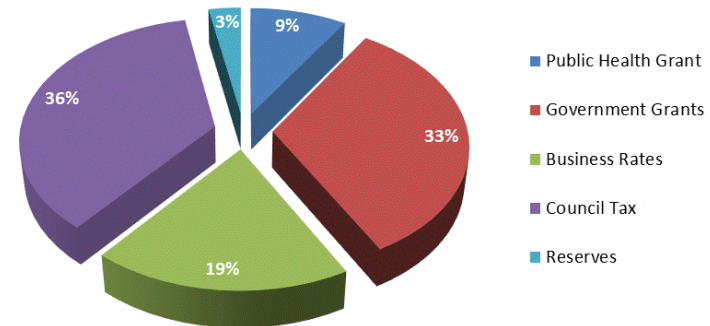
The services above are funded through various resources as demonstrated below.

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis at note 2 in the accounts shows the relationship between the outturn position above and what is reported in the Councils Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

2018/19 Spend by Category
(General Fund Net Spend)



2018/19 Sources of Funding
(General Fund)



Narrative Statement

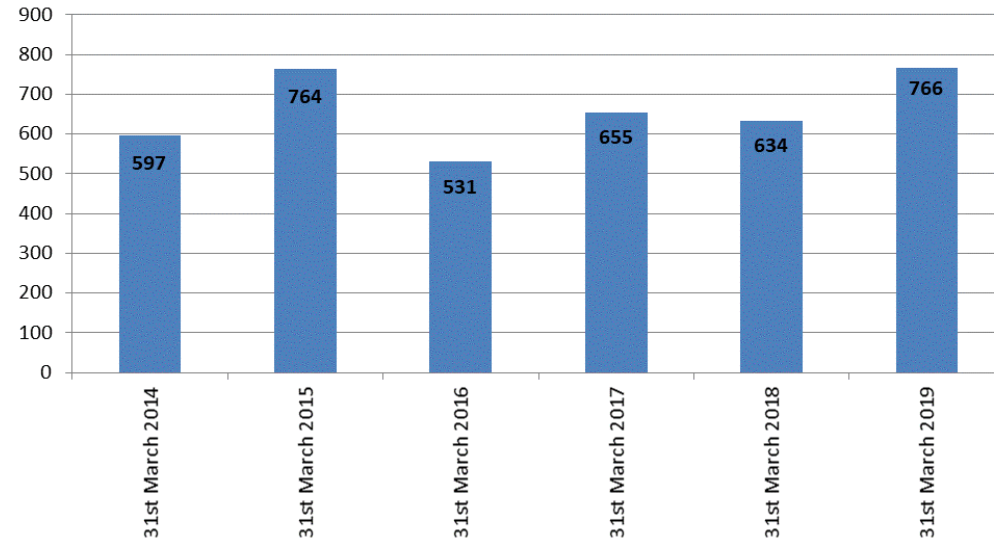
Pension Liabilities

The Council is a member of the Leicestershire local authority pension scheme. In common with most such schemes, the Council's share of the pension fund shows a significant deficit. This represents the difference between expected investment returns and the cost of providing benefits to scheme members which have been earned to date.

Variations between the years will occur, principally due to changes in assumptions made by the scheme actuaries about the growth of future liabilities and rates of returns on the fund's investments. The graph to the right illustrates the volatility that can occur on a year-by-year basis because of these changes, and hence, the limited context in which annual movements should be viewed.

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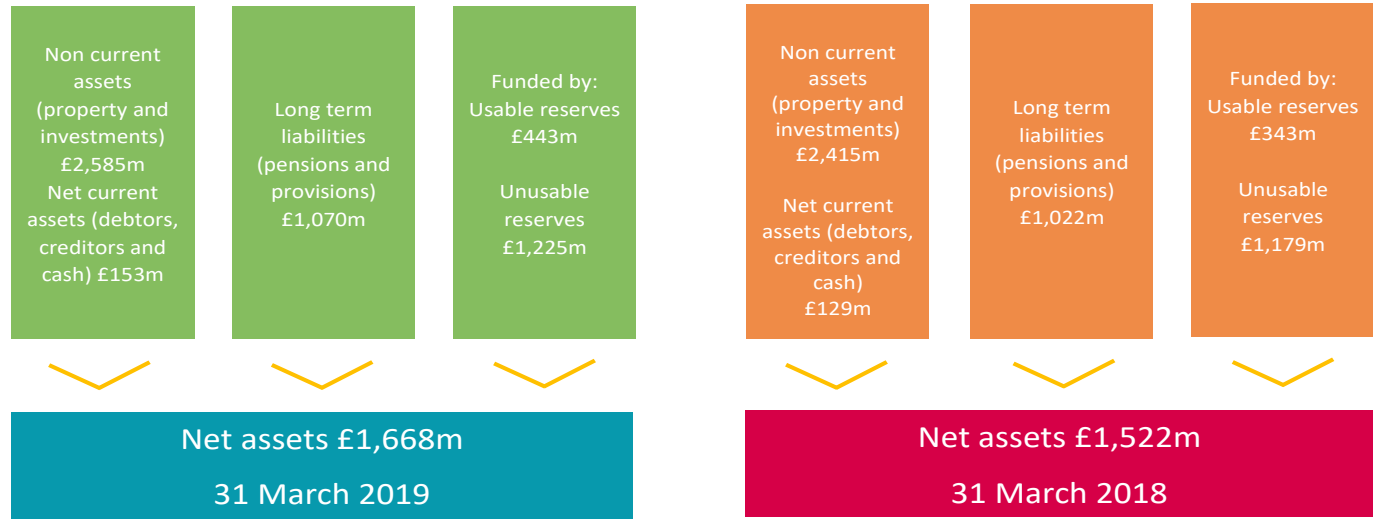
**Pension Deficit
£m**



Narrative Statement

Net Assets

The Council maintains a strong balance sheet despite financial challenges, net assets £1,668m at 31st March 2019 (£1,522m at 31st March 2018).



Cash Flow Management

Cash management differs from budget management in that cash balances do not represent sums which could be used to support the budget.

Cash & Cash equivalents at 31st March 2019 were £42m, £2m lower than the previous year. A substantial portion of the Council's cash balances can only be used to repay debt, but this is seldom possible as Government rule changes made it prohibitively expensive to repay PWLB debt. However the Council prematurely repaid £51m of market loans during 2018/19.

Narrative Statement

Capital

The Council has an ambitious capital programme aimed at regenerating the City, including:

- Neighbourhood works
- Council house improvements
- Additional school places

Capital expenditure of £107m was incurred in 2018/19 compared to £101m in 2017/18. Details of the spending can be seen in the table.

The key projects within 2018/19 that are expected to continue during 2019/20 and beyond are Leicester North West transport scheme, redevelopment of Waterside, and creation of additional school places.

Capital Expenditure 2018-19		
Category	£m	Spending includes;
Planning, Development & Transport	27.9	Waterside Strategic Regeneration Area, Ashton Green, Connecting Leicester, Townscape Heritage Initiative
Housing Revenue Account	22.4	Council house improvements; including environment and communal
Schools	22.7	Primary and secondary expansions and school's maintenance
Tourism, Culture & Inward Investment	6.1	Leicester Market redevelopment
Estates & Building Services	1.9	Haymarket House and Horsefair Street
Neighbourhood & Environmental Services	0.8	New library management system and St Mary's Allotment improvements.
Housing General Fund	2.5	Disabled facilities grant, repayable home repair loans
Property Unit Trusts	8.3	Investment of cash balances to receive better returns
Other	3.2	ICT Investment and Adult Social Care capital schemes
Sub total	95.8	
Leicester & Leicestershire Economic Partnership	11.3	Spend of Local Growth Fund and other grants on projects in the city and county
TOTAL	107.1	

Vehicle Replacement Scheme - New Electronic Vehicles



Ashton Green



Narrative Statement

3. Governance

Details regarding the Council's governance arrangements can be found in the Annual Governance Statement (page 154) along with the significant risks facing the authority.

4. Looking Ahead

The Council has set a balanced budget for 2019/20 and is continuing to make savings through its Spending Review Programme. This has been assisted following the approval of a business rates pilot bid submitted by the City and Leicestershire Councils. However, there is significant uncertainty over the funding levels beyond as we await the outcomes of the Government's Spending and Fair Funding Reviews. The budget for 2019/20 assumes further cuts in 2020/21 and 2021/22 but the level is currently unclear. Further detail on the Council's long-term strategy can be found in the budget report; <http://www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk:8071/documents/s100211/General%20Fund%20Budget%20Report%202019-20.pdf>

In common with other authorities nationally, we continue to face growth in social care costs. While this acknowledged as a national pressure, there is no national consensus on the means of meeting these costs in the future. Government intentions for social care funding beyond 2019/20 are not known. A Green Paper was

planned in 2018, although it has been delayed several times and the final publication date is unclear. It will be some time before any reforms have an impact on our costs.

Like all sectors in the UK the Council is currently managing the risk of a no-deal EU exit and the challenges this may place on the Council. Until there is a clear plan on the UK's withdrawal from the European Union the Council is unaware of the impact it might have on the Services it provides but is monitoring any changes closely.

Further detail on the risks facing the Council can be found in the Annual Governance Statement.

5. Conclusion

The Council will continue to operate within a reducing revenue budget envelope for the immediate future. With continuing demographic and needs led pressures, managing within its means whilst providing good quality services will remain the primary challenge to the Council.

The Council will need to continue to work to ensure that it uses its cash and fixed asset resources in the most efficient and effective way possible. This will be important in maximising available resources whilst operating with prudent financial disciplines.

Further details on the Council's organisational structure, corporate plans and strategic issues can be found in the Annual Governance Statement.

Narrative Statement

6. Structure of the Statement of Accounts and Core Accounting Statements

The Statement of Accounts sets out the Council's income and expenditure for the year, and its financial position at 31 March 2019. It comprises core and supplementary statements, together with disclosure notes. The format and content of the financial statements are prescribed by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19. This is based on International Financial Reporting Standards adopted for use in the public sector context.

The Core Statements are:

- The **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure (CIES)** – this shows the net cost of providing services. This statement is prepared on the accounting basis. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis compares the CIES with the level of income and expenditure which are taken into account when setting the annual budget and council tax, since certain amounts are disregarded under statute.
- The **Movement in Reserves Statement** is a summary of the changes in the Council's reserves over the course of the year. Reserves are divided into usable reserves which can be used to fund future expenditure and unusable reserves which are maintained to meet statutory responsibilities.

- The **Balance Sheet** shows the Council's assets and liabilities at the year end. Net assets are matched by reserves which may be usable or unusable.
- The **Cash Flow Statement** shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents during the year and explains the reasons.

The Supplementary Financial Statements are:

- The **Annual Governance Statement** which provides an overview of the Council's key governance arrangements. Along with updating readers on the conclusions of the annual review, including any changes and improvements that are being made.
- The **Housing Revenue Account** is a statutory ringfenced account relating to the provision of rented social housing.
- The **Collection Fund** which records all income and expenditure in relation to council tax and business rates and the redistribution to pre-empting authorities.

The notes to these financial statements provide more detail about the Council's accounting policies and individual transactions.

Group Accounts Preparation:

The Council has not identified any subsidiaries, associated companies or joint ventures in which it has material interest and therefore is not required to prepare group accounts.

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 Director of Finance.
- Manage its affairs so as to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

These accounts were approved at a meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee on the

.....2019.

Cllr **Date**

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts (continued)

The Director of Finance's Responsibilities

The Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/ LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Finance has:

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

The Director of Finance 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 has been prepared in accordance with proper practices and presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the City Council and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2019.

Signed:



Alison Greenhill CPFA, Director of Finance

Date: 22/5/19

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Leicester City Council

Core Financial Statements

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** shows the Council's actual financial performance for the year on the accounting basis, measured in terms of the resources consumed and generated over the financial period under the relevant accounting standards. This statement shows a surplus in 2018/19 of £146m.

Total comprehensive income and expenditure includes various transactions which illustrate aspects of the Council's financial position but do not impact on the 'bottom line' amounts chargeable to taxpayers, in particular gains on the revaluation of pension liabilities and gains on revaluation of property assets.

Restated 2017/18				2018/19		
Gross Exp	Income	Net Exp		Gross Exp	Income	Net Exp
£000	£000	£000	Note	£000	£000	£000
209,897	(69,897)	140,000	City Development & Neighbourhoods	191,588	(84,194)	107,394
82,103	(85,005)	(2,902)	Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	87,248	(82,573)	4,675
147,666	(55,163)	92,503	Adult Social Care	152,819	(64,104)	88,715
26,701	(32,704)	(6,003)	Health Improvement & Wellbeing	27,387	(33,089)	(5,702)
437,218	(336,950)	100,268	Education & Children's Services	420,880	(337,269)	83,611
41,983	(7,700)	34,283	Corporate Resources & Support	41,478	(10,526)	30,952
121,249	(121,777)	(528)	Housing Benefits	108,548	(112,075)	(3,527)
(7,471)	(446)	(7,917)	Corporate Items	(11,179)	(313)	(11,492)
31	(517)	(486)	Capital Financing	-	(517)	(517)
1,059,377	(710,159)	349,218	Cost of Services	1,018,769	(724,660)	294,109

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (continued)

Restated 2017/18			2018/19				
Gross Exp	Income	Net Exp		Gross Exp	Income	Net Exp	
£000	£000	£000	Note	£000	£000	£000	
52,779	(1,157)	51,622	Other Operating Expenditure	12	36,064	(1,236)	34,828
51,762	(15,321)	36,441	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	13	55,195	(2,264)	52,931
227,311	(524,792)	(297,481)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	14	241,900	(588,732)	(346,832)
		139,800	(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	15			35,036
		(132,132)	(Surplus) or Deficit on Revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment Assets	27b			(282,563)
		(58,179)	Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability	43			101,597
		(190,311)	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				(180,966)
		(50,511)	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				(145,930)

Movement in Reserves Statement

The **Movement in Reserves Statement** shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into “usable reserves” (those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and unusable reserves which contain items that illustrate the difference between the Council’s financial position under accounting standards (the “accounting basis”) and the amount charged to the taxpayer for the year (the “funding basis”).

2018/19		General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	Note	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Restated Balance at 31st March 2018 brought forward		(15,000)	(189,962)	(30,745)	-	(84,742)	(22,259)	(342,708)	(1,178,863)	(1,521,571)
Total Comprehensive Expenditure and Income		6,744	-	28,292	-	-	-	35,036	(180,966)	(145,930)
Adjustments between accounting basis & Funding basis under regulation	10	(38,787)	-	(28,055)	-	(21,081)	(47,406)	(135,329)	135,329	-
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	11	32,043	(32,043)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31st March 2019 carried forward		(15,000)	(222,005)	(30,508)	-	(105,823)	(69,665)	(443,001)	(1,224,500)	(1,667,501)

*For further detail, please refer to Note 11 - Transfer to and from Earmarked Reserves, Note 27 - Unusable Reserves and Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Movement in Reserves (continued)

Restated 2017/18		General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	Note	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Restated Balance at 31st March 2017 brought forward		(15,000)	(190,581)	(23,348)	(1,200)	(54,950)	(31,609)	(316,688)	(1,154,372)	(1,471,060)
Total Comprehensive Expenditure and Income		128,529	-	11,271	-	-	-	139,800	(190,311)	(50,511)
Adjustments between accounting basis & Funding basis under regulation	10	(127,910)	-	(18,668)	1,200	(29,792)	9,350	(165,820)	165,820	-
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	11	(619)	619	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restated Balance at 31st March 2018 carried forward		(15,000)	(189,962)	(30,745)	-	(84,742)	(22,259)	(342,708)	(1,178,863)	(1,521,571)

*For further detail, please refer to Note 11 - Transfer to and from Earmarked Reserves, Note 27 - Unusable Reserves and Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the Council's assets and liabilities.

The top of the Balance Sheet shows the Council's net assets. Assets include property, plant & equipment, intangible assets, amounts owed to the Council and the Council's cash and financial investments. Liabilities include amounts owed by the Council (including conditional funding received), provisions made in respect of future events (see Note 25), the Council's borrowing and the deficit on the Council's pension fund.

The bottom of the Balance Sheet shows how the Council's net assets are financed by reserves, which are divided into usable and unusable reserves.

Restated 31st March 2017 £000	Restated 31st March 2018 £000		Note	31st March 2019 £000
2,253,458	2,258,983	Property, Plant & Equipment	16	2,468,486
109,053	111,409	Heritage Assets	17	92,227
2,627	3,374	Intangible Assets	18	1,600
4,990	32,500	Long Term Investments	19	15,000
9,855	8,965	Long Term Debtors	21	7,741
2,379,983	2,415,231	Long Term Assets		2,585,054
168,026	192,380	Short Term Investments	19	200,021
14,582	4,284	Assets Held For Sale (<1 year)	23	3,863
2,423	2,758	Inventories	20	3,032
50,242	51,501	Short Term Debtors	21	49,409
18,336	44,068	Cash and Cash Equivalents	22	41,673
253,609	294,991	Current Assets		297,998

Balance Sheet (continued)

Restated 31st March 2017 £000	Restated 31st March 2018 £000		Note	31st March 2019 £000
(10,292)	(19,995)	Short Term Borrowing	19	(11,091)
(113,686)	(141,220)	Short Term Creditors	24	(128,016)
(4,467)	(5,097)	Provisions (<1 year)	25	(6,052)
(128,445)	(166,312)	Current Liabilities		(145,159)
(7,792)	(7,225)	Provisions (>1 year)	25	(6,602)
(243,063)	(234,495)	Long Term Borrowing	19	(180,119)
(770,227)	(743,818)	Other Long Term Liabilities	19	(869,925)
(13,005)	(36,801)	Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	36	(13,746)
(1,034,087)	(1,022,339)	Long Term Liabilities		(1,070,392)
1,471,060	1,521,571	Net Assets		1,667,501
		<u>Represented by:</u>		
316,688	342,708	Usable Reserves	26	443,001
1,154,372	1,178,863	Unusable Reserves	27	1,224,500
1,471,060	1,521,571	Total Reserves		1,667,501

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.

Restated 2017/18		2018/19
£000		Note £000
139,800	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services	35,036
(267,424)	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	28 (171,518)
95,695	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities	28 144,206
(31,929)	Net cash flows from Operating Activities	7,724
4,117	Net cash flows from Investing Activities	29 (69,024)
2,080	Net cash flows from Financing Activities	30 63,695
(25,732)	Net (increase) or decrease in cash and cash equivalents	2,395
18,336	Cash in hand / (overdraft) and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	44,068
44,068	Cash in hand / (overdraft) and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	22 41,673

Explanatory Notes To The Core Financial Statements

Note 1 Accounting Policies

Changes in Accounting Policies

In 2018/19 the main changes relate to the introduction of the two new accounting standards;

- IFRS9 - Financial Instruments
- IFRS15 - Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The new standards have been incorporated into the accounting policies .

Accounting Policies for 2018/19

1. General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the City Council's transactions for the 2018/19 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2019. The Council is required to prepare an annual statement by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which those regulations require to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

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. Figures within the Statement of Accounts may be adjusted by up to £2,000 to

take account of rounding differences arising due to reporting figures in thousands (£000s)

2. Recognition of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not 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 good or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations of the contract.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed. Where supplies are held for future use they are shown as inventories on the Balance Sheet
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded when the services are received rather than when payments are made
- Interest payable on borrowings and receivable on investments is accounted for 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 on 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 investments that mature within three months from the date of acquisition and 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 part of the Council's cash management.

4. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Service revenue accounts, support services and trading accounts are charged with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service. Depreciation is calculated on opening Net Book Values

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

4. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets (continued)

- Revaluation & impairment losses on assets used by the service where there were no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off.
- Amortisation of intangible non-current assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation, impairment losses or amortisations. However, the Council's policy is to make an annual provision from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirements. This is known as "Minimum Revenue Provision" (MRP). The Council is also able to make additional voluntary MRP known as "Voluntary Set Aside" (VSA).

Depreciation, revaluations, impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by MRP and VSA in the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction within the Capital Adjustment Account for the difference between the two.

