

Narrative Report 1

Authority’s Responsibilities 8

Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS) 8

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) 9

Balance Sheet (BS) 10

Cash Flow Statement 11

Notes to the core financial Statements;

Note 1 - Accounting Policies 12

Note 2 - Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted 26

Note 3 - Expenditure and Funding Analysis 26

Note 4 - Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature 28

Note 5 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies 29

Note 6 - Assumptions & Uncertainty 30

Note 7 - Events After the Balance Sheet Date 30

Note 8 – Adj’s between Acc & Funding Basis under Regulations 31

Note 9 - Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves 33

Note 10 - Other Operating Expenditure 35

Note 11 - Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure 35

Note 12 - Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income 35

Note 13 - Property, Plant and Equipment 36

Note 14 - Investment Properties 37

Note 15 - Intangible Assets 38

Note 16 – Interests in Jointly Controlled Operations 39

Note 17 – Long Term Debtors 40

Note 18 – Financial Instruments 40

Note 19 – Inventory 43

Note 20 – Short Term Debtors 43

Note 21 – Cash and Cash Equivalents 44

Note 22 – Short Term Borrowing 44

Note 23 – Short Term Creditors 44

Note 24 – Provisions 44

Note 25 - Long Term Borrowing 44

Note 26 – Other Long Term Liabilities 44

Note 27 – Unusable Reserves 45

Note 28 - Cash Flow- Adj’s to net surplus/deficit 47

Note 29 - Cash Flow- Adj’s for PoS investing or financing 48

Note 30 - Cash Flow- Operating Activities 48

Note 31 - Cash Flow- Investing Activities 48

Note 32 - Cash Flow- Financing Activities 48

Note 33 – Recon of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities 48

Note 34 – Officer Remuneration and Termination Benefits 49

Note 35 – External Audit Costs 50

Note 36 – Grant Income 50

Note 37 – Member’s Allowances 51

Note 38 – Related Party Transactions 51

Note 39 – Capital Expenditure and Financing 52

Note 40 – Leases 53

Note 41 – Capital Commitments 55

Note 42 - Defined Benefits Pension Scheme 55

Note 43 – Nature and Extent of Risk Arising from Fin. Instruments 59

Collection Fund (and associated notes) 63

Annual Governance Statement 66

# Narrative Statement from the Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW AND ENVIRONMENT

1. An introduction to Rushmoor

The Borough of Rushmoor, with an estimated population of around 94,400, covers an area of 3,905 hectares at the northeast corner of Hampshire, with its eastern boundary with Surrey being formed by the River Blackwater. London is some thirty miles away and the Borough is served by direct road and rail links to the capital and the south coast. Rushmoor includes the towns of Aldershot, with its world-famous military history and Farnborough, long noted as the birthplace of aeronautical research and development and served by Farnborough Airport.

The urban area extends the full length of the Borough from the southern boundary with Farnham to the towns of Frimley and Camberley across the River Blackwater in the north.

The military area and Farnborough Airport occupy the land between Aldershot and Farnborough and to the west of those towns, works continue on Wellesley, a major redevelopment of an area of former Ministry of Defence land north of Aldershot, which will provide an additional 3,850 properties over the next fourteen years.

2. Council services and purpose

Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) delivers more than 100 local services to the communities of Aldershot and Farnborough, including core services such as rubbish and recycling collection, street cleaning, planning, environmental health, housing, parks and leisure facilities.

The Council is more complex than ever before and plays an essential role in broad areas like engaging with and where necessary, supporting local communities and business, helping the most vulnerable in society and making sure our Borough continues to develop and thrive economically with an extensive regeneration programme.

3. Financial Impact/Outlook

The Council set its 2022/23 budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) on 8th February 2022.

The country suffered economic hardship during 2022/23 with the residual impact from Covid-19, the war in Ukraine, restrictions on the supply chain (particularly from China), the ongoing reset of the UK economy following Brexit, all contributing to the high inflation and the cost-of-living crisis means the economic context is subject to considerable uncertainty. The continuation of constraints in government funding (both in terms of the level of funding and duration) adds to this uncertainty which restricts the Councils ability to financially plan for the medium to long term.

The Council has built up its reserves in recent years to enable it to manage its finances through the economic cycle and in certain areas of spend the impact of inflation and the pay award was covered by a drawdown from reserves. However, there were areas where additional income was received or there were there was a surplus which were used to top up reserves.

4. Resource Allocation

Rushmoor Borough Council manages cash flows of £78m and assets of £272m by:

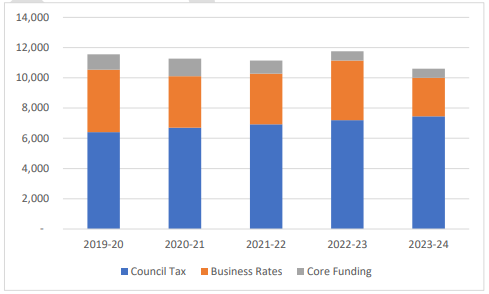
1. Holding a General fund balance of £2m
2. Collecting £43.5m of business rates. 60% of the business rates collected is passed onto central government, Hampshire County Council and Fire and Rescue Authority. The Council retains £13.9m
3. Collecting £62.5m of Council tax payments. 88% of Council Tax collected is passed onto central government, Hampshire County Council, Fire and Rescue Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner. The Council retains £7.2m
4. Managing a £127m+ portfolio of land, building and other assets that generates £8m of income.
5. Managing a £25m portfolio of loans and investments that generates £1.5m of income
6. Receiving grants and contribution of £37.3m mainly from central government.

Financial performance

5. Core Funding

The Council, in line with other shire districts continues to experience an increasing reduction in core government funding. The Government planned to phase out non-specific grant funding, instead allowing local authorities to retain a higher proportion of business rates collected locally from 2022/23 financial year. This will not be implemented as originally planned. The Council will continue to work with Government during the next financial year and beyond.

Core funding trend:



To address future challenges and reinvest in the Borough, Council Tax increased by 2.99%

(£6.56) in 2023/24 from 2022/23 for an equivalent Band D property, raising an additional £252k for the Council.

6. Financial position

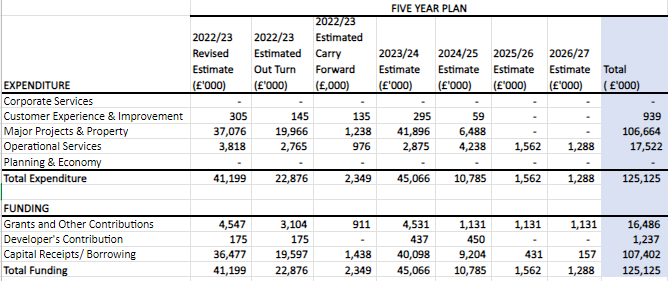
The Council has maintained a resilient financial position against the backdrop of reduced

government funding and the impact of continued changes to the cash profile of Business Rates. Although the headline reduction in Earmarked Reserves is a reduction of £2.78m, the level of earmarked reserves only decreased by £0.08m when the COVID Business Rates Earmarked Reserve is excluded, which is used to fund the spreading of the Collection Fund deficit created by the support given to businesses during the COVID 19 pandemic.

7. Capital Strategy

The Council has an ambitious five-year capital programme of £84.7m.

The table below shows the revised capital programme for 2022/23 and the indicative programme for following four year period 2023/24 to 2026/27.



ORGANISATIONAL MODEL

8. Political Structure of the Council in the 2022/23 Municipal Year

Rushmoor has 13 wards and the Council consists of 39 elected Members. The political make-up of the Council during 2022/23 was as stated below:

Party Councillors

Conservative 28

Labour 9

Liberal Democrat 2

Total number of Elected Members 39

The Council has adopted the Leader and Cabinet model as its political management structure arising from the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The requirements of the Act are such that the Leader of the Council has responsibility for the appointment of Members of the Cabinet, the allocation of Portfolios and the delegation of Executive Functions.

9. Management Structure of the Council

The Council has two senior management boards. Executive Leadership team (ELT), which

consists of the Chief Executive, two Executive Directors, Executive Head of Finance, Assistant

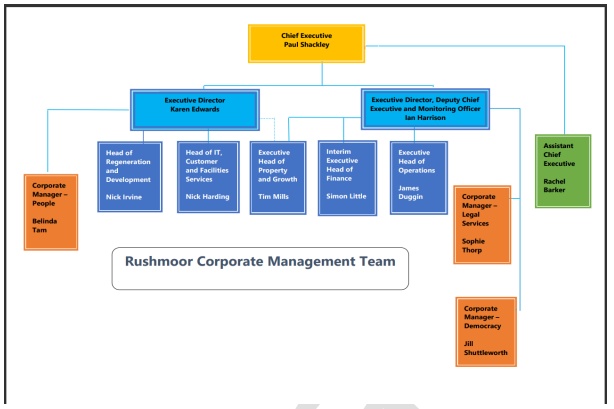
Chief Executive and Corporate Legal Services Manager. ELT consider and co-ordinates the

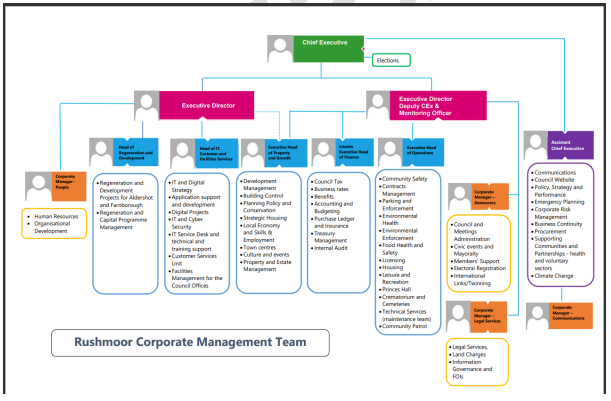
strategic direction of the Council. The second board is the Corporate Management Team (CMT), consisting of the Chief Executive, two Executive Directors and Heads of Service. The CMT considers and co-ordinates the management and future plans of the Council, providing

operational leadership and support to elected Members alongside the delivery of Council

services.