The Council's full policy on the calculation of Minimum Revenue Provision is set out in the annual budget approved by Council. The Council's MRP policy brings the charge into line with asset lives.

In years prior to 2018/19, additional voluntary set aside was made to bring the total MRP to an amount equal to that required by earlier government guidance.

5. Council Tax & Non Domestic Rates

The Council as a billing authority acts as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principles, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (i.e. 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 the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the authority's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the Councils 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 authority's share of the end of the year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

6. Employee Benefits

Benefits payable during employment

Short term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year end. They include wages, salaries, paid annual and sick leave, bonuses and other non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees and are recognised in the year in which the employee renders the service. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlement earned by the employee but not taken before the end of the financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the period the employee takes the benefit. This accrual is charged to services and reversed into the period when the entitlement is taken. To avoid an impact on balances this is reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

6. Employee Benefits (continued)

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date, or the officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy.

These costs are charged on an accrual basis to the Non Distributed Costs in the CIES when the Council is committed to the termination, or makes an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

When these involve enhancement of pensions the General Fund is required to be charged with the amount payable, however this is adjusted (in line with regulations) in the Movement in Reserves Statement to reflect the cash paid rather than the liability incurred under accounting standards.

Post-employment Benefits

Employees of the Council may be members of one of three separate pension schemes:

- The Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education.
- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Leicestershire County Council (LGPS)

- The NHS Pension Scheme (in relation to staff transferring from the NHS as part of the adoption of responsibility for public health), administered by the NHS Business Services Authority

All schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), to which entitlement is earned as employees work for the Council.

However, the arrangements for the teachers' and NHS schemes mean that liabilities for those benefits cannot be identified as specifically accruing to the Council. The scheme is therefore accounted for as if it were a defined contributions scheme – no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet and the Children and Education services line in the CIES is charged with the employer's contributions payable to teachers' pensions in the year.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the Leicestershire County Council Pension Scheme attributable to Leicester City 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 projections of future earnings for current employees.

- The assets of the Leicestershire County Council Pension fund attributable to Leicester City Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
- The change in the net pensions liability between Balance Sheet dates is analysed into six components:
 - Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year, allocated in the CIES to the revenue accounts of services for which the employees worked.
 - Past service costs – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Net Cost of Services in the CIES as part of Non-Distributed Costs.
 - Net interest on the defined benefit liability – the net of the expected increase in the present value of liabilities over the year arising from the passage of time and the expected return on scheme assets discounted at the discount rate used for the liabilities. This is part of Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

6. Employee Benefits (continued)

Post-employment Benefits (continued)

- Gains/losses on settlements and curtailments – the results of actions to relieve the Council of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees – debited to the Net Cost of Services as part of Non-Distributed Costs.
- Re-measurements of the net defined benefit obligation – this is the change in the net pensions liability over the year attributable to changes in demographic and financial assumptions
- Contributions paid to the Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund.

Statutory provisions limit the Council to raising council tax to cover the amounts payable by the Council to the pension fund in the year. This means that there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement, to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for cash paid to the pension fund and any amounts payable to the fund but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance on the Pension Reserve measures the beneficial impact on the General Fund for

accounting on a cash basis rather than as the benefits are earned.

Discretionary Benefits

The Council also has limited 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 (including teachers and ex-NHS 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.

7. Events after Balance Sheet date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, favourable or adverse, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date that the Statements are authorised for issue. Two types of events could be identified:

- Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period. The statements are adjusted to reflect this better understanding of the situation at the Balance Sheet date
- Those indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period, but are relevant to the reader's understanding of the Council's financial position. The Statements are not adjusted, but if the events would have a material effect on the

reader's understanding, disclosure is made 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 Statements.

8. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when authority 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 CIES for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability.

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

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

8. Financial Instruments (continued)

Financial Assets (continued)

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) [separate accounting policy is required where an authority holds financial instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income].

The authority's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified as amortised cost, except for those whose contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (ie where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

9. Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, Government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as income at the date that the council satisfies the conditions of the entitlement to the grant/contribution and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the CIES until conditions

attached to the grant or contributions have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that future economic benefits or service potentials embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified or returned to the payer.

Monies advanced as grants and contribution for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors.

10. Leases

Leases are classified as either 'finance' or 'operating' leases.

A finance lease is one where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee.

All other leases are classified as operating leases – in these cases the annual receipt/payment is simply recognised in the CIES and the future commitments disclosed in the note to the accounts.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings each element is considered separately for classification. Arrangements that do not have the legal status but convey a right to use the asset in return for a consideration are accounted for under this policy.

Council as Lessor

Where the Council is a lessor and have granted a finance lease over property or equipment, which is considered material, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet. Rentals under such leases are apportioned between:

- Finance income (credited to Finance and Investment income in the CIES).
- Charge for acquisition of the interest in the property (this is treated as a capital receipt and is used to reduce the long-term debtor created at the start of the lease).

Council as Lessee

Where the Council is a lessee and holds assets under a finance lease the relevant assets are recognised as assets and added to the non-current assets on the Balance Sheet at the fair value measured at the lease inception (or the present value of minimum leases payments, if lower). The asset's recognition is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods they are incurred. Payments under such leases are apportioned between:

- Finance Income and charged to the Finance and Investment expenditure in the CIES.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

10. Leases (continued)

- Charge for acquisition and debited against the lease liability created when the non-current asset is recognised on the Balance Sheet.

11. Property Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the provision of services 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 accruals basis, subject to a de minimis limit of £10k so that small items of expenditure may be charged to revenue. Expenditure that secures but does not extend the previously assessed standards of performance of an asset (e.g. repairs and maintenance) is charged to revenue.

Measurement:

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising all expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset into working condition for its intended use. The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred during the construction period.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase, and donated assets, is deemed to be its current value. Gains are credited to the Revaluation Reserve and included in the Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure line of the CIES.

Assets are carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement basis:

- Council dwellings – current value using basis of existing use value for social housing.
- Vehicles, plant and equipment - mainly at historic cost net of depreciation, with a few assets being subject to current value measurement.
- Infrastructure assets, Community assets and Assets under Construction – depreciated historic cost or nominal value in the main, with few being subject to current value measurement.
- All other assets including surplus assets - current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in existing use (based on market value at highest and best use).

Where there is no market based evidence of current value because of the specialised nature of the asset, depreciated replacement cost is used

as an estimate of current value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued where there have been material changes in the value, but as a minimum every five years and reviewed annually. Annual valuations of council dwellings are carried out by a specialist external valuer.

Impairment:

The values of each category of asset and of material individual assets are reviewed at the end of each financial year for evidence of reductions in value. Where impairment is identified this is accounted for by charging the loss to the relevant service revenue account where it is clearly attributable to the consumption of economic benefit. Otherwise it is written off against previous revaluation gains attributable to the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, with any excess charges to the relevant service revenue account.

Disposals:

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered from sale rather than through continued use, it is immediately revalued and reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is then carried at the lower of that value and current value less costs to sell.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

11. Property Plant and Equipment (continued)

For assets that no longer meet the criteria of Assets Held For Sale they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued back to their carrying value before being reclassified, adjusted for depreciation that would have been incurred.

When an asset is disposed of or de-commissioned, the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal.

Receipts from disposals are credited to the CIES 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). Amounts in excess of £10k are categorised as capital receipts.

A proportion of receipts relating to Housing Revenue Account (HRA) dwellings sold under the Right To Buy (RTB) rules from 1st April 2012 is payable into a government pool, with the balance of the receipts (after a deduction to compensate the HRA for a higher level of sales under the new rules) being available for general capital investment plus a prescribed requirement to provide new affordable housing. 50% of HRA receipts from non-RTB disposals are also required to be paid into the government pool, unless they are reinvested in new affordable housing or regeneration capital schemes, in which case the pooling requirement is waived.

Usable capital receipts are credited to the Usable Capital Receipts Reserve and can only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the Capital Financing Requirement).

The written-off value of disposals is not charged against Council Tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing.

Depreciation:

Depreciation is provided for on all assets with a determinable finite life, by allocating the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet over the periods in which the benefits from their use are expected to arise.

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Council dwellings – dividing the buildings element of the valuation (i.e. current less an adjustment for social housing) by the residual life (25-75 years) of the property.
- Other buildings - straight-line allocation over the life of the property as estimated by the valuer.
- Vehicles – on a straight-line basis over 5-7 years.
- Plant and Equipment – straight-line over the estimated life of the asset.
- Infrastructure – straight-line allocation over 40 years.

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 charged based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Depreciation is calculated on opening net book values and is based on the remaining useful life on the assets.

Schools:

Schools assets are included within the Council's Balance Sheet in line with the criteria for recognition of non-current assets set out in the Code of Practice. Consideration is given to the recognition of the assets on a school-by-school basis but in effect the assets of all schools run under the standard community schools model (including Voluntary Controlled schools) are recognised because the Council is both the legal owner of the assets and also the beneficiary of them in substance. Where the governance of the school differs from the community school model (for example Academies, Voluntary Aided and Foundation Trust schools), the Council considers whether it has effective control of the school's assets in respect of access to future economic benefits or service potential, and also its exposure to the risks of ownership. Where this is not the case, the assets are not recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

11. Property Plant and Equipment (continued)

Where schools become Academies, the Council retains legal title to the assets of the school but transfers the economic benefits and service potential of those assets to the Academy by way of a long lease. The Council therefore derecognises those assets from its Balance Sheet in line with the Code of Practice's provisions on leasing.

Heritage Assets

- Heritage assets are classified and measured on the following basis: Heritage Buildings – Current Value
- Museum/Gallery Exhibits (including Mayoral Regalia and Civic Silver) - Insurance Value (based on revaluation every three years)
- Statues and Monuments - Insurance Value

The carrying amounts in the Balance Sheet of all the assets (i.e. other than museum exhibits and assets held at nominal current value) are reviewed as part of the on-going revaluation programme undertaken by the Council. Where there is evidence of impairment, such as physical deterioration, that impairment will be recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment; see paragraph 17 – Property, Plant and Equipment on impairment.

Asset purchases will be recognised at cost and acquisitions (for example donations) will be initially recognised at a nominal value until valuations can be ascertained by either the museum's curators with reference to the appropriate commercial markets, or by an external valuer.

The Council may dispose of heritage assets which have a doubtful provenance or are unsuitable for display. Proceeds of such items will be disclosed separately in the notes to the financial statements and will be accounted for in accordance with the statutory requirements relating to capital expenditure and capital receipts; see Note 16 – Property, Plant and Equipment.

Heritage Assets are not depreciated.

12. Private Finance Initiatives

PFI, and similar contracts, are agreements to receive services which may include the requirement to provide assets by the supplier in the delivery of the service. As the Council is deemed to control the service, and ownership of the property will pass to the Council at the end of the contract with no extra charge, the Council carries the value of the asset on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The initial recognition of the assets, at current value, is balanced by the recognition of the liability for amounts due to the scheme contractor to pay for the capital investment.

The amounts payable to the PFI contractor each year comprise:

- Value of the service received in the year – charged to relevant service in the CIES.
- Finance Cost – the interest charge on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, charged to the Finance and Investment line in the CIES.
- Contingent Rent – lease payments that increase or decrease as a result of changes in factors occurring subsequent to the inception of the lease, other than the passage of time.
- Payment towards the liability – applied to the Balance Sheet Liability.
- Lifecycle Costs – additional expenditure on assets either added as prepayment for the asset or to the service lines where not material, when the relevant work is carried out.

13. Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Assets

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council an obligation that probably requires settlement by transfer of economic benefits and a reliable estimate can be made to the amount of the obligation.

Note 1 Accounting Policies (continued)

13. Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Assets (continued)

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service in the CIES in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

Contingent liabilities arise where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent assets arise 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. Both contingent items are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed further in the notes to the accounts.

14. Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as usable reserves for future policy provisions or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts of the General Fund Balance.

Certain unusable reserves are kept to manage the accounting process 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 further detail in Note 27 to the accounts.

15. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provision but does not result in the creation of fixed assets has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the CIES, in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, it is transferred from the General Fund to the Capital Adjustment Account so there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

16. Schools

Where the Council determines that the overall balance of control of schools lies within the Council those schools' assets, liabilities, reserves and cash flows are recognised in the Council financial statements. Therefore, schools' transactions, cash flows and balances are recognised in the Financial Statements of the Council as if they were the transactions, cash flows and balances of the Council. Academies and other schools such as voluntary aided schools, where control does not lie with the council, are excluded from the Council's financial statements.

17. VAT

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

Note 2 Expenditure & Funding Analysis

2018/19	Net Expenditure Charged to the HRA & General Fund Balance*	Adjustments Between Accounting & Funding Basis	Net Expenditure on the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement
	£000	£000	£000
City Development & Neighbourhoods	38,641	68,753	107,394
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	(10,180)	14,855	4,675
Adult Social Care	84,806	3,909	88,715
Health Improvement & Wellbeing	(7,772)	2,070	(5,702)
Education & Children's Services	44,510	39,101	83,611
Corporate Resources & Support	28,104	2,848	30,952
Housing Benefits	(3,527)	-	(3,527)
Corporate Items	91,912	(103,404)	(11,492)
Capital Financing	(517)	-	(517)
Cost of Services	265,977	28,132	294,109
Other Operating Expenditure	34,828	-	34,828
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	14,782	38,149	52,931
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(347,393)	561	(346,832)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	(31,806)	66,842	35,036
Movement in Balances	General Fund	HRA	Total
Opening Balance	(204,962)	(30,745)	(235,707)
Surplus or Deficit in the Year	(32,043)	237	(31,806)
Closing Balance	(237,005)	(30,508)	(267,513)

*This includes Earmarked Reserves and General Fund balance.

Note 2 Expenditure & Funding Analysis (continued)

Restated 2017/18	Net Expenditure Charged to the HRA & General Fund Balance*	Adjustments Between Accounting & Funding Basis	Net Expenditure on the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement
	£000	£000	£000
City Development & Neighbourhoods	41,344	98,656	140,000
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	(19,784)	16,882	(2,902)
Adult Social Care	88,398	4,105	92,503
Health Improvement & Wellbeing	(6,645)	642	(6,003)
Education & Children's Services	62,581	37,687	100,268
Corporate Resources & Support	31,308	2,975	34,283
Housing Benefits	(528)	-	(528)
Corporate Items	26,944	(34,861)	(7,917)
Capital Financing	(486)	-	(486)
Cost of Services	223,132	126,086	349,218
Other Operating Expenditure	51,622	-	51,622
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	19,097	17,344	36,441
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(300,629)	3,148	(297,481)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	(6,778)	146,578	139,800
Movement in Balances	General Fund	HRA	Total
Opening Balance	(205,581)	(23,348)	(228,929)
Surplus or Deficit in the Year	619	(7,397)	(6,778)
Closing Balance	(204,962)	(30,745)	(235,707)

*This includes Earmarked Reserves and General Fund balance.

Note 3 Accounting Standards Issued But Not Yet Adopted

Under the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19 (the Code), the Council is required to disclose information setting out the impact of an accounting change required by a new accounting standard that has been issued but not yet adopted by the Code.

The following standards have been issued but have not been adopted under the Code of Practice for 2018/19;

IFRS 16 Leases will require local authorities that are lessees to recognise most leases on their balance sheets as right-of-use assets with corresponding lease liabilities (there is recognition for low-value and short-term leases). CIPFA/LASAAC have deferred implementation of IFRS16 for local government to 1 April 2020.

IAS 40 Investment Property Transfers of Investment Property provides further explanation of the instances in which a property can be reclassified as investment property. This will have no impact on the Council as it already complies.

IFRIC 22 Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration clarifies the treatment of payments in a foreign currency made in advance of obtaining or delivering services or goods. The Council does not have any material transactions within the scope of the amendment.

IFRIC 23 Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments provides additional guidance on income tax treatment where there is uncertainty. This will have no impact on the accounts.

IFRS 9 Financial instruments prepayment features with negative compensation amends IFRS9 to make clear that amortised cost should be used where prepayments are substantially lower than the unpaid principal and interest. The Council has no loans to whom this will apply.

Note 4 Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1 of this Statement of Accounts, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions and/or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

Accounts prepared on a going concern basis

These accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The concept of a going concern assumes that an organisation, its functions and services will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. However, there is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government and the future national economic outlook. The Council's management has used its judgement and determined that its financial strategy is robust and that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to affect the assumptions underpinning the strategy and that the Council will continue as a going concern.

Note 5 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 31st March 2019 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property, Plant & Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Council will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.	<p>If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls.</p> <p>It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for buildings would increase by approximately £2m for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.</p>
Fair Value Measurements	Most financial and property assets are now held at Fair Value (see Accounting Policies & Notes 16 & 19 for more information). When there is no quoted market value for an asset, the Council applies other valuation methods in accordance with the Code of Practice and the underlying IFRS 13 standard, but these may incorporate elements of judgement around risks and the basis of assumptions.	It is not possible to quantify the level of variance that may arise if assumptions used differ from actual asset values. The Council is confident, however, that the risk of any differences impacting on the level of usable reserves or the overall financial strategy is low.

Note 5 Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty continued

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Pensions Liability	<p>Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions 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. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Leicestershire County Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. The actuaries have advised that a 0.5% decrease in the Real Discount Rate would mean a 11% increase to the employers liability amounting to approximately £231m. A 0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate would mean an 9% increase to the employers' liability amounting to £193m. A 0.5% increase in the projected rate of salary increased would lead to an increased liability of 2% or £34m.</p>
PFI Schemes	<p>Total payments due under the existing PFI schemes have to be split between payments for services, reimbursement of capital expenditure, interest, lifecycle costs etc. The split is arrived at by using financial models that contain inherent uncertainties and assumptions.</p>	<p>It is not possible to quantify the potential effect of these uncertainties on the PFI liabilities included in the accounts.</p>

Note 5 Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty continued

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Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Business Rates Appeals	<p>The Council has applied judgement in calculating the provision for business rate appeals based on data from the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) regarding outstanding appeals where estimates of the likelihood of success, the amount of the reduction and the backdating of the appeal have been based upon averages of historic settled appeals data and any other known information. Different averages have been calculated for the different types of appeal and property types. As at 31st March 2019, 759 appeals were outstanding relating to 516 properties.</p>	<p>The provision made by the Council stands at £6.9m at 31st March 2019. This calculation is based on a range of sources including professional advice. If the volume and outcome of appeals differs significantly from the assumptions made then this will impact on whether the level of provision is adequate. It is the Council's judgement that the impact of any error would not have a material impact on these financial statements.</p>

Note 6 Prior Period Adjustment

The Council has been required to make a prior period adjustment in relation to its treatment of grants. For the restatement the Council has changed the treatment to be in line with the requirements of the CIPFA Code. The adjustment has recognised grant income held as a receipt in advance/creditor, in prior years. The grant money is then held within an earmarked reserve to be used for the purpose it was granted.

The fully restated balance sheet is shown on page 24, the adjustments made are shown in the following tables;

Effect on line items in the Balance Sheet 31st March 2017

	31st March 2017	31st March 2017	
	As Originally Stated	As Restated	Amount of Restatement
	£000	£000	£000
Long Term Assets	2,379,983	2,379,983	-
Current Assets	253,609	253,609	-
Short Term Creditors	(133,445)	(113,688)	19,757
Current Liabilities	(148,204)	(128,447)	19,757
Long Term Liabilities	(1,034,087)	(1,034,087)	-
Net Assets	1,451,301	1,471,058	19,757
<u>Represented by:</u>			
Usable Reserves	296,930	316,687	19,757
Total Reserves	1,451,301	1,471,058	19,757

Note 6 Prior Period Adjustment (continued)

Effect on line items in the Balance Sheet 31st March 2018

	31st March 2018	31st March 2018	
	As Originally Stated	As Restated	Amount of Restatement
	£000	£000	£000
Long Term Assets	2,415,231	2,415,231	-
Short Term Debtors	50,653	51,501	848
Current Assets	294,143	294,991	848
Short Term Creditors	(163,838)	(141,220)	22,618
Current Liabilities	(188,930)	(166,312)	22,618
Long Term Liabilities	(1,022,339)	(1,022,339)	-
Net Assets	1,498,105	1,521,571	23,466
<u>Represented by:</u>			
Usable Reserves	319,242	342,708	23,466
Total Reserves	1,498,105	1,521,571	23,466

Note 6 Prior Period Adjustment (continued)

The fully restated Comprehensive Income Expenditure Statement is shown on page 20, the adjustments made in 2017/18 are shown in the table below;

Effect on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2017/18

	2017/18 Net Exp		Amount of Restatement £000
	As Originally Stated	As Restated	
	£000	£000	
City Development & Neighbourhoods	140,678	140,000	678
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	(2,902)	(2,902)	-
Adult Social Care	93,429	92,503	926
Health Improvement & Wellbeing	(6,029)	(6,003)	(26)
Education & Children's Services	101,524	100,268	1,256
Corporate Resources & Support	34,303	34,283	20
Housing Benefits	(528)	(528)	-
Corporate Items	(7,917)	(7,917)	-
Capital Financing	(486)	(486)	-
Cost of Services	352,072	349,218	2,854
	2017/18 Net Exp		Amount of Restatement £000
	As Originally Stated	As Restated	
	£000	£000	
Other Operating Expenditure	51,622	51,622	-
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	36,441	36,441	-
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(296,628)	(297,481)	853
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	143,507	139,800	3,707
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	(190,311)	(190,311)	-
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	(46,804)	(50,511)	3,707

Note 6 Prior Period Adjustment (continued)

The fully restated Movement Reserves Statement is shown on page 22. The prior period adjustment only effected the Usable Reserve balances in 2017/18 and are shown in the table below;

Movement in Reserves Statement - Usable Reserves 2017/18

	2017/18	2017/18	
	As Originally Stated	As Restated	Amount of Restatement
	£000	£000	£000
Balance at the end of the previous reporting period 31st March 2017	296,930	316,687	19,757
Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services	(143,507)	(139,800)	3,707
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	165,820	165,820	-
Increase or (Decrease) in the year	22,313	26,020	3,707
Balance at the end of the current reporting period 31st March 2018	319,243	342,707	23,464

Note 6 Prior Period Adjustment (continued)

The fully restated Cashflow is shown on page 26. The prior period had no effect on the bottom line cash position in 2017/18 as shown in the table below;

Effect on Cashflow Statement 2017/18

	2017/18 As Originally Stated	2017/18 As Restated	Amount of Restatement
	£000	£000	£000
Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services	143,507	139,798	(3,709)
Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	(271,131)	(267,422)	3,709
Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities	95,695	95,695	-
Net cash flows from Operating Activities	(31,929)	(31,929)	-
Net cash flows from Investing Activities	4,117	4,117	-
Net cash flows from Financing Activities	2,080	2,080	-
Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(25,732)	(25,732)	-
Cash (in hand), overdraft and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	18,336	18,336	-
Cash (in hand), overdraft and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	44,068	44,068	-

Note 7 Material Items of Income and Expense

There are no material items of income and expenditure.

Note 8 Events After the Balance Sheet Date

There were no significant events between the balance sheet date and the approval of these financial statements which would require disclosure or adjustment of the statements.

Note 9 Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The following tables provide reconciliations between the main adjustments to Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances to arrive at the amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. For the General Fund this also includes Earmarked Reserves.

2018/19	Adjustments Between Accounting & Funding Basis					
	Net Expenditure on the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Adjustments for Defined Benefit Pensions	Other Adjustments	Total	Net Expenditure Charged to the HRA & General Fund Balance
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
City Development & Neighbourhoods	107,394	(63,548)	(5,176)	(29)	(68,753)	38,641
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	4,675	(12,451)	(2,377)	(27)	(14,855)	(10,180)
Adult Social Care	88,715	(1,708)	(2,178)	(23)	(3,909)	84,806
Health Improvement & Wellbeing	(5,702)	(1,507)	(560)	(3)	(2,070)	(7,772)
Education & Children's Services	83,611	(30,489)	(7,843)	(769)	(39,101)	44,510
Corporate Resources & Support	30,952	30	(2,853)	(25)	(2,848)	28,104
Housing Benefits	(3,527)	-	-	-	-	(3,527)
Corporate Items	(11,492)	95,427	7,977	-	103,404	91,912
Capital Financing	(517)	-	-	-	-	(517)
Cost of Services	294,109	(14,246)	(13,010)	(876)	(28,132)	265,977
Other Operating Expenditure	34,828	-	-	-	-	34,828
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	52,931	-	(17,240)	(20,909)	(38,149)	14,782
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(346,832)	-	-	(561)	(561)	(347,393)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	35,036	(14,246)	(30,250)	(22,346)	(66,842)	(31,806)

Note 9 Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (continued)

Restated 2017/18	Adjustments Between Accounting & Funding Basis					Net Expenditure Charged to the HRA & General Fund Balance
	Net Expenditure on the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Adjustments for Defined Benefit Pensions	Other Adjustments	Total	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
City Development & Neighbourhoods	140,000	(93,630)	(4,794)	(232)	(98,656)	41,344
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	(2,902)	(14,155)	(2,706)	(21)	(16,882)	(19,784)
Adult Social Care	92,503	(1,500)	(2,484)	(121)	(4,105)	88,398
Health Improvement & Wellbeing	(6,003)	-	(603)	(39)	(642)	(6,645)
Education & Children's Services	100,268	(29,592)	(9,167)	1,072	(37,687)	62,581
Corporate Resources & Support	34,283	346	(3,234)	(87)	(2,975)	31,308
Housing Benefits	(528)	-	-	-	-	(528)
Corporate Items	(7,917)	31,375	3,486	-	34,861	26,944
Capital Financing	(486)	-	-	-	-	(486)
Cost of Services	349,218	(107,156)	(19,502)	572	(126,086)	223,132
Other Operating Expenditure	51,622	-	-	-	-	51,622
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	36,441	-	(17,258)	(86)	(17,344)	19,097
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(297,481)	-	-	(3,148)	(3,148)	(300,629)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	139,800	(107,156)	(36,760)	(2,662)	(146,578)	(6,778)

Note 9 Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (continued)

Adjustments for Capital Purposes

This column adds depreciation, impairment and revaluation gains and losses into the services line, and for:

- **Other Operating Expenditure** – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- **Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure** – the statutory charges for capital financing i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and other revenue contributions are deducted from other income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.
- **Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure** – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions are satisfied in the year.

Net Change for Pensions Adjustments

This column is for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income:

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charges to the CIES.

Other Adjustments

These columns reflect other differences between amounts debited/credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable receivable to be recognised under statute.

- For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure figures reflect the adjustments to the General Fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.
- The charge under taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure figures reflect the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for Council Tax and NDR that was projected

to be received at the start of the year and the income.

- The reversal of officers remuneration chargeable on an accruals basis is different to that chargeable under statutory requirements

Note 10 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

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Adjustment	2018/19					Movemt in Unusable Reserves £000
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account:						
Charges for depreciation, impairment and amortisation of non-current assets	(71,033)	(31,195)	-	-	-	102,228
Revaluation losses on Property Plant and Equipment	2,115	(34)	-	-	-	(2,081)
Capital grants and contributions applied	69,767	17	-	-	-	(69,784)
Capital expenditure funded from revenue	10,311	-	-	-	-	(10,311)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(33,955)	-	-	-	-	33,955
Amounts 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	(37,206)	(20,788)	-	-	-	57,994
Income recognised in respect of donated assets	168	-	-	-	-	(168)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	10,355	326	-	-	-	(10,681)
Voluntary provision for the financing of capital expenditure	(5,434)	-	-	-	-	5,434
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	-	9,156	-	-	-	(9,156)
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	8,092	18,946	(27,038)	-	-	-
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	-	-	3,518	-	-	(3,518)
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	(250)	-	250	-	-	-
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	(2,189)	-	2,189	-	-	-

Note 10 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Adjustment Continued	2018/19					
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Movemt in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	(197)	-	-	-	-	197
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	255	-	-	-	-	(255)
Adjustments primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Transfer of HRA depreciation costs to Major Repairs Reserve	-	11,121	-	(11,121)	-	-
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	-	-	-	11,121	-	(11,121)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve:						
Capital grants recognised in the year and credited to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	115,706	-	-	-	(115,706)	-
Application of grants to capital financing credited to the Capital Adjustment Account	(68,300)	-	-	-	68,300	-
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account:						
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	(9,443)	(11,466)	-	-	-	20,909
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(63,697)	(10,019)	-	-	-	73,716
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	37,558	5,908	-	-	-	(43,466)
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
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	(561)	-	-	-	-	561
Adjustment primarily 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	(849)	(27)	-	-	-	876
Total Adjustments	(38,787)	(28,055)	(21,081)	-	(47,406)	(135,329)

Note 10 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Adjustment	Restated 2017/18					Movment in Unusable Reserves £000
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account:						
Charges for depreciation, impairment and amortisation of non-current assets	(77,975)	(27,087)	-	-	-	105,062
Revaluation losses on Property Plant and Equipment	(26,751)	(968)	-	-	-	27,719
Capital grants and contributions applied	72,403	23	-	-	-	(72,426)
Capital expenditure funded from revenue	2,133	-	-	-	-	(2,133)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(25,193)	-	-	-	-	25,193
Amounts 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	(62,364)	(18,781)	-	-	-	81,145
Income recognised in respect of donated assets	1,026	-	-	-	-	(1,026)
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account:						
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment	11,590	187	-	-	-	(11,777)
Voluntary provision for the financing of capital expenditure	6,956	138	-	-	-	(7,094)
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	-	5,468	-	-	-	(5,468)
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	16,365	16,392	(32,757)	-	-	-
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	-	-	1,012	-	-	(1,012)
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	-	-	250	-	-	(250)
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	(1,703)	-	1,703	-	-	-

Note 10 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Adjustment Continued	Restated 2017/18					Movemt in Unusable Reserves £000
	General Fund Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	
Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	(140)	-	-	-	-	140
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2	-	-	-	-	(2)
Adjustments primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Transfer of HRA depreciation costs to Major Repairs Reserve	-	10,473	-	(10,473)	-	-
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	-	-	-	11,673	-	(11,673)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve:						
Capital grants recognised in the year and credited to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	57,230	-	-	-	(57,230)	-
Application of grants to capital financing credited to the Capital Adjustment Account	(66,580)	-	-	-	66,580	-
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account:						
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	-	(86)	-	-	-	86
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(70,725)	(9,631)	-	-	-	80,356
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	38,371	5,225	-	-	-	(43,596)
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
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	(3,148)	-	-	-	-	3,148
Adjustment primarily 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	593	(21)	-	-	-	(572)
Total Adjustments	(127,910)	(18,668)	(29,792)	1,200	9,350	165,820

Note 11 - Movement in Earmarked Reserves

Earmarked reserves are amounts set aside to provide financing for future expenditure plans. The table below provides a list of reserves held by the Council. Additional information on the earmarked reserves can be found in the Council's outturn report.

The breakdown of earmarked reserves has been restated to reflect the headings reported to management.

2018/19	Restated	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Balance
	Balance at 31st March 2018			at 31st March 2019
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Ring-fenced Reserves				
DSG not delegated to schools	12,710	2,397	(6,897)	8,210
School Balances	16,719	22,199	(21,691)	17,227
School Capital Fund	2,383	575	-	2,958
NHS Joint Working Projects	1,769	4,494	(4,494)	1,769
Public Health Transformation	1,668	-	-	1,668
Education & Skills Funding Agency Learning Programme	-	1,353	-	1,353
Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation Funding	-	666	-	666
Schools Buy Back	1,073	3,166	(1,583)	2,656
Secondary PRU - Year End Balance	91	-	(5)	86
Primary PRU - Year End Balance	14	69	-	83
Total Ring-fenced Reserves	36,427	34,919	(34,670)	36,676
Corporate Reserves				
Capital Programme Reserve	41,395	22,793	(13,860)	50,328
Managed Reserves Strategy	25,252	18,628	(10,297)	33,583
Demographic Pressures Reserve (19/20-20/21)	9,745	13,502	(875)	22,372
BSF Financing	11,533	1,737	(1,103)	12,167
Severance Fund	7,265	930	(1,867)	6,328
Service Transformation Fund	6,087	-	(1,175)	4,912
Insurance Fund	9,099	4,542	(2,051)	11,590
Welfare Reform Reserve	3,791	500	(908)	3,383
Energy Fund	4,042	745	(442)	4,345
Total Corporate Reserves	118,209	63,377	(32,578)	149,008
Earmarked Reserves Departmental				
Financial Services Reserve	3,940	518	(750)	3,708
ICT Development Fund	3,887	167	(559)	3,495
Delivery, Communications & Political Governance	5,211	593	(150)	5,654
Housing	1,410	738	(568)	1,580
City Development (Excl Housing)	3,369	2,419	(2,172)	3,616
Children's Services	14,560	1,425	(687)	15,298
Health & Wellbeing Division	1,692	1,063	(960)	1,795
Other Departmental Reserves	1,257	39	(121)	1,175
Total Other Reserves	35,326	6,962	(5,967)	36,321
Total Earmarked Reserves	189,962	105,258	(73,215)	222,005

Note 11 - Movement in Earmarked Reserves (continued)

2017/18	Restated	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Restated
	Balance at 31st March 2017			at 31st March 2018
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Ring-fenced Reserves				
DSG not delegated to schools	15,010	408	(2,708)	12,710
School Balances	15,306	5,769	(4,356)	16,719
School Capital Fund	2,993	7	(617)	2,383
NHS Joint Working Projects	1,769	4,573	(4,573)	1,769
Public Health Transformation	1,668	-	-	1,668
Education & Skills Funding Agency Learning Programmes	-	-	-	-
Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation Funding	-	-	-	-
Schools Buy Back	771	302	-	1,073
Secondary PRU - Year End Balance	213	-	(122)	91
Primary PRU - Year End Balance	(6)	20	-	14
Total Ring-fenced Reserves	37,724	11,079	(12,376)	36,427
Corporate Reserves				
Capital Programme Reserve	37,498	12,161	(8,264)	41,395
Managed Reserves Strategy	30,034	12,928	(17,710)	25,252
Demographic Pressures Reserve (19/20-20/21)	1,902	7,985	(142)	9,745
BSF Financing	18,595	2,262	(9,324)	11,533
Severance Fund	11,032	-	(3,767)	7,265
Service Transformation Fund	7,302	-	(1,215)	6,087
Insurance Fund	6,664	27,428	(24,993)	9,099
Welfare Reform Reserve	4,077	424	(710)	3,791
Other Corporate Reserves	3,539	1,738	(1,235)	4,042
Total Corporate Reserves	120,643	64,926	(67,360)	118,209
Earmarked Reserves Departmental				
Financial Services Reserve	3,695	1,173	(928)	3,940
ICT Development Fund	4,383	234	(730)	3,887
Delivery, Communications & Political Governance	4,857	1,372	(1,018)	5,211
Housing	1,178	236	(4)	1,410
City Development (Excl Housing)	2,658	1,176	(465)	3,369
Children's Services Pressures	13,408	1,152	-	14,560
Health & Wellbeing Division	984	1,017	(309)	1,692
Other Departmental Reserves	1,051	206	-	1,257
Total Other Reserves	32,214	6,566	(3,454)	35,326
Total Earmarked Reserves	190,581	82,571	(83,190)	189,962

Note 12 Other Operating Expenditure

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Payments to the government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	1,703	2,189
Total (gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	48,792	31,167
Other operating income and expenditure	1,127	1,472
Total	51,622	34,828

Note 13 Financing and Investment Income & Expenditure

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Interest payable and similar charges	20,954	37,954
Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	17,258	17,240
Interest receivable and similar income	(1,623)	(2,263)
(Surplus)/deficit on trading operations *	(148)	-
Total	36,441	52,931

*In previous years the Council has treated the following services as trading operations - City Highways, Passenger Transport & City Catering. Following a review in 2018/19, these activities have now been included in cost of services.

Note 14 Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income & Expenditure

	Restated 2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Council Tax income	(101,382)	(109,628)
Non-domestic rates	(92,754)	(96,506)
Non-ringfenced government grants	(63,654)	(55,112)
Capital grants and contributions	(38,665)	(85,418)
Donated Assets	(1,026)	(168)
Total	(297,481)	(346,832)

Note 15 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The Council's expenditure and income reported in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement is analysed by nature in the table below.

	Restated 2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Expenditure		
Employee Benefit Expenses	427,059	403,902
Other Services expenses	770,319	757,167
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	105,062	102,228
Interest Payments	38,212	55,194
Precepts & Levies	81	82
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts pool	1,703	2,189
Gain on the Disposal of Assets	48,792	31,167
Total Expenditure	1,391,228	1,351,929
Income		
Fees , charges and other service income	(395,481)	(413,757)
Interest & Investment Income	(1,623)	(2,263)
Income from Council Tax, non domestic rates	(194,136)	(206,134)
Government grants & contributions	(660,188)	(694,739)
Total Income	(1,251,428)	(1,316,893)
Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services	139,800	35,036

Employee Benefit expenses & other services lines for 2017/18 have been adjusted to correctly reflect pension adjustments, previously shown in other services expenses.

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Movement on Balances in 2018/19

The first table in this note illustrates the change in the value of the Council's property, plant and equipment assets during 2018/19. The following tables provide additional detail on the basis for valuations of these assets and future capital expenditure already committed.