The Executive Head of Finance (Chief Financial Officer) and Executive Director of Operations, as Monitoring Officer, are both members of CMT and ELT, ensuring that these key statutory roles have on-going access to the most senior level of the Council.





STRATEGY AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION

10. The Council Plan – “People, Place, Partnership, Better Public Services”

One of the key strategic documents that frame the actions of the Council is the Council’s Corporate Plan. This document exists to help elected Members, staff and partners work together to deliver the vision for Rushmoor. It sets out our priorities – what we are doing and why.

The Cabinet reviews progress against the Corporate Plan on a quarterly basis. This acts as the key corporate performance monitoring process for the Council. The document combines both informative data about the Rushmoor area and some more specific data about the Council as a whole and about individual services. It is provided to give an enhanced overview to inform Cabinet’s priorities and its monitoring of performance.

The Council Business Plan for the period 2023 to 2026, was approved at Council on 6 July 2023 and can be found on the Council's website at:

<https://www.rushmoor.gov.uk/media/12ffarif/final-council-plan-2023-2026-accessible-accessible-pdf.pdf>

GOVERNANCE

11. Governance arrangements

Governance arrangements are outlined within the Annual Governance Statement at the end of this document.

RISK AND OPPORTUNITIES

12. Risks Management

A risk management strategy is in place to evaluate and identify risk. There are clearly defined

processes to support robust decision making through the understanding of risk, whether an

opportunity or threat exists and the likely impact. The Council believes that it's performance

monitoring, both financial and non-financial, it's governance arrangements and it's focus on the sustainability of the organisation, mitigates the risks the Council is facing and it is well placed to respond to the ever-changing environment.

The link to the Cabinet report from June 2022 shows the key risks from the Council’s Corporate risk register (pages 23 onwards of the document):

Corporate Risk Register

13. Non-Financial Performance of the Council

During 2022/23, Rushmoor Borough Council has continued its drive towards a sustainable

future, developing plans for a workforce fit for the future, continuing its improvement and

efficiency work using System Thinking principles and continuing to deliver high quality services to its residents while seeking to reduce costs. As the financial statements demonstrate, the Council continues to maintain a sound financial position.

The Council has established good financial management processes and procedures and,

recognising that it operates in an environment of continuous change, it will pursue its drive for ongoing improvement, working collaboratively across the Council, and with partners where appropriate, to deliver effective end-to-end processes.

BASIS OF PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION

14. Explanation of accounting statements

The Statement of Accounts set out the Council’s income and expenditure for the year, and its financial position at 31st March 2023.

The format and content of the financial statements is prescribed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2022/23, in turn underpinned by International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Core statements are:

1. The Movement in Reserves Statement is a summary of the changes to the Council’s reserves over the financial year. Reserves are divided into “usable”, which can be invested in capital projects or service improvements, and “unusable”, which must be set aside for specific purposes.
2. The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement records all the Council’s income and expenditure for the financial year. The upper element of the statement provides an analysis by service area. The lower half of the statement shows corporate transactions and financing.
3. The Balance Sheet is a “snap shot” of the Council’s assets, liabilities, cash balances and reserves at the end of the financial year.
4. The Cash Flow Statement shows the reason for changes in the Council’s cash balances during the financial year and whether those changes are due to operating activities, new investment or financing activities.

The supplementary financial statements are:

i. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows the net expenditure that is chargeable to taxation and reconciles it to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

ii. The Collection Fund Statement is a statutory fund maintained by a Billing Authority summarising local taxes and non-domestic rates collected by the Council, along with redistribution payments to Precepting

iii. The Independent Auditor’s Report provides the auditor’s opinion on the financial statements and the Council’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

iv. The Annual Governance Statement sets out the governance structure of the Council and its key internal controls.

Receipt of further information

Further information about the statements is available from the Executive Head of Finance, Council Offices, Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 7JU. The statements are also available on the Council’s website – [www.rushmoor.gov.uk](http://www.rushmoor.gov.uk)

Acknowledgements

The production of the Statement of Accounts would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of staff across the Council. I would like to thank my colleagues both in Financial Services and from other departments, who have played a role in the preparation of this document.

Peter Vickers

Executive Head of Finance and Chief Financial Officer Date: 13 December 2024

# Statement of Responsibilities

**The Authority’s Responsibilities**

The authority 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 authority, that officer is the Chief Finance Officer (CFO);
* Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
* Approve the Statement of Accounts.

**Responsibilities of the Chief Finance Officer**

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the authority’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 Chief Finance Officer has:

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

The Chief Finance Officer has also:

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Certificate of Executive Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer** | | |
| I hereby certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2023. I confirm that the date of this declaration is the date up to which events have been considered for inclusion within the Council’s Statement of Accounts and that events after the Balance Sheet date have been considered to this date and the accounts amended accordingly for such events and adjustments arising from audit. The accounts are therefore authorised for issue. | | |
| Peter Vickers, Chief Finance Officer and S.151 Officer | Dated 13 December 2024 | |
| **Certificate of Approval by Audit and Governance Committee** | | |
| I confirm that these account statements were approved by the Audit and Governance Committee of Rushmoor Borough Council on 21 November 2024. | | |
| Councillor Crawford, Chairman- Audit & Governance Committee | | Dated 13 December 2024 |

# 

# Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)

This Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Statement shows how the movements in year of the Council's reserves are broken down between gains and losses in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax (or rents) for the year. The net Increase/Decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2022/23** | **General Fund Balance**  **£’000** | **Capital Receipts Reserve**  **£’000** | **Capital Grants Unapplied Account £’000** | **Total Usable Reserves**  **£’000** | **Unusable Reserves**  **£’000** | **Total Council Reserves**  **£’000** |
| **Balance at 31 March brought forward** | **(24,019)** | **(2,136)** | **(1,019)** | **(27,174)** | **(56,432)** | **(83,606)** |
| (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services | 396 |  |  | 396 |  | 396 |
| Other Comprehensive I&E |  |  |  |  | (37,745) | (37,745**)** |
| **Total Comprehensive I&E** | **396** |  |  | **396** | **(37,745)** | **(37,349)** |
| Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (Note 8) | 2,384 | (1,318) | (420) | 647 | (647) | 0 |
| **(Increase) or Decrease in year** | **2,780** | **(1,318)** | **(420)** | **1,043** | **(38,391)** | **(37,349)** |
| **Balance at 31 March carried forward** | **(21,239)** | **(3,454)** | **(1,439)** | **(26,131)** | **(94,823)** | **(120,955)** |
| **General Fund Balance analysed over;** | |  |
| General Fund | | (2,101) |
| Earmarked Reserves | | (19,138) |
| **Total Balance** | | **(21,239)** |
|  | |  |
| **2021/22** | **General Fund Balance**  **£’000** | **Capital Receipts Reserve**  **£’000** | **Capital Grants Unapplied Account £’000** | **Total Usable Reserves**  **£’000** | **Unusable Reserves**  **£’000** | **Total Council Reserves**  **£’000** |
| **Balance at 31 March brought forward** | **(29,986)** | **(411)** | **(575)** | **(30,972)** | **(34,520)** | **(65,492)** |
| (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services | 3,878 |  |  | 3,878 |  | 3,878 |
| Other Comprehensive I&E |  |  |  |  | (21,992) | (21,992) |
| **Total Comprehensive I&E** | **3,878** |  |  | **3,878** | **(21,992)** | **(18,114)** |
| Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (Note 8) | 2,089 | (1,725) | (444) | (80) | 80 | 0 |
| **(Increase) or Decrease in year** | **5,967** | **(1,725)** | **(444)** | **3,798** | **(21,912)** | **(18,114)** |
| **Balance at 31 March carried forward** | **(24,019)** | **(2,136)** | **(1,019)** | **(27,174)** | **(56,432)** | **(83,606)** |
| **General Fund Balance analysed over;** | |  |
| General Fund | | (2,101) |
| Earmarked Reserves | | (21,918) |
| **Total Balance** | | **(24,019)** |

# Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Council raises taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22** | | | | |  |  | **2022/23** | | |
| **Exp** | **Income** | | **Net** | | *N*  *o*  *t*  *e* | **CIES** | **Exp** | **Income** | **Net** |
| **£’000** | **£’000** | | **£’000** | |  |  | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** |
| 32,973 | (27,191) | | 5,782 | |  | Corporate & Democratic Services | 31,707 | (25,609) | 6,098 |
| 258 | (2) | | 256 | |  | Customer Experience & Improvement | 143 | (2) | 141 |
| 4,541 | (8,557) | | (4,016) | |  | Major Projects & Property | 4,159 | (8,843) | (4,684) |
| 15,529 | (8,535) | | 6,994 | |  | Operational Services | 15,866 | (10,133) | 5,733 |
| 3,437 | (925) | | 2,512 | |  | Planning & Economy | 3,561 | (689) | 2,872 |
| 542 | 0 | | 542 | |  | ICE Programme | 159 | 0 | 159 |
| **57,280** | **(45,210)** | | **12,070** | |  | **Cost of Service** | **55,595** | **(45,276)** | **10,319** |
| 15,521 | (1,883) | | 13,638 | | *10* | Other Operating Expenditure | 1,462 | (1,611) | (149) |
| 3,327 | (4,894) | | (1,566) | | *11* | Financing and Investment I&E | 6,114 | (3,751) | 2,363 |
| 20,512 | (40,775) | | (20,263) | | *12* | Taxation & Non-specific Grant Inc. | 17,621 | (29,758) | (12,137) |
| **96,640** | **(92,762)** | | **3,878** | |  | **(Surplus)/Deficit on Prov. of Service** | **80,793** | **(80,396)** | **396** |
|  | |  | | (4,750) | *13* | (Surp)/Def on revaluation of PPE |  |  | (520) |
|  | |  | | (17,242) | *42* | Remeasure of net def ben liability/(asset) |  |  | (37,225) |
|  | |  | | **(21,992)** |  | **Other Comprehensive I&E** |  |  | **(37,745)** |
|  | |  | | **(18,115)** |  | **Total Comprehensive I&E** |  |  | **(37,348)** |

# Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the balance sheet date of assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the capital receipts reserve may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line ‘Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations’.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **31 March 2022** |  | **Balance Sheet** | **31 March 2023** |
| **£’000** | ***Note*** |  | **£’000** |
| 90,356 | *13* | Property, Plant and Equipment | 112,944 |
| 258 | *-* | Heritage Assets | 258 |
| 127,581 | *14* | Investment property | 128,112 |
| 136 | *15* | Intangible Assets | 76 |
| 21,943 | *18* | Long-Term Investments | 19,293 |
| 7,452 | *17* | Long-Term Debtors | 8,169 |
| **247,726** |  | **Long Term Assets** | **268,852** |
| 12 | *19* | Inventories | 41 |
| 6,844 | *20* | Short-Term Debtors | 6,878 |
| 13,692 | *21* | Cash and Cash Equivalents | 1,817 |
| **20,548** |  | **Current Assets** | **8,736** |
| (100,000) | *22* | Short-Term Borrowing | (115,000) |
| (29,313) | *23* | Short-Term Creditors | (16,404) |
| (340) | *18* | Other Short-Term Liabilities (Leases) | (329) |
| **(129,653)** |  | **Current Liabilities** | **(131,733)** |
| (2,549) | *24* | Long-Term Provisions (NNDR only) | (1,688) |
| 0 | *25* | Long-Term Borrowing | (5,000) |
| (47,652) | *26* | Other Long-Term Liabilities (Pensions & Leases only) | (13,407) |
| (4,813) | *36* | Capital Grants Receipts in Advance | (4,807) |
| **(55,014)** |  | **Long Term Liabilities** | **(24,901)** |
| **83,607** |  | **Net Assets** | **120,955** |
| (27,176) | *MiRS* | Usable Reserves | (26,133) |
| (56,431) | *27* | Unusable Reserves | (94,822) |
| **(83,607)** |  | **Total Reserves** | **(120,955)** |

**Peter Vickers**, Chief Finance Officer....... ...................... date: 13 December 2024

# 

# Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents to 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 flows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e., Borrowing to the Council).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22** |  | **Cash Flow Statement** | **2022/23** |
| **£’000** | ***Note*** |  | **£’000** |
| (3,878) | *CIES* | Net (surplus)/deficit on the provision of services | (396) |
| 5,942 | *28* | Adj’s to surplus/deficit on the prov. of services for non-cash movements | 11,569 |
| 1,050 | *29* | Adjustment for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities | (2,806) |
| **3,114** |  | **Net Cash flows from operating activities** | **8,367** |
| (9,296) | *31* | Net cash flows from investing activities | (20,247) |
| (2,369) | *32* | Net cash flows from financing activities | 23,755 |
| **(8,551)** |  | **Net (increase) or decrease in cash and cash equivalents** | **11,875** |
| 5,141 |  | Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period | 13,692 |
| **13,692** |  | **Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period** | **1,817** |

# 

# Note 1 - Accounting Policies

**i. General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council’s transactions for the 2022/23 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31st March 2023. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2022/23 supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and statutory guidance.

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. In accordance with application accounting framework, these accounts are prepared on a going concern basis.

**ii. Accruals of Expenditure and Income**

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

* Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.
* Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption; they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
* Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
* Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
* Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

**iii. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes all bank accounts including overdrafts that are an integral part of the Authority’s cash management.

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

Cash equivalents are deposits held with financial institutions that mature in no more than one month or less from the date of acquisition and are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

**iv. Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates & Errors**

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

**v. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets**

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

* depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
* revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off
* amortisation of intangible fixed assets attributable to the service.

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

The authority is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement [equal to either an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the authority in accordance with statutory guidance Depreciation, revaluation, Benefit Fund balance [MRP or the statutory repayment of loans fund advances], by way of an adjusting transaction with the capital adjustment account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

**vi. 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 such benefits as salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council.

Termination Benefits:

When the Council is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy. These costs are charged on an accruals’ basis to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Post-employment Benefits:

The Council participates in the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Hampshire County Council. The scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Council.

The Local Government Pension Scheme:

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

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

• Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 2% (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bond).

• The assets of Hampshire County Council pension fund attributable to the authority are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:

o quoted securities – current bid price

o unquoted securities – professional estimate

o unitised securities – current bid price

o property – market value.

The liabilities of the Hampshire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees. The assets of Hampshire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value. The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

Service cost comprising:

* current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked;
* past service cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non-Distributed Costs;
* net interest cost on the net defined benefit liability (asset) - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

Remeasurements comprising:

* the return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
* actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

Contributions paid to the Hampshire County Council pension fund – cash paid as employer’s contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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

Discretionary Benefits:

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

**vii. Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates**

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (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 (for NDR) share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for Council Tax and NDR:

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) 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 authority’s General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the CIES 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 year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

Where debtor balances for the above are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the statutory arrangements will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure line in the CIES. The impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the revised future cash flows.