Movements on Balances in 2018/19	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Service Concession Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation									
At 1st April 2018	910,318	1,044,095	88,509	274,109	3,764	78,401	1,638	2,400,834	124,136
Additions	21,347	11,175	1,961	20,078	1,180	4,952	1,215	61,908	415
Revaluation Increases/(Decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	59,089	194,781	1,518	139	524	(1,252)	-	254,799	32,091
Revaluation Increases/(Decreases) not recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(19,495)	(13,060)	(306)	(18,724)	(1,231)	(3,596)	-	(56,412)	(415)
De-recognition – disposals	(20,788)	(37,040)	-	-	(190)	(644)	-	(58,662)	(18,510)
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale			-	-	-			-	
Asset reclassified (other)		(704)				495		(209)	
As at 31st March 2019	950,471	1,199,247	91,682	275,602	4,047	78,356	2,853	2,602,258	137,717

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Movement on Balances in 2018/19 (continued)

Movements on Balances in 2018/19	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Service Concession Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Accumulated Depreciation &									
At 1st April 2018	-	(26,587)	(52,899)	(62,335)	(7)	(23)	-	(141,851)	(13,941)
Depreciation Charge	(9,911)	(21,296)	(6,180)	(6,839)		(8)	-	(44,234)	(3,896)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	9,911	32,936	4,769	51	7	5	-	47,679	3,360
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the provision of services	-	3,312	9	57	-	-	-	3,378	
De-recognition – disposals	-	1,258	-	-	-	(2)	-	1,256	807
Assets reclassified to/(from) Held for Sale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
As at 31st March 2019	-	(10,377)	(54,301)	(69,066)	-	(28)	-	(133,772)	(13,670)
Net Book Value as at 31st March 2019	950,471	1,188,870	37,381	206,536	4,047	78,328	2,853	2,468,486	124,047
As at 1st April 2018	910,318	1,017,508	35,610	211,774	3,757	78,378	1,638	2,258,983	110,195

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Movement on Balances in 2017/18

2017/18 Comparative Movements	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Service Concession Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation									
At 1st April 2017	849,760	1,091,202	88,587	270,670	2,857	90,236	188	2,393,500	119,445
Additions	17,373	23,234	857	15,363	1,070	14,181	1,450	73,528	2,001
Revaluation Increases/(Decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	77,501	19,588	4,341	(23)	890	(1,038)	-	101,259	4,690
Revaluation Increases/(Decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(16,730)	(40,491)	(5,276)	(11,901)	(989)	(21,765)	-	(97,152)	(2,000)
De-recognition – disposals	(18,781)	(49,860)	-	-	(64)	(4,185)	-	(72,890)	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	1,617	-	-	-	972	-	2,589	-
Asset reclassified (other)	1,195	(1,195)	-	-	-	0	-	0	-
As at 31st March 2018	910,318	1,044,095	88,509	274,109	3,764	78,401	1,638	2,400,834	124,136

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Movement on Balances in 2017/18 (continued)

2017/18 Comparative Movements	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Service Concession Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment									
At 1st April 2017	-	(29,925)	(54,508)	(55,582)	(6)	(21)	-	(140,042)	(11,124)
Depreciation Charge	(9,259)	(21,121)	(6,462)	(6,784)	-	(5)	-	(43,631)	(4,704)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	9,259	17,302	3,001	10	(1)	3	-	29,574	1,887
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the provision of services	117	3,793	5,070	21	-	-	-	9,001	-
De-recognition – disposals	(117)	3,364	-	-	-	-	-	3,247	-
Assets reclassified to/(from) Held for Sale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
As at 31st March 2018	-	(26,587)	(52,899)	(62,335)	(7)	(23)	-	(141,851)	(13,941)
Net Book Value as at 31st March 2018	910,318	1,017,508	35,610	211,774	3,757	78,378	1,638	2,258,983	110,195
As at 1st April 2017	849,760	1,061,277	34,079	215,088	2,851	90,215	188	2,253,458	108,321

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Capital Commitments

At 31st March 2019, the Council has entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment in 2019/20. Similar commitments at 31st March 2018 were £21.2m. The major commitments are:

Contract for Capital Investment	Period	£000
Secondary School Temporary Modular Buildings	2019-20	1,931
Leicester North West Transport Improvement Programme	2019-20	1,544
London Road Highway Improvement Scheme	2019-20	1,462
Marriott New Build	2019-20	1,231
St John Baptist	2019-20	643
Leicester Market Redevelopment	2019-20	331
SEND Phase 1	2019-20	325
Childrens Homes Maintenance Programme	2019-20	146
Stokes Wood School Maintenance Contract	2019-20	112
Fullhurst Expansion	2019-20	107
Total		7,832

Note 16 Property, Plant and Equipment - Revaluations

2018/19 Valuation Dates	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Carried at historical cost	-	241	70,852	274,301	40	13,201	2,853	361,488
Valued at fair or nominal value as at:								
Pre 1st April 2012	-	1,932	-	-	-	-	-	1,932
1st April 2012	-	958	-	-	-	-	-	958
1st April 2013	-	1,716	-	-	-	-	-	1,716
1st April 2014	-	29,008	-	719	412	-	-	30,139
1st April 2015	-	27,467	-	-	-	-	-	27,467
1st April 2016	-	2,804	-	-	-	1,086	-	3,890
1st April 2017	-	37,124	2,145	-	1	99	-	39,369
Valued @ 31st March 2019	950,471	1,097,997	18,685	582	3,594	63,970	-	2,135,299
Total	950,471	1,199,247	91,682	275,602	4,047	78,356	2,853	2,602,258

The Council carries out a rolling programme of valuations that ensures that all property and land (subject to a de minimis of £10k for asset values) required to be measured at current value is revalued at least every five years. The few exceptions to this rule appear in the table above. All property and land assets that are valued at Market Value are subject to annual review.

Properties are now valued as at the 31st March of the financial year using forecast indices, if appropriate, to ensure that the valuation is still correct at the financial year end.

Annual valuations of council dwellings are carried out by a specialist external valuer and are based on guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. All other valuations are carried out internally by an accredited valuer and chartered member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of RICS.

Valuations of the majority of vehicles, plant,

equipment and furniture, and of infrastructure, are based on historical cost.

Note 17 Heritage Assets

The Council holds a number of Heritage Assets, defined as assets having historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities, and that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture.

The following tables show the movement in the value of Heritage assets during 2018/19 and the previous year.

Heritage Buildings

These include the Magazine, Abbey House and the Great Hall at Leicester Castle. The land and buildings relating to these assets are included within the revaluation cycle employed by the Council. However, none of these assets are charged depreciation as per the Council's stated accounting policy on Heritage Assets (see Note 1). Some buildings that are part of Leicester's heritage are included within Property, Plant & Equipment (Note 16).

Museum Exhibits

Leicester City Council operates five complimentary museums in the City. The museum sites are accredited museums, meaning they meet standards approved by the Arts Council on behalf of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport for collections care, visitor experience and organisational health.

There are currently around two million museum

and gallery exhibits which are managed in accordance with the policies and procedures approved by the Council in line with nationally and internationally agreed standards.

Museum exhibits are included in the Balance Sheet at insurance value rather than current or fair value, reflecting the fact that sales and exchanges are uncommon. However, during the year the basis of the insurance value was changed to exclude costs associated with auction purchases. Additions to the exhibits collection are initially included at historical cost and are then included as part of the annual insurance revaluation.

Some of the City Council's museum exhibits collection are displayed at the King Richard III Visitor Centre.

Statues and Monuments

The Council has responsibility for a number of statues and monuments across the City. A number of the more significant assets are included at insurance values. The remainder are included at a nominal value as per our stated accounting policy on Heritage Assets.

Note 17 Heritage Assets (continued)

Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets Held by the Council

Movement on Balances 2018/19	Museum	Statues &	Total	
	Buildings	Exhibits	Monument	Assets
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1st April 2018	2,560	102,973	5,876	111,409
Additions	-	733	-	733
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	323	(20,238)	-	(19,915)
As at 31st March 2019	2,883	83,468	5,876	92,227

2017/18 Comparative Movements	Museum	Statues &	Total	
	Buildings	Exhibits	Monument	Assets
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation				
At 1st April 2017	2,633	100,544	5,876	109,053
Additions	-	1,026	-	1,026
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	(73)	1,403	-	1,330
As at 31st March 2018	2,560	102,973	5,876	111,409

Note 18 Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its computer software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment. The intangible assets include both purchased licenses and application software.

At present all of the Council's intangible assets are amortised over 5 years on a straight-line basis. None of the Council's intangible assets have been internally generated.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April		
Gross Carrying Amounts	3,666	4,531
Accumulated Amortisation	(1,039)	(1,157)
Net carrying amount at 1st April	2,627	3,374
Additions (Purchases)	1,487	1,060
Impairment losses recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(622)	(2,153)
Write-out of impairment amortisation	424	-
Reclassified from other asset classifications	-	-
Amortisation applied in Year	(542)	(681)
Gross Carrying Amount at 31st March	4,531	3,438
Accumulated Amortisation	(1,157)	(1,838)
Net Carrying Amount at 31st March	3,374	1,600

Note 19a Financial Instruments - Classifications

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 and government grants, do not give rise to financial instruments.

Category	Amount	Amount	Comment / Reference
	31st March 2018 £000	31st March 2019 £000	
Long Term Investments			
Amount in Balance Sheet	32,500	15,000	
Amounts covered in Note 19:	32,500	15,000	This note - section B Table 2
Short Term Investments			
Amount in Balance Sheet	192,380	200,021	
Amounts covered in Note 19:	192,380	200,021	This note - section B Table 2
Short Term Borrowing			
Amount in Balance Sheet	19,995	11,091	
Amounts covered in Note 19:	19,995	11,091	This note - section B Table 1
Long Term Borrowing			
Amount in Balance Sheet	234,495	180,119	
Amounts covered in Note 19:	234,495	180,119	This note - section B Table 1
Other Long Term Liabilities			
Amount in Balance Sheet	743,818	869,925	
Amounts covered in Note 19:	109,525	103,885	This note - section B Table 1
Amounts not covered in Note 19:			
Liability related to defined benefit pension schemes	634,031	765,878	Note 43 - Defined Benefit Pensions
Amounts related to Bonds	263	162	Not separately disclosed

Note 19b Financial Instruments - Balances

The financial liabilities disclosed in the Balance Sheet are analysed across the following categories:

Table 1

Financial Liabilities	Long Term		Short Term	
	31st March 2018	31st March 2019	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Loans at amortised cost:				
- Principal sum borrowed	230,791	179,491	17,781	9,605
- Accrued interest	-	-	2,214	1,486
- EIR adjustments	3,704	628	-	-
Total Borrowing	234,495	180,119	19,995	11,091
Liabilities at amortised cost:				
- Finance leases	7,184	6,659	-	-
- PFI arrangements	77,456	73,316	4,056	4,151
- Transferred debt liability	24,347	23,394	1,037	975
Total Other Long-term Liabilities	108,987	103,369	5,093	5,126
Liabilities at amortised cost:				
- Trade payables	-	-	77,989	61,144
- PFI arrangements	538	516	-	-
Included in Creditors	538	516	77,989	61,144
Total Financial Liabilities	344,020	284,004	103,077	77,361

Note 19b Financial Instruments - Balances (continued)

Categories of Financial Assets have been re-named in 2018/19, to be shown under new headings following the implementation of IFRS9. Loans and Receivables are now shown as Amortised Cost. Available-for-sale investments are now shown as Other.

Bonds amounting to £7.59m were classified as an Available-for-sale investment at 31st March 2018. However, due to Financial Assets being classified according to their business model now, they have been re-classified to Amortised cost. During 2018/19 the bonds were repaid.

The financial assets disclosed in the Balance Sheet are analysed across the following categories:

	Balance at 31st March 2018 under IAS39	IFRS9 Reclassification	Balance at 31st March 2018 under IFRS9
	£000	£000	£000
Financial Assets			
Investments			
Loans & Receivables / Amortised cost	-	7,591	7,591
Available for sale	7,591	(7,591)	-
Total investments	7,591	-	7,591

Table 2

Financial Assets	Long Term		Short Term	
	31st March 2018	31st March 2019	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amortised cost:				
- Principal at amortised cost	32,500	15,000	190,091	191,000
- Accrued interest	-	-	588	729
Other:				
Fair Value	-	-	1,701	8,292
Total Investments	32,500	15,000	192,380	200,021
Amortised cost:				
- Cash (including bank accounts)	-	-	14,068	12,973
Other:				
- Cash equivalents at fair value	-	-	30,000	28,700
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	-	-	44,068	41,673
Amortised Cost:				
- Trade receivables	3,482	3,509	31,938	7,921
- Loans made for service purposes	5,483	4,232	1,340	1,096
Included in Debtors	8,965	7,741	33,278	9,017
Total Financial Assets	41,465	22,741	269,726	250,711

Note 19c Financial Instruments - Gains and Losses

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments consist of the following items:

	Amortised Cost	Amortised Cost	Other	2018/19 Total	2017/18 Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Interest expense	16,391	-	-	16,391	20,954
Premia on loan repayment*	21,563	-	-	21,563	
Interest payable and similar charges	37,954	-	-	37,954	20,954
Interest income	-	(1,892)	(212)	(2,104)	(1,623)
Dividends	-	-	(159)	(159)	
Interest and investment income	-	(1,892)	(371)	(2,263)	(1,623)
Net (Gain)/Loss for the Year	37,954	(1,892)	(371)	35,691	19,331

*Loans with a nominal value of £51m were repaid in 2018/19 at a premium of £21,563k. This premium has been adjusted through the financial instruments adjustment account at Note 10.

Note 19d Financial Instruments - Fair Values

Financial assets classified as available for sale and all derivative assets and liabilities are carried in the Balance Sheet at fair value. For most assets, including bonds, treasury bills and shares in money market funds, the fair value is taken from the market price.

Some of the authority's financial assets are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and are described below:

- Level 1 – fair value is only derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, e.g. bond prices
- Level 2 – fair value is calculated from inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, e.g. interest rates or yields for similar instruments
- Level 3 – fair value is determined using unobservable inputs, e.g. non-market data such as cash flow forecasts or estimated creditworthiness

The fair value of financial liabilities held at amortised cost is higher than their balance sheet carrying amount because the money was borrowed when interest rates were higher than they are now.

The table shows the amounts held at 31st March 2019 and the fair value reported in the 2018/19 accounts.

		31st March 2018		31st March 2019	
	Fair Value Level	Balance Sheet £000	Fair Value £000	Balance Sheet £000	Fair Value £000
<i>Financial liabilities held at amortised cost:</i>					
Long-term loans from PWLB	2	134,491	192,077	134,491	191,562
Long-term LOBO loans	2	73,963	115,915	20,628	32,479
Other long-term loans	2	26,884	35,241	25,000	35,182
Bonds issued	1	8,677	9,951	-	-
Lease payables and PFI liabilities	2	89,233	153,557	84,642	140,154
Transferred debt liabilities	2	25,384	37,505	24,369	36,744
Total		358,632	544,246	289,130	436,121
Liabilities for which fair value is not disclosed *		88,464		72,235	
Total Financial Liabilities		447,096	544,246	361,365	436,121
<i>Recorded on balance sheet as:</i>					
Short-term creditors		83,082		66,786	
Short-term borrowing		19,995		11,091	
Long-term creditors		24,347		23,394	
Long-term borrowing		234,495		180,119	
Other long-term liabilities		85,177		79,975	
Total Financial Liabilities		447,096		361,365	

*The fair value of short-term financial liabilities including trade payables is assumed to approximate to the carrying amount.

Note 19d Financial Instruments - Fair Values (continued)

	31st March 2018		31st March 2019		
	Fair Value	Balance Sheet	Fair Value	Balance Sheet	Fair Value
	Level	£000	£000	£000	£000
<i>Financial assets held at fair value:</i>					
Money market funds	1	31,701	31,701	28,700	28,700
Corporate, covered and government bonds	2	7,590	7,590	-	-
Property Unit Trusts	1	-	-	8,292	8,292
<i>Financial assets held at amortised cost:</i>					
Long-term loans to local authorities	2	-	-	15,000	15,087
Long-term loans to companies	3	6,823	6,823	3,240	3,240
Finance Lease	3	761	761	992	992
Long-term Debtor	3	-	-	-	-
Total		46,875	46,875	56,224	56,311
Assets for which fair value is not disclosed *		264,316	-	217,227	-
Total Financial Assets		311,191	46,875	273,451	56,311
<i>Recorded on balance sheet as:</i>					
Long-term debtors		8,965		7,741	
Long-term investments		32,500		15,000	
Short-term debtors		33,278		9,016	
Short-term investments		192,380		200,021	
Cash and cash equivalents		44,068		41,673	
Total Financial Assets		311,191		273,451	

* The fair value of short-term financial assets including trade receivables is assumed to approximate to the carrying amount.

Note 20 Inventories

The value of inventories as at 31st March :

	Balance at 31st March 2018 £000	Balance at 31st March 2019 £000
Consumable Stores	409	369
Maintenance Materials	2,080	2,475
Work in Progress	269	188
Total	2,758	3,032

Note 21 Debtors

Long-Term Debtors

The value of long-term debtors as at 31st March :

	Balance at 31st March 2018	Balance at 31st March 2019
	£000	£000
PFI Lease	1,944	2,390
Other Long Term Debtors	7,021	5,351
Total	8,965	7,741

Short-Term Debtors

The value of short-term debtors as at 31st March:

	Restated Balance at 31st March 2018	Balance at 31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Central Government bodies	9,659	7,910
Other Local Authorities	1,865	2,026
NHS bodies	2,577	3,398
Public Corporations and Trading Funds	3	4
Other Entities and Individuals	19,492	18,263
Payments in Advance	8,337	8,192
Local Taxation (Council Tax & Business Rates)	9,568	9,616
Total	51,501	49,409

Note 22 Cash and Cash Equivalents

The value of cash and cash equivalents as at 31st March: _____

	Balance at 31st March 2018 £000	Balance at 31st March 2019 £000
Cash held by the Council	57	36
Bank	14,011	12,937
Short-term deposits with local authorities - Investment	30,000	28,700
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	44,068	41,673

Note 23 Assets Held for Sale

The value of assets held for sale as at 31st March:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	14,582	4,284
Property, Plant and Equipment newly classified as held for sale	0	308
Property, Plant and Equipment declassified as held for sale	(2,589)	(99)
Assets Sold	(7,467)	(630)
Other Movements	(242)	0
Balance at 31st March	4,284	3,863

Note 24 Creditors

The value of creditors as at 31st March:

	Restated Balance at 31st March 2018	Balance at 31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Central Government bodies	20,686	21,349
Other Local Authorities	8,430	9,564
NHS bodies	1,280	2,039
Public Corporations and Trading Funds	-	17
Other Entities and Individuals	87,276	76,067
Receipts in Advance	23,548	18,980
Total	141,220	128,016

Note 25 Provisions

The table below provides a list of provisions made by the authority at the end of the financial year:

Payment of Insurance Claims

The Authority holds funds to meet the costs of insurance claims, for both claims received but not yet settled and claims that will be received in the future. The sum of £4m is held as a provision, being the amount that the Council estimates will be required to meet claims already received. A further sum of £12m is held as an earmarked reserve (as per Note 11), to meet the costs of liabilities incurred for which claims have not been received. Periodically, the fund value is reviewed by actuaries.

Housing Benefit Subsidy Claims

The Council pays and administers Housing Benefit within Leicester and receives subsidy from the Government to reimburse it for amounts paid out. The amount of subsidy received is based on a claim completed annually.

Claims are subject to audit and often give rise to the discovery of overpayments to some benefits recipients. This can lead to the value of the claim being reduced, based on an extrapolation. A provision is maintained based on the total value of the subsidy claims outstanding. The provision currently totals £1m.

	Insurance	Housing Benefits	Equal Pay	s117 Mental Health Act	Housing	Business Rate Appeals	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April 2017	5,385	3,010	124	39	1,200	2,501	12,259
Net Movement (additions less amounts used)	(466)	(415)	-	-	(473)	1,417	63
Balance at 1st April 2018	4,919	2,595	124	39	727	3,918	12,322
2018/19 Provisions/(Reductions)	3,030	-	(124)	-	(30)	4,293	7,169
Amounts used in 2018/19	(4,007)	(1,545)	-	-	-	(1,285)	(6,837)
Balance at 31st March 2019	3,942	1,050	-	39	697	6,926	12,654

Section 117 Mental Health Act

The sum is a provision for refunds to people with mental health difficulties who have been charged for residential and nursing care. The sum provided for is based on known cases, for which there is a possibility that the Council will be required to make refunds.

Housing Provisions

The sum is held in respect of HRA liabilities within the Housing service including losses on stock and liabilities to other third parties.

Business Rate appeals

A number of appeals against rateable value assessments have not been determined by the Valuation Office Agency. If successful, there will be a retrospective reduction in income. Therefore, a provision has been charged to the collection fund calculated at a total of £14m (Council share of £7m).

Note 26 Usable Reserves

Movements in the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the table below, which indicates the statement or note that provides further detail.

	Restated Opening Balance	Movement	Closing Balance	Supporting Note
	£000	£000	£000	
General Fund	(15,000)	-	(15,000)	MIRS and Narrative Statement
Earmarked Reserves	(189,962)	(32,043)	(222,005)	Note 11 and Narrative Statement
Total General Fund Reserves	(204,962)	(32,043)	(237,005)	
Housing Revenue Account	(30,745)	237	(30,508)	HRA Statements and Notes
Major Repairs Reserve	-	-	-	Note 10 and HRA Note 13
Capital Receipts Reserve	(84,742)	(21,081)	(105,823)	Note 10
Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	(22,259)	(47,406)	(69,665)	Note 10
Total Usable Reserves	(342,708)	(100,293)	(443,001)	

Note 27a Unusable Reserves

Unusable reserves contain items that illustrate the difference between the Council's financial position under accounting standards (the "accounting basis") and the amount charged to the taxpayer for the year (the "funding basis").

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Revaluation Reserve	(680,452)	(937,370)
Capital Adjustment Account	(1,138,975)	(1,081,829)
Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	-	20,909
Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	(1,239)	(1,297)
Pensions Reserve	634,031	765,878
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	1,682	2,243
Accumulated Absences Account	6,090	6,966
Total Unusable Reserves	(1,178,863)	(1,224,500)

Note 27b Unusable Reserves (continued)

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment, heritage assets, assets held for sale 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 1st 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.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(574,637)	(680,452)
Upward revaluation of assets	(163,591)	(323,560)
Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	31,459	40,997
(Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(132,132)	(282,563)
Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	9,777	13,055
Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	16,540	12,590
Balance at 31st March	(680,452)	(937,370)

Note 27c Unusable Reserves (continued)

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 credited with sums provided to fund capital expenditure, both current and previous, with sums being transferred from the capital receipts reserve, capital grants and contributions, the Major Repairs Reserve and the General Fund (either direct funding or provision for repayment of borrowing). The account is debited with the reversal of sums charged to the CIES (to reflect the use of the asset by services) to avoid an impact on the General Fund. These charges include depreciation, impairment and amortisation.