**viii. Events After the Balance Sheet Date**

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

Two types of events can be identified:

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

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

**ix. Financial Instruments**

Financial Liabilities:

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

The Council borrowed funds for the purposes of capital expenditure in 2022/23, and therefore has a capital financing requirement in excess of zero at 31 March 2023. Other financial liabilities were trade creditors that occur in the normal course of business and a liability arising from an embedded lease in the Council’s contract for Waste, Recycling and Grounds Maintenance. The amount presented in the Balance Sheet in respect of the embedded finance lease is the outstanding principal repayable. Interest payable in the year is calculated and charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Financial liabilities entered into with a duration of less than 12 months, such as trade creditors, are recognised at their nominal value.

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 cash flow characteristics.

There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

• Amortised cost

• Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and

• Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

The Council’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 payment are not solely payment of principle and interest.

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost:

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

Any gains and losses that arise on the de-recognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Financial Assets Measure at Fair Value through Profit and Loss:

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value.

Fair value gains and losses are recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

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

• instruments with quoted market prices – the market price

• other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis

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

• Level 1 inputs - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets that the Council can access at the measurement data.

• Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly

• Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset.

Any gains and losses that arise on the de-recognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES and are balanced by entries in the Pooled Investment Fund Adjustment Account (PIFAA)

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments sets out that investments in equity should be classified as FVPL unless there is an irrevocable election to recognise changes in fair value through other comprehensive income. The Council has not elected equity instrument and therefore all equity investments are recorded as FVPL instruments.

Expected Credit Loss Model:

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

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

No impairment losses are recognised for pooled funds.

**x. Government Grants and Contributions**

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

• the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and

• the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied.

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

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

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the capital grants unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the capital adjustment account. Amounts in the capital grants unapplied reserve are transferred to the capital adjustment account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

**xi. Heritage Assets**

The Council’s heritage assets largely comprise items of civic regalia as well as a memorial and statues. They are all held in support of their primary objective of contributing to knowledge and culture and appreciation of the Council’s history and local area.

**xii. Intangible Assets**

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

The Council does not have any internally generated intangible assets. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost.

The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

**xiii. Investment Property**

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

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arms-length. The 2022/23 external valuation report on all the investment properties and a selection of the other assets was prepared by GSC Harbord MA MRICS IRRV (Hons) RICS Registered Valuer of Wilkes Head and Eve LLP. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

**xiv. Jointly Controlled Operations and Jointly Controlled Assets**

Jointly controlled operations are arrangements undertaken by the Council in conjunction with other ventures that involve the use of the assets and resources of the ventures rather than the establishment of a separate entity. The Council recognises on its Balance Sheet the assets that it controls and the liabilities that it incurs and debits and credits the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with the expenditure it incurs and the share of income it earns from the activity of the operation.

**xv. Leases**

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

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

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

The Council as Lessee

Operating leases

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

Finance Leases

Property, Plant and Equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease’s inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Initial direct costs of the Council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

• a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the Property, Plant or Equipment – applied to write down the lease liability, and

• a finance charge (debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES).

Property, Plant and Equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset’s estimated useful life (where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the Council at the end of the lease period).

The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore substituted by a revenue contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

The Council as Lessor

Operating Leases

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to either the Financing and Investment Income line in the CIES or the relevant service line in the net cost of services. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

**xvi. Overheads and Support Services**

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

**xvii. Property, Plant and Equipment**

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

Recognition:

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably (subject to a de minimis capitalisation threshold of £10,000 for plant vehicles and equipment and £20,000 for land and buildings). Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset’s potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Measurement:

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

* purchase price
* any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

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

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

• infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost

• all other assets – fair value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of fair value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of fair value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their fair value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the CIES where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service. The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1st April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

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

Impairment:

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

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

• where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)

• where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the CIES.

Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the CIES, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation:

Depreciation is provided for on all material Property, Plant and Equipment by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives.

An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

• dwellings and other buildings – straight-line allocation over the remaining useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer

• vehicles, plant and equipment – straight-line allocation over the remaining useful life of the asset.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

Componentisation is considered where the carrying value of the asset is greater than £500,000 and the value of the component is at least 20% of the carrying value.

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

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale:

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

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

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the CIES also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. Capital receipts are required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve and can then only be used for new capital investment. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of fixed assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

**xviii. Provisions and Contingent Liabilities**

Provisions:

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

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service or Other Operating Expenditure line 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 of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

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

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

Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

**xix. Reserves**

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

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

**xx. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute**

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the CIES in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of council tax.