The account contains revaluation gains accumulated on property, plant and equipment, heritage assets, assets held for sale and intangible assets before 1st April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains. The table below provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the account.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(1,238,918)	(1,138,975)
Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:		
Charges for depreciation & impairment	104,520	101,783
Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	27,719	(2,081)
Amortisation of intangible assets	542	445
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	25,193	33,955
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the (gain)/loss on disposal to the Income and Expenditure Statement	81,145	57,994
	(999,799)	(946,879)
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(26,317)	(25,645)
Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year	(1,026,116)	(972,524)
Capital financing applied in the year:		
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(1,262)	(3,518)
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(11,673)	(11,121)
Capital Grants, Contributions & Donated Assets credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(73,452)	(69,952)
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(18,871)	(5,247)
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(7,601)	(19,467)
Balance at 31st March	(1,138,975)	(1,081,829)

Note 27d Unusable Reserves (continued)

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 discounts and premia paid on the early redemption of loans. Discounts are credited to the CIES when they are incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Premia are debited to the CIES when they are

incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the income (on discounts) and the expense (on premia) are posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on council tax.

The statutory arrangements referred to came into force on 1st April 2007 and applied to unamortised balances as at that date. The bulk of the outstanding balance is amortised over 10 years from that date with part of that balance being amortised over shorter periods.

The general policy is that any premia that are incurred in the future will be amortised over the longer of the residual life of the loan repaid or the life of any replacement loan that was taken. Shorter amortisation periods may be adopted, however, when this is considered prudent. Any discount that is received in the future will be amortised over the residual life of the loan repaid.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(86)	-
Proportion of premia incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	-	21,563
Proportion of discounts incurred in previous financial years to be credited to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	86	(654)
Balance at 31st March	-	20,909
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	86	20,909

Note 27e Unusable Reserves = (continued)

Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve

The Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve (DCCR) holds the gains recognised on the disposal of non-current assets but for which cash settlement has yet to take place. For the Council these amounts relate to mortgage loans made in respect of the purchase of Council dwellings and to properties leased out under finance leases. Under statutory arrangements, the Council does not treat these gains as usable for financing new capital expenditure until they are backed by cash receipts. When mortgage and lease payments are made the principal repayment element of these amounts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(1,377)	(1,239)
Transfer of deferred sale proceeds to the DCCR	(2)	(255)
Transfer to the Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	140	197
Balance at 31st March	(1,239)	(1,297)

Note 27f Unusable Reserves = (continued)

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-employment 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, and 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. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore 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.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	655,450	634,031
Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability	(58,179)	101,597
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	80,356	73,716
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(43,596)	(43,466)
Balance at 31st March	634,031	765,878

Note 27g&h Unusable Reserves (continued)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(1,466)	1,682
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	3,148	561
Balance at 31st March	1,682	2,243

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	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	6,662	6,090
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(6,662)	(6,090)
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	6,090	6,966
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	(572)	876
Balance at 31st March	6,090	6,966

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 (i.e. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31st March each year). Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

Note 28 Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Interest received	(1,561)	(2,263)
Interest paid	20,682	37,954
Net interest	19,121	35,691

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

	Restated 2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Depreciation	(43,631)	(44,234)
Downward revaluations, impairment losses and reversal of prior year impairments	(88,561)	(56,412)
Amortisation	(542)	(681)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(25,758)	19,074
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	4,666	(2,034)
(Increase) / decrease in inventories	335	273
Movement in pension liability	(36,760)	(30,250)
Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or de-recognised	(77,110)	(56,811)
Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(63)	(443)
	(267,424)	(171,518)

Note 28 Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities (continued)

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

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Capital Grants credited to surplus or deficit on the provision of services	62,920	117,168
Proceeds from the sale of property plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	32,775	27,038
	95,695	144,206

Note 29 Cash Flow Statement Investment Activities

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	76,041	63,286
Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	1,020,403	1,543,905
Other payments for investing activities	(2,200)	(1,282)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	(32,775)	(27,038)
Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	(968,600)	(1,553,782)
Other receipts from investing activities	(88,752)	(94,113)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	4,117	(69,024)

Note 30 Cash Flow Statement Financing Activities

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Cash receipts of short and long-term borrowing	(46,960)	(32,497)
Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and PFI contracts	5,007	415
Repayments of short and long-term borrowing	44,790	95,777
Other payments for financing activities	(757)	-
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	2,080	63,695

Note 31 - Pooled Budgets

The Council has entered into the following pooled budget arrangement under Section 75 of National Health Services Act 2006:

Supply of Integrated Community Equipment Loan Services (ICELS)

This is an arrangement for the supply of community equipment with Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council and the three Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG's) in the areas covered by the councils. Leicester City Council acts as the host partner.

The City Council contributed £0.68m (Adult Social Care contribution of £0.64m and Education contribution of £0.04m) to the pool during 2018/19 (£0.68m in 2017/18 of which Adult Social Care contributed £0.63m and Education contributed £0.05m) and this expenditure is also included in the Adult Social Care line and the Education of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Funding provided to the pooled budget:		
Leicester City Council	679	681
Leicestershire County Council	1,200	1,090
Rutland County Council	78	84
Leicester City CCG	912	1,119
East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG	876	986
West Leicestershire CCG	980	1,103
Total Funding provided to the pooled budget	4,725	5,063
Total Expenditure met from the pooled budget	4,725	5,063

Note 32 Members' Allowances

The Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£	£
Basic Allowance Payments	566,091	579,161
Special Responsibility Payments	371,087	386,795
General Expense Payments	83,066	83,277
Total	1,020,244	1,049,233

Note 33 Officers' Remuneration

This note comprises two parts. The first discloses the remuneration of the Council's most senior officers. The second part discloses the total number of 'higher paid' Council officers whose remuneration exceeded £50k during 2018/19, shown in bands and excluding those senior officers in the first part.

Part 1 - Senior Employees' Remuneration

The table shows the amounts paid to the holders of senior posts in 2018/19 with comparative data from 2017/18 where applicable.

Senior employees are defined as certain statutory chief officer posts (including the Head of Paid Service), those earning over £150k per annum and those earning less than this sum but reporting directly to the Head of Paid Service (Chief Operating Officer).

Remuneration in this table (as defined in statutory regulations) includes salary, fees/allowances, employer's pension contributions, taxable benefits and any compensation for loss of office.

Post	Financial Year	Salary, Fees and Allowances	Pension Contributions	Total
		£	£	£
Chief Operating Officer (Head of Paid Service)	2018/19	136,337	30,566	166,903
	2017/18	130,048	28,132	158,180
Director Delivery, Communications & Political Governance	2018/19	93,952	20,921	114,873
	2017/18	92,110	20,909	113,019
Director of Finance	2018/19	93,952	20,348	114,300
	2017/18	92,110	19,321	111,431
City Barrister & Head of Standards (Note 1)	2018/19	76,176	18,054	94,230
	2017/18	74,683	16,953	91,636
Strategic Director - Children's Services (Note 2)	2018/19	-	-	-
	2017/18	110,177	25,010	135,187
Strategic Director-Social Care and Education (Note 3)	2018/19	127,486	30,214	157,701
	2017/18	117,042	26,568	143,610
Strategic Director - City Development & Neighbourhoods	2018/19	127,486	30,214	157,700
	2017/18	116,529	26,452	142,981
Director of Public Health (Note 4)	2018/19	53,431	12,663	66,094
	2017/18	78,575	17,837	96,412
Director of Public Health (Note 5)	2018/19	16,846	2,458	19,304
	2017/18	-	-	-
Director of Capital Projects (Note 6)	2018/19	23,488	5,567	29,055
	2017/18	-	-	-

Notes:

- 1) City Barrister works on a part time basis.
- 2) The Strategic Director of Children Services left the role in February 2018.
- 3) In June 2018 the posts of Strategic Director of Adult Social Care role and Strategic Director of Children's Services were merged, creating the role of Strategic Director of Social Care and Education. The table shows remuneration paid to the postholder in this role, and in his former role as Strategic Director of Adult Social Care.
- 4) The Director of Public Health worked on a part time basis and left the role 30th November 2018. The position was left vacant until January 2019.
- 5) The Director of Public Health took up the role 24th January 2019.
- 6) The Director of Capital Projects is a new role created in January 2019.

Note 33 Officers' Remuneration (continued)

Part 2 - Higher Paid Employees

The number of other Council employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year are shown in the table below. In line with the relevant regulations, the table excludes the senior officers listed in the table above.

These figures include teaching, senior leadership and support staff within local authority schools. Employees in schools which become academies are only included if their remuneration during the period of the financial year prior to academy conversion (i.e. when the school was under the local authority) exceeded the £50k threshold. Further details of academies higher paid employees are published by academies themselves or can be requested directly from academies under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

It should be noted that the definition of remuneration in this table differs from that in the table above (in line with regulations) as it excludes employer's pension contributions.

The table includes compensation for loss of office, so employees who left in the year may appear in a higher band than the equivalent role would appear in based on a normal year's salary. Equally, some posts would not be included in the table based on a normal year's salary, but are included because of payments for compensation for loss of office.

The threshold for inclusion in this report is defined in regulations and remains static at £50k annually. Salaries paid to staff include annual pay increases as and when these are awarded, increasing the scope of the report over time.

Remuneration Band £	Number of Employees					
	Non-Schools		Schools		Total	
	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19
50,000-54,999	46	47	67	66	113	113
55,000-59,999	32	30	42	39	74	69
60,000-64,999	21	10	24	24	45	34
65,000-69,999	9	23	20	18	29	41
70,000-74,999	5	2	15	18	20	20
75,000-79,999	-	4	7	5	7	9
80,000-84,999	2	-	4	3	6	3
85,000-89,999	6	2	2	2	8	4
90,000-94,999	4	9	1	2	5	11
95,000-99,999	-	-	3	2	3	2
100,000-104,999	-	-	-	1	-	1
105,000-109,999	-	-	1	1	1	1
110,000-114,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
115,000-119,999	-	-	-	1	-	1
120,000-124,999	-	-	1	-	1	-
125,000-129,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
130,000-134,999	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	125	127	187	182	312	309

Note 34 External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and statutory inspections and to non-audit services provided by the Council's external auditors:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	147	113
Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year	59	53
Fees payable in respect of other services provided during the year	11	11
Total	217	177

Note 35 Dedicated Schools Grant

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools' Budget, as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2017. The Schools' Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools' Budget (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2018/19 are as follows:

2018/19	Central Expenditure	Individual Schools Budget	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Final DSG for 2018/19 before Academy recoupment			315,810
Academy figure recouped for 2018/19	-	-	(80,868)
Total DSG after Academy recoupment for 2018/19			234,942
Brought forward from 2017/18	-	-	12,709
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2018/19	64,451	183,200	247,651
In year adjustments	(514)	-	(514)
Final budgeted distribution for 2018/19	63,937	183,200	247,137
Actual central expenditure for the year	(55,727)	-	(55,727)
Actual ISB deployed to schools	-	(183,200)	(183,200)
Carry forward to 2019/20	8,210	-	8,210

Restated 2017/18	Central Expenditure	Individual Schools Budget	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Final DSG for 2017/18 before Academy recoupment			301,992
Academy figure recouped for 2017/18	-	-	(57,246)
Total DSG after Academy recoupment for 2017/18			244,746
Brought forward from 2016/17	-	-	15,010
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2017/18	63,503	196,253	259,756
In year adjustments	(177)	-	(177)
Final budgeted distribution for 2017/18	63,326	196,253	259,579
Actual central expenditure for the year	(50,617)	-	(50,617)
Actual ISB deployed to schools	-	(196,253)	(196,253)
Carry forward to 2018/19	12,709	-	12,709

Note 36 Grant Income

Capital grants recognised in the year

The Council received the following revenue and capital grants in 2018/19.

These grants are analysed between those credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and those held as receipts in advance, in line with the Council's accounting policies.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Credited to Services (All REFCUS related)		
DFE Basic Need Grant	6,147	14,899
Local Growth Fund	15,108	10,799
DFT Cleaner Bus Technology Grant	-	2,203
Disabled Facilities Grant	1,410	1,390
Devolved Formula Capital Grant	1,281	1,120
Collaborate Business Grants	223	611
Public Health Grants	-	531
Heritage Lottery Fund	160	-
Others	56	198
Total Credited to Services	24,385	31,751
	Restated	2018/19
	2017/18	£000
	£000	£000
Credited to Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income		
DFE Basic Need Grant	15,839	43,712
Local Growth Fund	11,897	10,746
DFT Transforming Cities Fund	-	7,840
S106 Contributions	-	5,934
Other DFT Grants	1,280	3,747
DFE Capital Maintenance Grant	3,471	3,204
DFT Integrated Transport Grant	2,556	2,556
DFT Maintenance Grant	2,323	2,102
Disabled Facilities Grant	853	1,123
DFE Devolved Capital Formula Grant	-	1,002
DFT Cleaner Bus Technology Fund	-	983
DFE SEND Funding	-	525
National Heritage Lottery Fund	-	490
DFE Healthy Pupil Capital Fund	-	307
British Cycling Grant	450	-
Public Health England Grants	268	-
IBM Contributions	(343)	-
Other	71	1,146
Total Credited to Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income	38,665	85,417

Note 36 Grant Income (continued)

Capital grants received in advance

The Council has received a number of capital grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that have not yet been met. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Capital Grants Receipts in Advance		
DFE Basic Need Grant	27,251	5,690
Devolved Formula Capital Grant	3,879	5,183
S106 Contributions	4,374	1,894
DFT Transport Grants	460	460
DFT Breathe Grants	184	184
Others	14	-
Total Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	36,162	13,411
Capital Receipts not Recognised (deposits)	639	335
Total Received in Advance	36,801	13,746

Note 36 Grant Income (continued)

Revenue grants recognised in the year

	Restated 2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Credited to Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income		
Revenue Support Grant	48,144	38,358
Section 31 Grants	5,933	8,012
Local Services Support Grant	1,581	984
New Homes Bonus Scheme	7,335	6,229
Other	662	1,530
Total Credited to Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income	63,655	55,113
Credited to Services		
Children's and Education Services		
Pupil Premium	14,778	13,409
Dedicated Schools Grant (see note 39)	244,746	234,942
Other Education	30,965	25,455
Adults and Housing		
Other Adult Social Care	1,355	2,938
Improved Better Care Fund	8,954	12,343
Public Health		
Public Health Grant	27,536	26,811
Other Public Health	93	146
City Development, Neighbourhoods & Housing		
Waste PFI	2,074	2,074
Other City Development and Neighbourhoods	6,219	14,198
Corporate and Resources		
Housing Benefit Subsidies	120,563	110,997
Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit Admin Grant	1,568	1,429
Local Council Tax Support Grant	526	497
Elections	698	187
Waste PFI	517	517
Other Corporate and Resources	1,744	2,129
Total Credited to Services	462,336	448,072
Total Recognised in Year	525,991	503,185

Note 36 Grant Income (continued)

Revenue grants received in advance

The Council has received a number of revenue grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that have not yet been met. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

	Restated 2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Children's and Education Services		
Other Education	4,881	78
Adult Social Care		
Other Adult Social Care	1,134	-
City Development, Neighbourhoods & Housing		
City Development and Neighbourhoods	589	133
Public Health		
Other Public Health	139	114
Total Receipts in Advance	6,743	325

Note 37 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 in Part 1 below 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.

The Council is also required to disclose interests it holds in companies and other entities. However, no material relationships of this nature existed during the 2018/19 financial year.

Organisations or individuals which are related parties of the Council

Central Government

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 substantial funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. Council Tax bills, housing benefits). Grant funding received from central government is shown within Note 36 to the accounts.

Members and Officers

Members and senior officers of the Council have direct control of the financial and operating policies of the Council. Members receive allowances for their role and these are detailed in Note 32. Remuneration of senior officers is detailed in Note 33.

All wards in the city are allocated a ward budget of £18k per annum. These budgets are used to fund projects in wards and the allocations are determined by elected members.

Members and officers are also required to disclose any other arrangements giving rise to related party interests.

During 2018/19 the council paid £3k in grants were paid to a business whose senior management included a Councillor or close family members.

12 Members of the Council and one senior officer sit (either in a personal capacity or as representatives of the Council) on the governing bodies of 12 different organisations. The Council made a total of £1.9m in payments to nine of these organisations, primarily in the form of grants, works or services. All payments are made with proper consideration of declaration of interest. The relevant members did not take part in any discussion or decision relating to the payments. In addition a total of £1.3m was received from eight of the organisations, primarily

relating to services provided by the Council.

Details of members' interests are recorded in the Register of Members' Interest open to public inspection at the Town Hall during office hours.

Note 38 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/PPP contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it.

This note also illustrates the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR represents the total underlying borrowing required to finance the Council's assets. There are two key points to note about this borrowing:

- Most borrowing used to finance capital expenditure was incurred prior to 2010, when the standard model in local government entailed borrowing funded by central government over the life of the loan. Since 2010, government has provided grant funding upfront to support all government funded capital expenditure. Borrowing is now only undertaken to support schemes that deliver revenue savings sufficient to repay the debt
- New borrowing does not necessarily represent external loans taken out, but is generally financed by the Council's free cash flows. This minimises the cost of external borrowing to the Council

Where capital expenditure is not financed by grant or revenue, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). Increases in the CFR result in higher levels of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charged to the revenue budget in future years. The Council's policy for the calculation of MRP is set out in its annual budget setting report presented to Council.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	576,915	566,446
Capital Investment		
Property, Plant and Equipment	73,528	61,910
Intangible Assets	1,487	1,060
Heritage Assets	1,026	733
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	25,193	33,955
Capital Loans Expenditure	1,107	1,451
Property Unit Trusts	-	8,292
De Minimis Capital Spend	49	46
Sub-total	102,390	107,447
Sources of Finance		
Capital Receipts	(1,262)	(3,518)
Government Grants & Other Contributions	(73,452)	(69,952)
Sums set aside from revenue:		
Direct Revenue Contributions	(19,274)	(30,588)
(MRP/Loans Fund Principal)	(18,871)	(5,247)
Sub-total	(112,859)	(109,305)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	566,446	564,588
Increase/(Decrease) in underlying need to borrowing	(10,331)	(1,720)
HRA CFR adjustment	(138)	(138)
Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	(10,469)	(1,858)

Note 39 Leases

Council as Lessee

Finance Leases

The Council has acquired a number of assets under finance leases, including various buildings and IT equipment. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts:

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Other Land and Buildings	5,819	5,659
Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	282	151
Total	6,101	5,810

The Council is committed to making minimum payments under these leases comprising settlement of the long-term liability for the interest in the property acquired by the Council, and finance costs that will be payable by the Council in future years while the liability remains outstanding. The minimum lease payments are made up of the following amounts:

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Finance lease liabilities	7,098	7,184
Finance costs payable in future years	14,796	14,367
Total minimum lease payments	21,894	21,551

The minimum lease payments will be payable over the following periods:

	Minimum Lease Payments		Finance Lease Liabilities	
	31st March 2018	31st March 2019	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Within one year	343	419	(86)	(4)
Within 2 to 5 years	1,890	1,960	234	332
Later than 5 years	19,661	19,172	6,950	6,856
Total	21,894	21,551	7,098	7,184

Note 39 Leases (continued)

Operating Leases

The Council leases a number of buildings for operational use. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31st March 2019 £000
Not later than one year	585
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,632
Later than 5 years	1,830
Total	4,047

Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

The council has leased out a number of properties on finance leases, two of which are on peppercorn annual payments. The following tables show the lease debtors and lease payments for the remainder:

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments will be received over the following periods:

	31st March 2019 £000
Finance Lease Debtor	
Current	17
Non-current	800
Unearned finance income	1,641
Gross Investment in the lease	2,458

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

	31st March 2019 £000
Minimum Lease Payments	
Within one year	76
Within 2 to 5 years	305
Later than 5 years	2,077
Total	2,458

Note 39 Leases (continued)

Operating Leases

The Council leases out a number of buildings for economic support purposes. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Not later than one year	5,087	5,196
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	14,090	14,423
Later than 5 years	83,853	81,619
Total	103,030	101,238

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements

Integrated Waste Management Service

In 2003, the Council entered into a 25 year contract valued in excess of £300m with Biffa (Leicester) Ltd under the PFI scheme. The arrangement, which became operational in 2004, covers the collection, treatment and disposal of city residents' waste. The contractor took on the obligation to provide assets required to deliver these services, including a recycling facility, purpose-built anaerobic digester for organic waste, and vehicles used in the waste collection and recycling services. At the end of the contract, the assets will be transferred to the Council for nil consideration.