**xxi. Value Added Tax (VAT)**

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

**xxii. Borrowing Costs Eligible for Capitalisation**

The borrowing costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are those borrowing costs that would have been avoided if the expenditure on the qualifying asset (as defined within IAS 23) had not been made. The Council recognises the accounting requirements of IAS 23 and determines the amount of borrowing costs that are eligible for capitalisation by applying a capitalisation rate to the expenditures on the qualifying asset. The capitalisation rate is the total borrowing costs related to the spend on the specific asset based on the average cost of the Council's total debt.

The Council only applies a process of capitalisation of borrowing costs for qualifying assets, in the following circumstances:

• Scheme capital expenditure exceeds £1m,

• Scheme capital expenditure results in an asset or revenue income stream,

• Duration of scheme creation is more than one financial year.

# Note 2 - Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

# The Council is required to disclose information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued, but has not yet been adopted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2022/23.

For 2022/23 the following accounting standard changes that need to be reported relate to:

a) IFRS 16 Leases.

b) Definition of Accounting Estimates (Amendments to IAS 8) issued in February 2021.

c) Disclosure of Accounting Policies (Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2)

issued in February 2021.

d) Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction (Amendments to IAS 12) issued in May 2021.

e) Updating a Reference to the Conceptual Framework (Amendments to IFRS 3) issued in May 2020.

**Note 3 - Expenditure and Funding Analysis**

The objective of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate to council tax and rent payers how the funding available to the Council (i.e. government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by the Council in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's portfolios. Income and Expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22** | | |  | **2022/23** | | |
| **Net**  **Expenditure**  **Chargeable to**  **the General**  **Fund Balances**  **£'000** | **Adjustments**  **between**  **Funding and**  **Accounting**  **Basis**  **£'000** | **Net Expenditure**  **in the**  **CIES**  **£'000** |  | **Net**  **Expenditure**  **Chargeable to**  **the General**  **Fund Balances**  **£'000** | **Adjustments**  **between**  **Funding and**  **Accounting**  **Basis**  **£'000** | **Net Expenditure**  **in the**  **CIES**  **£'000** |
| 4,886 | 896 | 5,782 | Corporate & Democratic Services | 5,617 | 481 | 6,098 |
| (536) | 792 | 256 | Customer Experience & Improvmnt | (511) | 652 | 141 |
| (4,634) | 618 | (4,016) | Major Projects & Property | (4,753) | 69 | (4,684) |
| 6,692 | 302 | 6,994 | Operational Services | 6,254 | (521) | 5,733 |
| 2,160 | 352 | 2,512 | Planning & Economy | 2,558 | 314 | 2,872 |
| 542 | - | 542 | ICE Programme | 157 | 2 | 159 |
| **9,111** | **2,959** | **12,070** | **Net Cost of Services** | **9,322** | **997** | **10,319** |
| (3,142) | (5,049) | (8,192) | Total: Other income & Expenditure | (6,541) | (3,381) | (9,923) |
| **5,969** | **(2,090)** | **3,878** | **(Surplus) or deficit on PoServ’s** | **2,781** | **(2,384)** | **396** |
| **(29,986)** |  |  | **Opening GF Balance** | **(24,019)** |  |  |
| 5,969 |  |  | (Surp)/Deficit on GF Bal for Year | 2,781 |  |  |
| **(24,018)** |  |  | **Closing GF Balance** | **(21,239)** |  |  |

For breakdown of GF balance to GF and Earmarked reserves, see MiRS Statement.

**Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  | **2022/23** |
| **Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts** | **Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note a)**  **£'000** | **Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b) £'000** | **Other Differences (Note c)**  **£'000** | **Total Adjustments**  **£'000** |
| Corporate & Democratic Services | 18 | 474 | (11) | 481 |
| Customer Experience & Improvement | 209 | 450 | (7) | 652 |
| Major Projects & Property | (97) | 168 | (3) | 69 |
| Operational Services | (1,253) | 744 | (12) | (521) |
| Planning & Economy | 1 | 319 | (6) | 314 |
| ICE Programme | - | 2 | (0) | 2 |
| **Net Cost of Services** | **(1,122)** | **2,157** | **(38)** | **997** |
| Other I&E from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis | (2,236) | 1,148 | (2,293) | (3,381) |
| **Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and CIES Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services** | **(3,358)** | **3,305** | **(2,331)** | **(2,384)** |
|  |  |  |  | **2021/22** |
| **Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts** | **Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note a)**  **£'000** | **Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b) £'000** | **Other Differences (Note c)**  **£'000** | **Total Adjustments**  **£'000** |
| Corporate & Democratic Services | 31 | 887 | (22) | 896 |
| Customer Experience & Improvement | 385 | 417 | (10) | 792 |
| Major Projects & Property | 408 | 216 | (6) | 618 |
| Operational Services | (542) | 864 | (21) | 302 |
| Planning & Economy | 1 | 362 | (11) | 352 |
| ICE Programme | - | - | - | - |
| **Net Cost of Services** | **284** | **2,746** | **(69)** | **2,959** |
| Other I&E from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis | 2,006 | 1,150 | (8,205) | (5,049) |
| **Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and CIES Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services** | **2,290** | **3,896** | **(8,275)** | **(2,089)** |

a) Adjustments for capital purposes – this column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in 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 receivables in the year to those receivables 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 were satisfied in the year.

b) Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments

Net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS 19 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 charged to the CIES.

c) Other Differences

Other differences between amounts debited/credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable/receivable to be recognised under statute:

For services this represents the removal of Accumulated Absences.