2018/19 was the sixteenth year of the operation of the contract, costing £14.5m (£14.3m in 2017/18).

Property Plant and Equipment

The assets used to provide the waste management service are provided by the operator, but are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet.

	Other Land & Buildings £000	Vehicles, & Equipment £000	Total £000
Balance at 1st April 2018	12,848	640	13,488
Additions	-	-	-
Depreciation	(1,285)	(70)	(1,355)
Balance at 31st March 2019	11,563	570	12,133

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Payments

The Council makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation (based on the RPI-X measure) and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet performance standards. Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31st March 2019 (excluding future inflation) are as follows:

Although the payments made to the contractor are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractor for the fair value of the services they provide, the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed.

The liability outstanding to the contractor for capital expenditure incurred are shown in the table.

	Payment for Services	Reimbursement of Capital Expenditure	Interest	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Within 1 year	6,549	1,987	627	9,163
Within 2 to 5 years	33,201	10,109	3,059	46,369
Within 6 to 10 years	20,814	6,078	867	27,759
Total	60,564	18,174	4,553	83,291

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance outstanding at 1st April	7,144	5,200
Payments during the year	(1,944)	(1,961)
Additions	-	-
Balance at 31st March	5,200	3,239

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Building Schools for the Future – Phase 1 - Rebuild of Judgemeadow and Soar Valley Community Colleges

In December 2007, the Council entered into a 25-year contract with Leicester BSF Company 1 Limited under a PFI scheme. The contractor was to design, build, finance and operate, on the existing sites, replacement buildings for two community colleges – Judgemeadow and Soar Valley – valued at £34.9m (on completion of the rebuild in 2009). At the end of the contract, as

things stand, all assets will revert to Council control. Under the Government's current policies the trend of more schools becoming academies is likely to continue. If any PFI schools convert, the Council will continue to make payments under this contract from a combination of PFI credits and contributions from schools. At conversion the assets would transfer to the

academy, subject to the on-going provisions of the PFI contract. The rebuild for phase 1 was completed in 2009 and 2018/19 was therefore the tenth year of the operation of the contract costing £6.6m.

Property Plant and Equipment

The assets used to provide the service are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet. The value of fixed assets included within the contract, and an analysis of the movement in those values, are shown below:

	Other Land & Buildings
	£000
Balance at 1st April 2018	43,982
Revaluations	10,828
Depreciation	(1,092)
Disposal (transfer to academy)	(17,703)
Balance at 31st March 2019	36,015

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Payments

The Council makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation (based on the RPI-X measure) and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet performance standards. Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31st March 2019 are as follows:

	Payment for Services	Reimbursement of Capital Expenditure	Interest	Lifecycle Capital Replacement Costs	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Within 1 year	2,345	697	2,512	1,122	6,676
Within 2 to 5 years	9,697	4,581	9,218	3,721	27,217
Within 6 to 10 years	13,729	8,263	8,749	5,624	36,365
Within 11 to 15 years	15,821	13,769	4,395	4,033	38,018
Within 16 to 20 years	571	666	15	-	1,252
Total	42,163	27,976	24,889	14,500	109,528

Although the payments made to the contractor are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractor for the fair value of the services they provide, the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed. The liability outstanding to the contractor for capital expenditure incurred is shown:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance outstanding at 1st April	29,368	28,511
Payments during the year	(857)	(535)
Balance at 31st March	28,511	27,976

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Building Schools for the Future – Phase 2 - Rebuild of Crown Hills and City Of Leicester Community Colleges

On 31st March 2012 the City Council committed to a new joint PFI project scheme for the rebuilding of Crown Hills and City of Leicester Community Colleges. The Council is contracted to Leicester BSF Company 2 Limited for 25 years. The new schools became operational at the end of October 2013 with construction costs of £44.6m. At the end of the contract, as things

stand, all assets will revert to City Council control. Under the Government's current policies the trend of more schools becoming academies is likely to continue. If any PFI schools convert, the Council will continue to make payments under this contract from a combination of PFI credits and contributions from schools. At conversion assets would transfer to the

academy, subject to the on-going provisions of the PFI contract. 2018/19 was the sixth year of the operation of the contract costing £6.8m.

Property Plant and Equipment

The assets used to provide the service are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet. The value of fixed assets is as shown:

	Other Land & Buildings
	£000
Balance at 1st April 2018	44,600
Revaluations/(Impairment)	24,623
Depreciation	(1,075)
Balance at 31st March 2019	68,148

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Payments

The Council makes an agreed payment each year which is increased by inflation (based on the RPI-X measure) and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet performance standards. Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31st March 2019 are as follows:

	Payment for Services	Reimbursement of Capital	Interest	Lifecycle Capital Replacement	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Within 1 year	2,454	1,305	2,604	425	6,788
Within 2 to 5 years	10,522	5,312	9,473	2,948	28,255
Within 6 to 10 years	14,901	7,422	9,818	5,859	38,000
Within 11 to 15 years	17,122	10,547	6,809	6,479	40,957
Within 16 to 20 years	17,954	13,333	2,593	6,668	40,548
Total	62,953	37,919	31,297	22,379	154,548

The liability outstanding to the contractor for capital expenditure incurred is as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance outstanding at 1st April	40,519	39,191
Payments during the year	(1,328)	(1,272)
Balance at 31st March	39,191	37,919

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

District Energy Heating & Combined Heat Power Scheme

On 14th January 2011 the Council signed an agreement with Leicester District Energy Company Ltd (LDEC Ltd) for the implementation and provision of a district heating and combined heat and power scheme in Leicester.

existing heating boilers, the use of existing heating networks and the construction of additional heating networks in the City Centre and some outer Council estates. Leicester University are part of the scheme and their heating and electricity networks are linked into the overall network scheme.

The initial capital investment made by LDEC Ltd for the whole scheme was £13.7m, of which £935k was funded by a CESP (Community Energy Saving Programme) Grant from LDEC Ltd's parent company, GDF Suez.

The scheme involves the replacement of

Property Plant and Equipment

The assets used to provide the service and directly attributable to the City Council are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet. The value of fixed assets attributable to the Council and operational as at 31st March 2019 are shown in the table:

	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £000
Balance at 1st April 2018	8,124
Depreciation	(374)
Balance at 31st March 2019	7,750

Payments

The Council will make payments each year which will be increased by inflation (based on a number of inflation measures) and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet performance standards. Payments (substantially based on assumed levels of energy consumption) scheduled to be made under the contract at 31st March 2019 (excluding future inflation increases and the final phase which has yet to be completed) are as follows:

	Payment for Services £000	Reimbursement of Capital £000	Interest £000	Lifecycle Capital Replacement £000	Total £000
Within 1 year	1,793	236	817	215	3,061
Within 2 to 5 years	7,172	948	3,263	860	12,243
Within 6 to 10 years	8,965	1,810	3,454	1,076	15,305
Within 11 to 15 years	8,965	2,886	2,378	1,076	15,305
Within 16 to 20 years	6,225	2,984	713	753	10,675
Within 21 to 25 years	1,786	39	9	-	1,834
Total	34,906	8,903	10,634	3,980	58,423

Note 40 Private Finance Initiatives and Service Concession Arrangements (continued)

Liability

The liability outstanding to the contractor for capital expenditure incurred up to 31st March 2019 is as per the following table:

Under the terms of the agreement, at the end of the scheme, or, if earlier, upon termination of the agreement, LDEC Ltd will sell the boiler plant and heating network (such parts that are required to heat all of the City Council's buildings) to the City Council or to a new service provider. The term is designed to ensure that the City Council has a working district heating system at the end of the contract period. At the end of the scheme the expectation is that the sale price would be minimal. Under the agreement the Council has granted to LDEC Ltd licence to exercise rights to use the heat network to supply heat to any third party consumer. Any such supply agreements will be co-terminus with or less than the scheme term.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Liability for capital expenditure incurred for operational phases	8,838	8,613
Payments during the year	(225)	(256)
Balance at 31st March	8,613	8,357

Note 41 Termination Benefits

The Council terminated the contracts of a number of employees in 2018/19 incurring liabilities of £1.4m (£4.5m in 2017/18). Of this £1.0m (£2.6m in 2017/18) was for redundancy and other departure costs, and £0.4m (£1.9m in 2017/18) was the cost arising from the early release of pension benefits as required by the regulations of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The number of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the exit packages are set out in the table below. In 2018/19 the Council approved 38 compulsory redundancies (71 in 2017/18).

Band	Total number of exit packages by cost band	Total cost of exit 2017/18	Total number of exit packages by cost band	Total cost of exit 2018/19
£	2017/18	£	2018/19	£
0 - 20,000	233	1,695,684	123	769,330
20,001 - 40,000	38	1,011,787	11	281,074
40,001 - 60,000	12	579,540	3	158,477
60,001 - 80,000	12	798,653	1	61,801
80,001 - 100,000	3	282,514	1	83,691
100,001 - 150,000	1	133,774	-	-
Total	299	4,501,952	139	1,354,373

Note 42 Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers' Pensions

Teachers employed by the Council are eligible to be members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by the Department for Education. The Scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The Scheme is a defined benefit scheme. However, the Scheme is unfunded, and the Department for Education uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. For the purposes of the Statement of Accounts, it is accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme. Under this treatment, the council has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. The Council's obligation is limited to the amount that it has agreed to contribute to the fund and in consequence, actuarial risk and investment risk fall on the employee.

In 2018/19, the Council paid £13.4m to Teachers' Pensions in respect of teachers' retirement benefits, representing 16.48% of pensionable pay. The figures for 2017/18 were £14.7m and 16.48%. The employer rate will be increased to 23.68% from September 2019, however it is expected that additional funding will be provided by central government, the allocation of which is yet to be determined.

The Council is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and detailed in Note 43.

Public Health

Certain public health employees remain members of the NHS pension scheme. The scheme provides these staff with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The scheme is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. For the purposes of the Statement of Accounts, it is accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme. Under this treatment, the council has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. The Council's obligation is limited to the amount that it has agreed to contribute to the fund and in consequence, actuarial risk and investment risk fall on the employee.

In 2018/19, the Council paid £0.1 m to the NHS Pension Scheme in respect of former NHS staff retirement benefits representing 14.3% of pensionable pay. The employer contribution will increase to 20.6% from 1st April 2019, however the increase will be paid to the scheme by NHS England.

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that need to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in three post-employment pension schemes:

- Teachers' Pensions Scheme – see Note 42 for further information
- NHS Pension Scheme – see Note 42 for further information
- The Local Government Pension Scheme, (LGPS) administered locally by the Leicestershire County Council – this is a funded defined benefit scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liability with investment assets.

Hymans Robertson, an independent firm of actuaries, has valued the Council's fund asset share and liabilities for the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Guaranteed Minimum Pension and Pensions Transition Arrangements Age Discrimination

In October 2018 the High Court ruled that pension scheme trustees are under a duty to equalise benefits for men and women in respect of Guaranteed Minimum Pensions.

Currently the Government have agreed an interim solution whereby LGPS Funds have to pay all the increases on their GMP for all members reaching State Pension Age between 6th April 2016 and at least 5 April 2021. Once the Government confirms what the long term solution is and determines if it results in an increase in liability, this will allow for the relevant obligation to be included as a past service cost in the pension disclosures.

As a result, there is no obligating event and therefore the defined benefit pension scheme note does not make an allowance for the outcomes of the High Court ruling in 2018/2019 Statement of Accounts.

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Transactions relating to post-employment benefits (LGPS)

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by the employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make in the accounts is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Cost of Services		
Current service cost	66,270	64,140
Past service cost	1,380	143
Settlements and curtailments	(4,552)	(7,807)
Total Service Cost	63,098	56,476
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		
Expected return on scheme assets	(31,580)	(34,400)
Interest cost	48,838	51,640
Net Interest Cost	17,258	17,240
Total Post-employment Benefit charged to the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	80,356	73,716
Other post-employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(23,042)	(64,810)
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	-	-
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	(34,581)	165,272
Other Experience adjustments	(556)	1,135
Total remeasurements recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(58,179)	101,597
Total post-employment Benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement	22,177	175,313
Movement in Reserves Statement		
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit for the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits	80,356	73,716
Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year (Employers contributions paid to the scheme)	(43,596)	(43,466)
Total Movement in Reserves	36,760	30,250

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Assets and Liabilities in Relation to Post-employment Benefits

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities (defined benefit obligation):

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	1,867,006	1,909,655
Current service cost	66,270	64,140
Past service costs (including curtailments)	1,380	143
Effect of settlements	(9,343)	(16,932)
Interest cost	48,838	51,640
Contributions by scheme participants	10,700	10,706
Benefits paid	(40,059)	(42,994)
Remeasurements arising from changes in financial assumptions	(35,137)	166,407
Balance at 31st March	1,909,655	2,142,765

Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme (plan) assets:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	1,211,556	1,275,624
Interest income	31,580	34,400
Effect of settlements	(4,791)	(9,125)
Contributions by scheme participants	10,700	10,706
Employer contributions	43,596	43,466
Benefits paid	(40,059)	(42,994)
Return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest	23,042	64,810
Balance at 31st March	1,275,624	1,376,887

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets.

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Scheme History

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Present value of funded obligations	(1,676,690)	(1,469,327)	(1,812,582)	(1,857,800)	(2,090,384)
Present value of unfunded obligations	(56,757)	(51,018)	(54,424)	(51,855)	(52,381)
Fair value of assets in the scheme	969,019	989,570	1,211,556	1,275,624	1,376,887
Surplus/(deficit) in the scheme	(764,428)	(530,775)	(655,450)	(634,031)	(765,878)

Impact on future cash flows

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long run to pay post-employment (retirement) benefits. The total liability of £2,143m has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the balance sheet, resulting in a negative overall balance of £765.9m. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy. The deficit on the local government scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the scheme actuary. Finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when the pensions are actually paid.

The total contributions expected to be made to the Local Government Pension Scheme by the council in the year to 31st March 2019 is £41.6m. The maturity profile is as follows:

	Liability Split	Weighted Average Duration
Active members	55.5%	23.0
Deferred members	20.1%	22.9
Pensioner members	24.4%	11.7
Total	100.0%	18.9

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc. The fund liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP, an independent firm of actuaries, based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31st March 2016.

The main assumptions used by the actuary have been:

Local Government Pension Scheme	2017/18	2018/19
Mortality assumptions:		
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners (years):		
Men	22.1	22.1
Women	24.3	24.3
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners (years):		
Men	23.8	23.8
Women	26.2	26.2
Benefit entitlement assumptions		
Rate of increase in salaries	3.4%	3.5%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.4%	2.5%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	2.7%	2.4%
Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump-sum – relating to service pre April 2008	50.0%	50.0%
Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump-sum – relating to service post April 2008	75.0%	75.0%

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

The Local Government Pension Scheme's assets consist of the categories in the table below, by proportion of the total assets held:

	2017/18				2018/19			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	Total	Percentage of Total	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	Total	Percentage of Total
	£000	£000	£000	Assets	£000	£000	£000	Assets
Equity								
Consumer	-	-	-	0%	3,144	-	3,144	0%
Manufacturing	-	-	-	0%	2,017	-	2,017	0%
Energy and Utilities	-	-	-	0%	2,133	-	2,133	0%
Financial Institutions	-	-	-	0%	6,251	-	6,251	0%
Health and Care	-	-	-	0%	768	-	768	0%
Information Technology	-	-	-	0%	1,225	-	1,225	0%
Other	30,952	-	30,952	2%	7,422	-	7,422	1%
Debt Securities								
UK Government	106,463	-	106,463	8%	14,654	-	14,654	1%
Other	11,645	-	11,645	1%	22,330	-	22,330	2%
Private Equity								
All	-	45,361	45,361	4%	-	68,158	68,158	5%
Real Estate								
UK Property	-	112,057	112,057	9%	-	134,124	134,124	10%
Investment Fund and Unit Trusts								
Equities	600,925	-	600,925	47%	636,286	-	636,286	46%
Bonds	40,948	105,484	146,432	11%	101,790	-	101,790	7%
Hedge Funds	43,162	1,308	44,470	3%	-	-	-	0%
Commodities	-	29,885	29,885	2%	-	51,897	51,897	4%
Infrastructure	-	60,338	60,338	5%	-	72,109	72,109	5%
Other	37,745	-	37,745	3%	101,505	121,884	223,389	16%
Derivatives								
Foreign Exchange	(3,716)	-	(3,716)	0%	-	-	-	0%
Cash and Cash Equivalents								
All	53,067	-	53,067	4%	29,194	-	29,194	2%
Total	921,190	354,434	1,275,624	100%	928,716	448,171	1,376,887	100%

Note 43 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Sensitivity Analysis

IAS 19 requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used.

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are set out below.

Changes in assumptions at 31st March 2019	Approximate % increase to Defined Benefit Obligation	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	11%	231,227
0.5% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	2%	34,049
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	9%	193,021

The sensitivity figures above can be used to estimate the impact of adopting different financial assumptions. In order to qualify the impact of a change in the financial assumptions used, the value of the scheme liabilities have been calculated at the accounting date on varying bases.

Note 44 Contingent Liabilities

The Council is currently in the process of a procurement exercise to replace the bus shelters in return for advertising rights. A claim has been lodged by the existing contractor in relation to this tender process with the technology court. The claim is currently stayed and the Council is deciding on the next steps.

Note 45 Contingent Assets

The council has no contingent assets to disclose in the 18/19 accounts.

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- Credit Risk: The possibility that the counterparty to a financial asset will fail to meet its contractual obligations, causing a loss to the Council.
- Liquidity Risk: The possibility that the Council might not have the cash available to make contracted payments on time.
- Market Risk: The possibility that an unplanned financial loss will materialise because of changes in market variables such as interest rates or equity prices.

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk Management is carried out by the Treasury Management team under the policies approved by Council in the Treasury Management Strategy.

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

a) Credit Risk

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

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, as laid down by leading credit rating agencies. Investments are also made in unrated building societies considered to be of equivalent credit worthiness.

The Annual Investment Strategy also imposes a maximum sum to be invested with a financial institution located within each category.

The credit criteria in respect of loans to commercial entities as at the balance sheet date are as detailed opposite.

Investment Type	Maximum Investment Period	Minimum Credit Rating	Individual Lending Limit	Limit for Investment Type
Deposits – Credit Rated Banks and Building Societies	366 Days	A long term rating of A and a short term rating of F1	£10m	£100m
	6 months	A long term rating of A- and a short term rating of F2	£10m	
	100 days or less	A long term rating of BBB+ and a short term rating of F2	£10m Additional £5m overnight limit for Barclays Bank	
Covered Bonds	5 years	A long term rating of AA	£20m £2m for unrated building societies	Included in above
Repurchase Agreements (REPO)	1 year	To be no less secure than a deposit	£20m	Included in above
Deposits— unrated building societies	6 months	N/A – Advice taken from Treasury Advisors	£1m	£10m

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

The credit criteria applied to other investments are as detailed below:

Investment Type	Counterparty	Maximum Investment Period	Minimum Credit Rating	Individual Lending Limit	Limit for Investment Type
Deposits & Bonds	Local authority	5 Years	None required	£20m	£250m
Bonds	Local Government Bonds Agency	5 Years	A long term rating of AA-	£20m	
Bonds, Bills and Deposits	UK Public Sector & Quasi-Public Sector	5 Years	A long term rating of AA-	£20m	£40m
Deposits and Treasury Bills	UK Government / UK Government Guarantee	Unlimited	None required	Unlimited	Unlimited
Bonds	International Development Banks	5 Years	A long term rating of AA- plus backing of one or more G7 countries.	£10m	£40m
Money Market Funds, Money Market Plus Funds and Short-Dated Bond Funds	Various Fund Managers, including funds shaped by local authorities acting collectively	Up to 1 month Advice taken from Treasury Advisors	AAAmmf Or AAf	£20m	£120m of which no more than £30mm in property funds and no more than £50m in longer dated funds and funds investing in Asset Based Securities
Longer dated Bond Funds and funds investing in Asset Based Securities	Various Fund Managers	Up to 1 month Advice taken from Treasury Advisors	AAf	£10m	
Property Funds	Various Fund Managers	Investments can be sold in market.	Not Applicable	£10m	

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

The credit criteria are based on credit ratings issued by Fitch Ratings but investments are also permitted on the basis of equivalent ratings issued by Moody's Investors Services or Standard and Poor's.

The main commercial customers are lessees, and the financial standing of potential lessees is checked before leases are granted. There is no uniform practice in respect of other customers, but many of these are receiving a service linked to the social aims and objectives of the Council where it would not be practicable to assess the customer's financial standing as a precondition for the provision of that service.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in commercial institutions (banks and building societies) of £92m as at 31st March 2019 (£64m as at 31st March 2018) cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of non-recovery applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at 31st March 2019 or subsequently that this was likely to crystallise.

The Council's exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in other local authorities is £128m (£189m as at 31st March 2018). Such investments are assessed to be virtually risk free.

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

The value of the Council's receivables classified as financial instruments on the Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2019 was £16.0m (£17.2m as at 31st March 2018). The following matrix is used for both 2017/18 and 2018/19 to estimate the non-collectible proportion of these receivables.

Age of Receivable	Estimated Non-Collection Rate
Less than One Month	0%
One Month to Three Months	10%
Three Months to Six Months	25%
Six Months to Nine Months	50%
Nine Months to One Year	75%
One Year to Two Years	80%
Over Two Years	100%

It is estimated that the uncollectable amount on commercial and personal debts outstanding as at 31st March 2019 will be £8.9m (£9.4m as at 31st March 2018) and that the impaired value of these debts are £7.1m (£7.8m as at 31st March 2018).

The following table shows current receivables analysed by age, and the impaired value after allowing for default and non-collectability. The Council does not write off debt from its Balance Sheet until all options for debt collection have been exhausted, a process that often will take a number of years.

	31st March 2018		31st March 2019	
	Due	Impaired	Due	Impaired
	£000	Value £000	£000	Value £000
Less than 3 months	6,212	6,039	5,807	5,648
Three to six months	713	535	862	647
Six months to one year	1,496	568	1,141	423
More than one year	8,793	604	8,211	409
Total	17,214	7,746	16,021	7,127

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

b) 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. It is however exposed to the risk that it will need to refinance a significant proportion of its borrowing at a time of unfavourably high interest rates. This risk is managed by maintaining a spread of fixed rate loans.

The maturity analysis of the principal sums borrowed is as follows:

Time to maturity (years)	31st March 2018 £000	31st March 2019 £000
Not over 1	32,138	15,931
Over 1 but not over 2	7,648	5,177
Over 2 but not over 5	21,806	15,682
Over 5 but not over 10	29,924	27,030
Over 10 but not over 20	27,901	45,835
Over 20 but not over 30	24,769	22,740
Over 30	224,921	167,826
Total	369,107	300,221

The Council has £20m of “Lender’s option, borrower’s option” (LOBO) loans where the lender has the option 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. Due to current low interest rates, in the unlikely event that the lender exercises its option, the Council is likely to repay these loans. The maturity date is therefore uncertain.

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

c) Market Risks

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 Council. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the liabilities borrowings will fall
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited will rise
- investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

Investments classed as “amortised cost” and loans borrowed are not carried at fair value, so changes in their fair value will have no impact on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. 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 classed as “Other” will be reflected in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

The accounting arrangements for “Lenders Option, Borrowers Option” (LOBO) loans is more complex. These are loans where the lender has a periodic option to propose an increase in the rate of interest payable on the loan and the borrower has the option to decline this increase and to repay. In the event that an increase was accepted the carrying amount of the loan is recalculated and the increase in the carrying amount of the loan will reflect the net present value of the increase in interest payments in future years. The increase in the carrying amount of the loan will be accounted for as an immediate charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. In simple terms, a relatively small increase in the annual interest payable will be accounted for as a far larger sum once the net present value of all future increases is calculated.

The Treasury Management Strategy aims to mitigate these risks by setting upper limits on its net exposures to fixed and variable interest rates.

If all interest rates had been 1% higher (with all other variables held constant) the financial effect would be:

	£000
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	487
Increase in interest receivable on short term investments	473
Increase in interest payable on variable rate loans	(96)
Impact on Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	864
Decrease in fair value of available for sale financial assets	0
Impact on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0
Decrease in fair value of loans and receivables *	239
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings/liabilities *	58,751

*No impact on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

The approximate impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the reverse movement.

Note 46 Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments (continued)

c) Market Risks

Price Risk

The market prices of the Council's fixed rate bond investments and its units in pooled bond funds are governed by prevailing interest rates and the market risk associated with these instruments is managed alongside interest rate risk.

The market price of the Council's property fund investments are determined by the market prices of the underlying property assets owned by the funds. The impact of the 5% fall in value of the property fund value would be a reduction in value of £414k. The Council's intention is to hold these investments over the medium term and not to crystallise these losses by selling.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Council has no exposure to foreign exchange risk.

Supplementary Financial Statements & Explanatory Notes

Housing Revenue Account

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Statements - Income and Expenditure

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account that represents the Council's social housing service. This service is required by law to be ring-fenced in order to ensure that there is a clear link between rents charged to tenants and expenditure on social housing.

2017/18			2018/19
£000			£000
		Note	
Income			
(77,322)	Dwelling Rents	5	(75,047)
(1,073)	Non-dwelling Rents	6	(401)
(5,286)	Service Charges	6	(5,520)
(1,324)	Contributions & Miscellaneous income		(1,605)
(85,005)	Total Income		(82,573)
Expenditure			
12,430	General Management		12,140
12,081	Special Management	3	12,814
28,284	Repairs & Maintenance		29,299
747	Rent, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges		1,080
(264)	Increase/ (Decrease) in Bad Debt Provision	4	(84)
28,055	Depreciation & Impairment of Fixed Assets	12	31,229
60	Debt Management Expenses		60
81,393	Total Expenditure		86,538
710	HRA share of Corporate & Democratic Core		710
(2,902)	Net Cost of HRA Services		4,675
2,389	(Gain) or Loss on Sale of HRA Assets		1,841
10,344	Loan Charges - Interest		20,301
(259)	Investment Interest		(259)
4,811	Pensions - Interest on Liabilities	14	5,196
(3,111)	Pensions - Expected Return on Assets	14	(3,462)
11,272	(Surplus) / Deficit for the Year		28,292

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Statements - Movement in Reserve

2017/18			2018/19
£000		Note	£000
11,272	(Surplus) / Deficit for the Year (from above)		28,292
	<u>Additional items required by statute and non-statutory proper practices to be taken into account in determining the movement on the Housing Revenue Account balance</u>		
-			
(86)	Amounts charged to the HRA for amortisation of Premia and Discounts for the year determined in accordance with statute		(11,466)
(4,406)	HRA share of contributions to/(from) the Pension Reserve	14	(4,111)
(2,389)	Gain or (Loss) on Sale of HRA Fixed Assets		(1,841)
(28,055)	Impairment of Fixed Assets	12	(31,229)
5,491	Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue Account	10	9,173
325	HRA Set-Aside (MRP)		325
10,473	Transfers to/(from) the Major Repairs Reserve	13	11,121
(21)	Transfers to/(from) the Employee Benefits Reserve		(27)
(18,668)	Total value of items reversed as part of determining the statutory movement on the Housing Revenue Account Balance		(28,055)
(7,396)	Net (Surplus)/Deficit on the Housing Revenue Account in the year		237
(23,348)	Balance Brought Forward 1st April 2018		(30,745)
(30,744)	Balance Carried Forward 31st March 2019		(30,508)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Explanatory Notes

1. Housing Revenue Account

The rules for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) are specified within the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Additionally a suite of self-financing determinations was issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in 2012, including the Item 8 Credit and Item 8 Debit determinations which set out the capital accounting and financing entries under the 1989 Act.

These determinations have been made by the Council and the appropriate entries have been made in respect of capital accounting and financing transactions.

5. Net Rent Income from Dwellings

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Total Rent income from Dwellings	77,322	75,047
Less Housing Benefit	(43,729)	(39,560)
Total	33,593	35,487

6. Non -Dwelling Rents and Service Charges

These include the charges made to tenants for central heating, garages, rent from shops, security and cleaning services to flats.

2. Changes to Accounting Practice (and 2017/18 comparative figures)

There has been no change in accounting practice.

3. Special Management

These include group central heating and hot water schemes, caretaking services, security services to high rise flats, maintenance of shrubberies and grassed areas, communal services, tenancy sustainment for tenants and support for hostel residents.

4. Rent Arrears and Provision for Bad Debts

Rents and Service Charges

The bad debt provision for rents and service charges at 31st March 2019 was £0.8m (£0.2m at 31st March 2018). This is calculated on a rent and service charge arrears balance of £2.3m (£1.4m in 2017/18).

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Explanatory Notes (continued)

7. Housing Stock

Changes to Housing Stock:

	2017/18	2018/19
Number of Dwellings at 1st April	21,150	20,759
Construction of new dwellings	18	-
Acquisitions	-	32
Right to Buy sales	(409)	(424)
Other Disposals	-	(1)
Number of Dwellings at 31st March	20,759	20,366

8. Value of HRA Assets

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Dwellings	910,318	950,471
Other Land and Buildings	22,618	21,972
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	582	371
Surplus Assets	759	358
Intangible Assets	744	542
Total	935,021	973,714

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Explanatory Notes (continued)

9. Vacant Possession Value of Council Dwellings

The vacant possession value of council dwellings at 31st March 2019 was £2.3bn. At the same date the balance sheet value of council dwellings was £1.0bn. The difference of £1.4bn reflects the fact that social housing rents generate a lower

income stream than could be obtained in the open market. The value placed on operational assets in a commercial environment will reflect the required economic rate of return in relation to the income streams that the assets might be

expected to generate throughout their economic life. To the extent that income streams are constrained to serve a wider social purpose, the value of capital assets employed for council housing will be reduced.

	31st March 2018	31st March 2019
	£000	£000
Vacant possession values	2,167,425	2,263,017

10. Capital Expenditure

HRA capital expenditure on land, houses and other property in 2018/19 totalled £22m, financed as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Major Repairs Reserve	11,673	11,121
Usable capital receipts	892	2,178
Financing from revenue account	5,491	9,173
Total	18,056	22,472

11. Capital Disposals

HRA capital disposals in 2018/19 were as follows:

	2017/18		2018/19	
	Total Receipt	Usable/ Retained	Pooled/ Set aside	Total Receipt
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Right to Buy (RTB) sales	18,095	11,979	6,995	18,974
Non-RTB sales	223	269	-	269
Total	18,318	12,248	6,995	19,243

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Explanatory Notes (continued)

12. Depreciation and Impairment of Fixed Assets

A breakdown of the depreciation and impairment charges are provided in the table below:

To be consistent with the format of the dwellings valuation supplied by the authority's external valuers, the dwellings depreciation charge has been calculated by dividing the buildings element of the valuation (on an 'Existing Use Value – Social Housing' basis) by the residual life of the properties.

	2017/18			2018/19		
	Depreciation	Impairment	Total	Depreciation	Impairment	Total
	2017/18	2017/18	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2018/19
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Dwellings*	9,259	16,614	25,873	9,910	20,074	29,984
Other Land and Buildings	541	977	1,518	453	34	487
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	548	-	548	520	-	520
Surplus Assets	2	(9)	(7)	2	-	2
Intangible Assets	123	-	123	236	-	236
Total	10,473	17,582	28,055	11,121	20,108	31,229

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Explanatory Notes (continued)

13. Use of Major Repairs Reserve

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(1,200)	-
Depreciation credited	(10,473)	(11,121)
Capital expenditure on land, houses and other property	11,673	11,121
Balance at 31st March	-	-

14. HRA Contributions to the Pensions Reserve

This table identifies the total HRA share of contributions to and (from) the pensions reserve and breaks the figure down to show the type of contribution to or (from) the reserve. More detailed information on pensions is provided in note 43 to the core financial statements.

	2017/18	2018/19
	£000	£000
Pension costs incurred in Net Cost of Services:		
Current service cost	(2,706)	(2,377)
	(2,706)	(2,377)
Pension interest cost and expected return on assets:		
Interest on liabilities	(4,811)	(5,197)
Expected return on assets	3,111	3,462
	(1,700)	(1,735)
Total Transfer to Pension Reserve	(4,406)	(4,112)

Collection Fund Account

Collection Fund - Income and Expenditure Statement

The Collection Fund is a ring-fenced account that represents the Council's role in collecting Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates for the City of Leicester. The Council records taxation income in the Collection Fund and then makes distributions to precepting authorities including the Leicestershire Fire and Police authorities as well as to the Council's own General Fund.

2017/18			2018/19			
Council Tax	Business Rates	Total		Council Tax	Business Rates	Total
£000	£000	£000	Note	£000	£000	£000
Income						
(120,764)	-	(120,764)	2	(130,640)		(130,640)
-	(100,507)	(100,507)		-	(109,616)	(109,616)
-	(6,381)	(6,381)		-	(5,918)	(5,918)
		(227,652)				(246,174)
Expenditure						
Precepts and Demands:						
			3			
100,691	-	100,691		107,948	-	107,948
13,261	-	13,261		14,271	-	14,271
4,451	-	4,451		4,635	-	4,635
		118,403				126,854
Business Rates:						
			4			
-	54,330	54,330		-	55,943	55,943
-	1,086	1,086		-	1,119	1,119
-	53,243	53,243		-	54,824	54,824
-	492	492		-	489	489
		109,151				112,375
1,411	(1,534)	(123)	6	1,295	(2,832)	(1,537)
Bad and Doubtful Debts:						
			7			
1,240	1,423	2,663		1,361	2,532	3,893
308	378	686		448	(356)	92
-	2,892	2,892		-	6,140	6,140
		233,672				247,817
598	5,422	6,020		(682)	2,325	1,643
(1,954)	392	(1,562)	5	(1,356)	5,814	4,458
(1,356)	5,814	4,458	1	(2,038)	8,139	6,101

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes

1. Statutory Requirements & Allocation of Balances

This statement fulfils the statutory requirement for the Council to maintain a separate Collection Fund.

The balance on the collection fund is split between the relevant bodies as shown in the table below:

	2017/18			2018/19		
	Council Tax	Business Rates	Total	Council Tax	Business Rates	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Leicester City Council	(1,153)	2,849	1,696	(1,732)	3,988	2,256
Government	-	2,907	2,907	-	4,069	4,069
Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority	(51)	58	7	(74)	82	8
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	(152)	-	(152)	(232)	-	(232)
Fund Balance Allocations as at 31st March	(1,356)	5,814	4,458	(2,038)	8,139	6,101

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes (continued)

2. Council Tax Base

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 number of Band D dwellings, was calculated as follows:

The total collectable Council Tax during 2018/19 was £130.6m including arrears from prior years.

The collectable Council Tax specifically for 2018/19 was £156.0m (including sums paid under the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme). After taking into account the total amount of this reduction (£24.8m), the average number of Band D dwellings equates to 74,082. This is an increase from the 71,632 dwellings existing when the 2018/19 budget was prepared due to the net effect of the following:

- 1) Changes in discounts and exemptions allowed;
- 2) New properties;
- 3) Lower amounts of local council tax reduction granted than expected, arising from reduced claimant numbers.

Band	Estimated No. of Taxable Properties After Effect of Discount	Ratio	Band D Equivalent Dwellings	Less Band D Equivalent - LCTR Scheme Dwellings	Net Band D Equivalent Dwellings
A-	239	5/9	133	49	84
A	67,931	6/9	45,287	10,826	34,461
B	23,043	7/9	17,922	2,143	15,779
C	13,494	8/9	11,995	1,041	10,954
D	5,744	9/9	5,744	322	5,422
E	3,051	11/9	3,729	112	3,617
F	1,406	13/9	2,031	44	1,987
G	555	15/9	925	8	917
H	30	18/9	60	0	60
	115,493		87,826	14,545	73,281
			Less adjustments for collection rates and other adjustments.		(1,649)
Council Tax Base					71,632

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes (continued)

3. Precepts and Demands

The following sums were paid from the collection fund.

	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000
Leicester City Council	100,691	107,948
Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire	13,261	14,271
Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority	4,451	4,635
Total	118,403	126,854

4. Income from Business Rates

Under the arrangements for business rates, the Council collects rates payable in the City, which are based on the rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate. With the current rates retention scheme, the total amount less certain reliefs and other deductions is shared between Central Government (50%), Leicestershire Fire Authority (1%) and the Council (49%). The relevant rates are detailed in the tables below:

	31st March 2018 £	31st March 2019 £
Non Domestic Rateable Value	304,957,214	305,093,296
	2017/18	2018/19
Non Domestic Rating Multiplier	47.9p	49.3p
Non Domestic Rating Multiplier- Small Business	46.6p	48.0p

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes (continued)

5. Collection Fund Surpluses & Deficits

The Collection Fund account shows a cumulative deficit of £6,100,559 at 31st March 2019 (£4,457,437 deficit at 31st March 2018). This has arisen due to uncertainty over the cost of business rate appeals.

The surplus arising on the Council Tax during the financial year 2018/19 will be distributed between Leicester City Council, the Police & Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire and the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority in proportion to the respective precepts and demands.

The deficit arising on the Business Rates during the financial year 2018/19 will be shared between Leicester City Council (49%), Central Government (50%) and the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority (1%).

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes (continued)

6. Contributions to Collection Fund Surpluses & Deficits

Share of Surpluses/Deficits

Council Tax

Every January, the Authority has to estimate the surplus/deficit for the collection fund at the end of the financial year.

For the Council Tax, this has to be notified to the police commissioner and the fire authority, which are entitled to receive a share of any surplus (or contribute a share towards a deficit) made in respect of Council Tax. This is detailed in the table below.

	City	Police	Fire	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Estimated Surplus – Jan 2018	1,101	145	49	1,295

Business Rates

For Business Rates, this is notified to central government and the fire authority, which are entitled to receive a share of any surplus (or contribute a share towards a deficit) made in respect of Business Rates. This is detailed in the table below.

	City	Government	Fire	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Estimated Deficit – Jan 2018	1,388	1,416	28	2,832

Collection Fund Explanatory Notes (continued)

7. Bad and Doubtful Debts

This table provides more detail on the bad debt write-offs and the increase in the provision for bad and doubtful debts.

Provisions	Bad Debt Provision			
	Balance at 1st April 2018	Increase/ (Decrease)	Balance at 31st March 2019	Bad Debt Write-offs In year
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Council Tax	6,641	448	7,089	1,361
NNDR	4,392	(356)	4,036	2,532
Total	11,033	92	11,125	3,893

Annual Governance Statement

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19

1. Introduction

The Council is committed to good corporate governance and complies with the CIPFA/SOLACE “Delivering Good Governance Framework” (2016). The Framework requires local authorities to be responsible for ensuring that:

- their business is conducted in accordance with all relevant laws and regulations
- public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for
- resources are used economically, efficiently and effectively to achieve agreed priorities which benefit local people

This statement is produced in fulfilment of the requirements under the Accounts and Audit Regulations, 2015, to prepare an annual governance statement.

2. The Arrangements

The Council works within the governance arrangements summarised in Appendix 1, and has an approved Local Code of Corporate Governance. The following describes how the Council meets the requirements of good governance through the core principles, systems, policies and procedures it has in place. Appendix 2 demonstrates how this has been assessed to inform the Annual Governance Statement.

We have the following codes and rules:

- Finance Procedure Rules
- Code of Conduct for Members
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Anti-fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Information Governance & Risk Policy

The City Mayor has set out a strategic vision in terms of a number of key pledges which relate to:

- Connecting Leicester
- Quality public transport
- Transforming the Waterside
- Increasing school places
- Attracting investment, jobs and skills

The key pledges are supported by the following key plans:

- Economic Action Plan
- Local Transport Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Sustainability Action Plan
- Children’s Improvement Plan
- Heritage Action Plan
- Homelessness Strategy
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Flood Risk Management Strategy
- Departmental performance targets
- Budget Strategy
- Corporate Risk Management Strategy

We monitor:

- Delivery of the key plans and strategies
- Performance indicators, particularly in relation to children’s and adults’ social care
- Delivery of the Budget

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

2. The Arrangements (continued)

We are transparent in our decision making through:

- Open Council & committee meetings with published minutes
- Published Executive decisions
- Scrutiny of Executive projects through committees
- Call in periods for Executive decisions
- Public engagement through consultation, representations and petitions
- Use of social media and engagement with the press and media
- Stakeholder engagement on key projects and partnership working
- Publication of Freedom of Information Act responses and transparency data

We are supported by:

- Democratic Services including Member and Civic Support Services, who also support member development
- An Organisational Development Team, who ensure effective development of employees
- A Communications function which includes PR, Media and Digital Media Teams

- A staff intranet and established internal communication channels, which provide guidance to staff
- Partnership working on key priorities
- An Information Assurance Team to support our data policies

We review processes and delivery throughout the year supported by:

- Internal Audit
- External Audit
- Information Governance
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Annual review of the Local Code of Corporate Governance
- Annual review of the Assurance Framework

Additional information on many of the areas detailed above can be found on the Council's website;

www.leicester.gov.uk

3. Review of Effectiveness

The Council's review of processes enables the identification of any areas of the Council's activities where there are significant weaknesses in financial controls, governance arrangements or the management of risk. Overall, from this year's work, it can be concluded that controls are operationally sound and that the Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA 'Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government'. This has been supported by the internal audit opinion which stated:

“The HoIAS will conclude Leicester City Council's control environment (its framework of governance, risk management and control) is overall adequate and effective.”

Risk management and internal control are significant part of the governance framework and are designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. We cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives however the above controls provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Areas of significant risk or priorities for action have been identified and are detailed in the tables, along with an update of the issues identified last year.

Issues Identified in 2017/18

The areas of significant risk or priorities for action that have been identified are listed in the table:

Issue Identified	Action taken to Date
<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy – Like all local authorities, the Council’s financial viability is a key concern at a time of deep funding cuts.</p>	<p>A balanced budget has been agreed for 2019/20 and a further round of savings is planned through the spending review programme. Budget performance is closely monitored.</p>
<p>2015 OFSTED Inspection - an inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After, and Care Leavers graded Leicester’s children’s services as inadequate. A follow up inspection took place in 2017 which rated the authority as requiring improvement.</p>	<p>Since the last full inspection in 2017, we have: (i) developed an improvement plan, (now implemented) that addresses the 11 recommendations of that inspection outcome and; (ii) had a short Focused Visit this January which showed a positive step forward in our improvement journey. We have also established a new Improvement Board (IB) to support us until the next full inspection (anticipated around April/July 2020). The Board has an independent chair (ex DCS) and supported by an independent consultant offers focused audits and reviews as directed by the Board.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Areas of significant risk or priorities for action have been identified and are detailed in the tables, along with an update of the issues identified last year.

Issues Identified in 2018/19

The areas of significant risk or priorities for action that have been identified are listed in the table:

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy - Like all local authorities, the Council's financial viability is a key concern at a time of deep funding cuts and growth in the costs of Adult and Children Social Care. The future funding for the Council beyond 2019/20 is still uncertain. Further to this the Government is yet set out a plan to manage the pressures within Children's and Adult Social Care going forward.</p>	<p>A balanced budget has been agreed for 2019/20 and a further round of savings are planned for 2020/21 through the spending review programme. Budget performance is closely monitored.</p>
<p>2015 OFSTED Inspection – An inspection of Services for Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After, and Care Leavers graded Leicester's children's services as inadequate. A follow up inspection took place in 2017 which rated the authority as requiring improvement.</p>	<p>The action being taken to date as described above will continue during 2019/20</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Issues Identified in 2018/19 (continued)

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>EU exit particularly in the event of no-deal being reached.</p>	<p>An impact assessment has been undertaken to identify possible risks and impacts of a no-deal EU exit and this will continue to be reviewed and updated and mitigating actions taken forward as appropriate. The Council is linked into a wider network of East Midlands authorities via a Chief Executives group which is identifying and sharing emerging issues and reporting these up to MHCLG on a weekly basis, and anything arising from this as appropriate will feed into the Council's impact assessment and actions. The Executive along with the Audit and Risk Committee will be updated as appropriate on the Council's assessment and actions.</p> <p>The Local Resilience Forum (LRF) of which the Council is a key member, is planning for risks which may require a multi-agency response. The Council will continue to work with the LRF to ensure there are robust arrangements in place and that we are prepared to respond as necessary with the appropriate resources. This includes joint working in relation to communications and community engagement as appropriate.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

Issues Identified in 2018/19 (continued)

Issue Identified	Planned Action:
<p>Cybersecurity – the potential for loss or compromise of IT systems and/or associated data through cyber security attacks.</p>	<p>The Council will continue to ensure close monitoring of existing perimeter and internal security protection.</p> <p>We have further implemented measures to raise staff awareness and training via an internal IT Security Team.</p> <p>The Council has also implemented a number of improved security toolsets including a Security and Incident Event Management System.</p>
<p>SEND</p>	<p>A Joint Area Review (Care Quality Commission and Ofsted) was undertaken in May 2018 of Leicester’s partnership and working arrangements across Special Educational Needs (SEND) provisions. The outcome was that there were areas of weakness (including strategic oversight; quality of Education, Health and Care Plans / EHCPs) but areas of good practice identified. As a result of the Area Review the Council and its partners (health) were required to submit a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) which was signed off by Ofsted/ CQC in September 2018. The new SEND Improvement Board has oversight of the WSOA and has standing representation from statutory partners, education community and parent/carer representation. At the time of the Area Review there were no plans for those areas required to submit a WSOA (some 44% of areas reviewed) to be re-reviewed. However DfE changed this and now those areas with a WSOA are to be re-reviewed, usually with about one year to 18 months post the original Area Review.</p>

Leicester City Council Annual Governance Statement 2018-19 (continued)

4. Conclusion

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

The Annual Governance Statement will be approved alongside the audited accounts in July 2019. At that time it will be signed by the City Mayor, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Finance. In this pre-audit Statement of Accounts the AGS is unsigned.

The Council had the following governance arrangements in place during 2018/19.

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Mayor, Executive and Council

- Provide leadership, develop and set policy
- Key risks are considered by the Executive quarterly

Decision making

- Decisions are recorded on the Council's website
- There is a period of grace in which decisions are open to review

Risk management

- Risk registers identify both operational and strategic risks
- Key risks are considered by Corporate Management Team quarterly

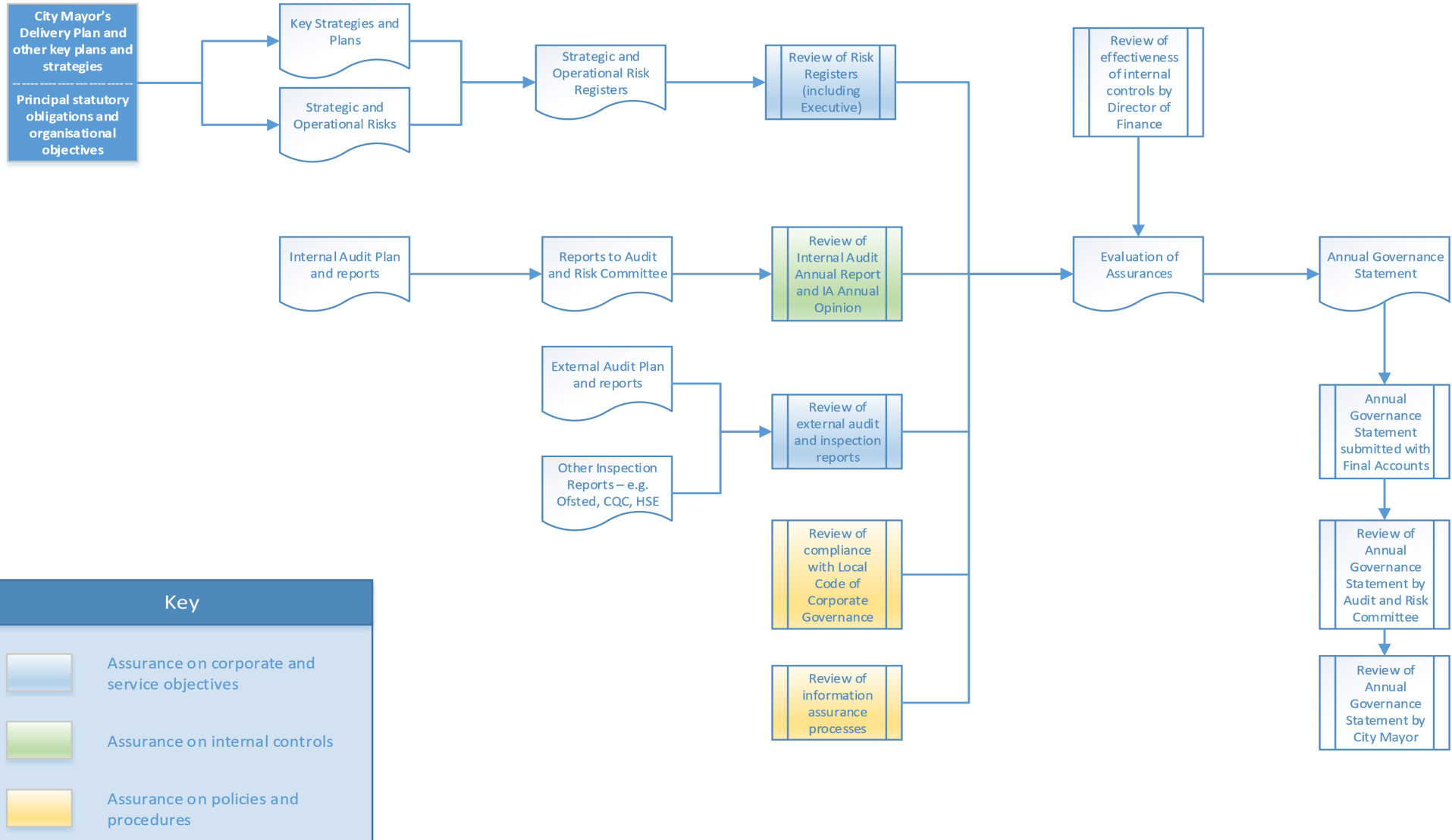
Scrutiny and review

- Scrutiny committees review Council policy and can challenge decisions
- Audit and Risk Committee approves the annual accounts and reviews policies & procedures that ensure good governance of the Council. Along with approving of the Internal Audit Annual Report and opinion

Corporate Management Team (CMT)

- Provides service level management and interface with the political leadership
- Head of Paid Service is the Chief Operating Officer, who is responsible for all Council staff and leading an effective CMT.
- Director of Finance is the s.151 Officer and is responsible for safeguarding the Council's financial position and ensuring value for money
- Monitoring Officer is the City Barrister & Head of Standards who is responsible for ensuring legality and promoting high standards of public conduct
- CMT includes all strategic and operational directors

The following diagram, shows how the Council has assessed its governance arrangements to inform the Annual Governance Statement



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Key	
	Assurance on corporate and service objectives
	Assurance on internal controls
	Assurance on policies and procedures

Glossary

Glossary

This Glossary explains terms that may be encountered in discussion of Local Government finance. Definitions are intended to assist a general audience, rather than reflecting exactly the technical sense in which the terms are used.

Academies

Publicly funded schools, independent of Local Authority control, held accountable directly to the Government.

Accountable Body

An accountable body is an organisation which takes financial responsibility for the management of funds which comprise of contributions from multiple organisations; the fund itself is not a legal entity.

Accounting Policies

Those principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by an entity that specify how the effects of transactions and other events are to be reflected in the financial statements through recognising, selecting measurement bases for, and presenting assets, liabilities, gains, losses and changes in reserves. Accounting policies do not include estimation techniques.

Accruals

The concept that items of income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

Actuarial Basis

The estimation technique applied when estimating the liabilities to be recognised for defined benefit pension schemes in the financial statements of an organisation.

Amortisation

The reduction in an amount carried on the Balance Sheet by the regular debiting or crediting to an Income and Expenditure Account.

Appropriation

The process of transferring balances from revenue to reserves and vice versa.

Asset

A resource controlled by the authority, as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the authority.

Assets Held for Sale

These are assets which are very likely to be sold within 12 months of the balance sheet date. They are therefore classified as Current Assets.

Audit of Financial Statements

An audit is an examination by an independent expert of the authority's financial affairs to check that the relevant legal obligations and codes of practice have been followed.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the Authority.

Bonds

Investment in certificates of debts issued by a Government or company. These certificates represent loans which are repayable at a future date with interest.

Budget

The financial plan reflecting the Council's policies and priorities over a period of time.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on the purchase, construction or enhancement of major items which have a lasting value to the authority.

Capital Financing

The raising of money to pay for capital expenditure. There are various methods of financing capital expenditure including borrowing, direct revenue financing, usable capital receipts, capital grants, capital contributions and revenue reserves.

Glossary (continued)

Capital Financing Requirement

Reflects the authority's level of debt relating to capital expenditure.

Capital Programme

The capital schemes the Authority intends to carry out over a specified time period.

Capital Receipts

Money the Council receives from selling assets (buildings, land etc.). Capital receipts from the sale of housing assets cannot be used entirely to fund new capital expenditure; a proportion must be paid to government.

CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy)

The principal accountancy body dealing with local government finance.

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (The Code)

A publication produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) that provides comprehensive guidance on the content of a Council's Statement of Accounts.

Collection Fund

A separate fund recording the expenditure and income relating to Council Tax and NNDR.

Community Assets

Assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful lives and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historic buildings.

Community Schools

Schools which the Council run, employ the staff and normally owns and maintains the land and buildings (with the exception of PFI schools).

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This Statement reports the net cost of all services and functions for which the authority is responsible.

Contingent Liabilities

Liabilities which may or may not occur in the future. They often depend on future events for which the outcome cannot be predicted. Due to their uncertainty they do not appear in the balance sheet.

Council

The Council comprises the City Mayor and all elected Councillors who represent the various electoral divisions.

Council Tax

This is a tax, which is levied on the broad capital value of domestic properties, and charged to the resident or owner of the property.

Council Tax Base

This is a figure that expresses the total band D equivalent properties. The amount to be funded by Council Tax is divided by this, and charges for all other bands of property are based on this charge.

Council Tax Precept

The amount of income due to Leicestershire Police Authority and Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority from the Council, who are responsible for billing Council Tax.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered but for which payment has not been made by the end of the financial year.

Debits and Credits

A debit represents expenditure against an account and a credit represents income to an account.

Glossary (continued)

Debtors

Amounts due to the Council but unpaid at the end of the financial year.

Dedicated Schools Grant

A ring-fenced grant from the government that has to be used to fund the delegated budget of each school, together with certain items of related central expenditure.

Deficit

Arises when expenditure exceeds income or when expenditure exceeds available budget.

Depreciation

The term used to describe the charge made for the cost of using tangible fixed assets. The charge for the year will represent the amount of economic benefits consumed (i.e. wear and tear).

Direct Revenue Financing

The cost of capital projects that is charged against revenue budgets.

Equities

Ordinary shares in UK and overseas companies traded on a stock exchange. Shareholders have an interest in the profits of the company and are entitled to vote at shareholder's meetings.

Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This statement shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources by the Council in comparison to those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

Fair Value

The price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Finance Lease

A lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are formally defined in the Code as contracts that give rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs)

Statements prepared by the Financial Reporting Council. Many of the Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs) and the earlier Statements of Standard Accounting Practice (SSAPs) apply to local authorities and any departure from these must be disclosed in the published accounts.

General Fund

The Council's main revenue account, covering the net cost of all services other than Council housing.

Going Concern

The going concern accounting concept assumes that the organisation will not significantly curtail the scale of its operation in the foreseeable future.

Government Grants

Payment by Government towards the cost of local authority services. These are either for particular purposes or services (specific grants) or in aid of local services generally (formula grant).

Housing Benefits

A system of financial assistance to individuals towards certain housing costs administered by local authorities and subsidised by central government.

Glossary (continued)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

A separate account to the General Fund which includes the expenditure and income arising with the provision of housing accommodation by the Council. The HRA is ring-fenced: no cross subsidy is allowed between the HRA and the General Fund in either direction.

Impairment Loss

A material reduction in the value of fixed assets outside the normal periodic revaluations.

Internal Audit

An independent appraisal function established by the management of an organisation for the review of the internal control system as a service to the organisation.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs)

These are guidelines for the production of financial statements. Many of these now apply to local authorities and departure from these must be disclosed in the published accounts.

International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC)

Aims to provide guidance on newly identified financial reporting issues not specifically dealt with in IFRSs.

Inventories

Comprises; goods or other assets purchased for resale; consumable stores; raw materials and components purchased for incorporation into products for sale; products and services in intermediate stages of completion, long term contract balances and finished goods.

Investments

An asset which is purchased with a view to making money by providing income, capital appreciation or both.

Joint Venture

An organisation for which the Council has partial control and ownership, but decisions require the consent of all participants.

Leasing

A method of financing the acquisition of assets, notably equipment, vehicles and plant. This is normally for an agreed period of time, up to several years.

Liabilities

An obligation to transfer economic benefits. Current liabilities are payable within one year.

LOBO Loans

Lender Option, Borrower Option loans. This is a loan in which the lender can, at a predetermined

time, request to change the interest rate at which the loan is being charged. If the borrower does not agree to the rate change, the borrower then has the option to repay the loan.

Local Tax Reduction Scheme

System of granting means-tested Council Tax discounts and exemptions depending on personal taxpayer circumstances.

Long Term Borrowing

Loans raised to finance capital spending which have to be repaid over a period in excess of one year from the date of the accounts.

Materiality

Materiality is an expression of the relative significance or importance of a particular matter in the context of the financial statements as a whole.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

A minimum amount, set by law, which the Council must charge to the income and expenditure account, for debt redemption or for the discharge of other credit liabilities (e.g. finance lease).

Glossary (continued)

Movement In Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves.

National Non-Domestic Rate (NNDR)

Represents the rate of taxation on business properties. Central Government have the responsibility for setting the rate and Local Authorities are responsible for the billing and collection of the tax. Income is shared between Central Government, the Council and Leicestershire Fire authority.

Net Book Value

The amount at which non-current assets are included in the balance sheet. It represents historical cost or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for Depreciation or Impairment.

Net Expenditure / Net Cost of Service

The actual cost of a service to an organisation after taking account of all income charged for services provided.

Non-Current Assets

Assets that yield benefits to the Council for a period of more than one year, examples include land, buildings and vehicles.

Operating Lease

A lease where an asset is used only for a small proportion of its economic life.

Operational Assets

Fixed assets held and occupied in the pursuit of strategic or service objectives.

Outflow

This represents cash going out of the Council.

Precept

An amount charged by another authority to the Council's Collection Fund. There are two preceptors on Leicester's collection fund: the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Leicestershire & Rutland Combined Fire Authority.

Prior Period Adjustments

These are material adjustments relating to prior year accounts that are reported in subsequent years and arise from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

An initiative for utilising private sector funding to provide public sector assets.

Provision

An amount of money set aside in the budget to meet liabilities that are likely or certain to arise in the future, but which cannot be quantified with certainty.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)

A government agency providing long and short-term loans to local authorities. Interest rates are generally lower than the private sector, and slightly higher than the rates at which the Government may borrow.

Remuneration

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expenses allowances and the monetary value of any other benefits received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by either employer or employee are excluded.

Revaluation Reserve

This reserve contains revaluation gains on assets recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation.

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Appendix H

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
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Appendix I

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Appendix J

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