The charge under Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure represents 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 recognised under generally accepted accounting practices in the Code. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future Surpluses or Deficits on the Collection Fund.

**Note 4 - Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature**

This note breaks down the Income and Expenditure as reported in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement by nature including employees’ expenses, Investment income and expenditure and all capital charges adjustments applied in year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
|  | **£’000** | **£’000** |
| **Expenditure:** |  |  |
| Employee benefits expenses | 15,857 | 16,281 |
| Changes in the fair value of Investment Properties | 907 | 1,106 |
| Depreciation, amortisation, impairment etc | 1,509 | 1,309 |
| Expenditure from Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rates | 20,512 | 17,621 |
| Interest payments | 369 | 1,234 |
| Other services expenses | 42,853 | 41,479 |
| Loss on disposal | 13,483 | 614 |
| Net Interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) | 1,150 | 1,148 |
| **Total expenditure** | **96,640** | **80,793** |
| **Income:** |  |  |
| Changes in the fair value of Investment Properties | (2,711) | (2,223) |
| Fees, charges and other service income | (15,954) | (17,116) |
| Government grants and contributions | (43,807) | (32,436) |
| Income from council tax, non-domestic rates, district rate income | (26,802) | (25,280) |
| Interest and investment income | (932) | (1,528) |
| Gain on disposal | (1,724) | (1,318) |
| Other Income | (830) | (495) |
| **Total income** | **(92,762)** | **(80,396)** |
| **(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services** | **3,818** | **396** |

# Note 5 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are provided as follows:

• Future Funding for Local Government. There is an element of risk about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision. In addition, as mentioned in the Narrative Statement, the Council has made judgements about the adequacy of its balances and has also put in place processes to

achieve savings that will mitigate or counteract any future changes in its levels of funding or other income.

• Asset Classifications. The Council has made judgements on whether assets are classified as Investment Property or Property, Plant and Equipment. These judgements are based on an understanding of the main purpose that the Council is holding the asset. If the asset is used in delivering services, or is occupied by third parties who are subsidised by the Council, the asset is deemed to be Property, Plant and Equipment. A non-current asset used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation is classified as an Investment Property.

• Property, Plant and Equipment. Non-current assets are depreciated over their useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to them. If the useful life of a non-current asset is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the non-current asset falls. Annual depreciation charge for buildings would increase proportionately for every year that an asset useful life has to be reduced.

• Lease Classification. The Council has made judgments on whether its lease arrangements are operating leases or finance leases. These judgements are based on a series of tests to assess whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee. The accounting treatment for operating and finance leases is significantly different.

• Contractual Arrangements. The Council has made judgements on whether its contractual arrangements contain embedded leases i.e. arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

• Potential Liabilities. The Council has made judgements about the likelihood of potential liabilities and whether a provision should be made. The judgements are based on the degree of certainty and an assessment of the likely impact.

• Bad or Doubtful Debts. The Council has made judgements about the level of bad or doubtful debts and the level of provision that it may need to provide for. These judgements are based on historical experience of debtor defaults and current economic conditions.

• Business Rate Appeals. The Council has made judgements about the number of successful appeals under the Business Rates Retention Scheme.

All of these judgements are the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer as set out in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts.

# 

# Note 6 - Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contain some 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. The assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty disclosed below relate to the estimates that require the authority’s most difficult, subjective or complex judgements. As the number of variables and assumptions affecting the possible future resolution of the uncertainties increases, those judgements become more subjective and complex. As a result balances cannot be determined with complete certainty, actual results could be different from the assumptions and estimates made.

The items in the Council’s Balance Sheet at 31st March 2023 for which there is a risk of adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are provided below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Uncertainties** | **Effect if actual results differ from assumptions** |
| Property, plant and 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 authority will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.  Assets are valued on a five-year rolling basis. Building indices are not applied to approximate for those assets that are not subject to the revaluation process in the year. | If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls.  It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for buildings would increase by £20k for every year that useful lives had to be reduced. |
| Arrears | The NDR arrears balance of £3m at the Balance Sheet date is deemed to be at risk of material adjustment within the next year due to current economic circumstances meaning that businesses are struggling to pay. A review of significant balances suggested that an impairment of doubtful debts of 40% (£1.3m) was appropriate. However, in the current economic climate it is not certain that such an allowance would be sufficient. | If collection rates were to deteriorate further, for every 1% reduction in collection rates, an extra £250k would be required |
| Pensions Liability | At 31 March 2023, the net Pension Liability was £14.982m.  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 authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. | The effects on the net pensions’ liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured- (the impact of changes in assumptions are outlined in note 37).  During 2022/23, the Council’s actuaries advised that the net pensions liability for funded LGPS benefits had decreased by £31.274m. |

# 

# Note 7 - Events After the Balance Sheet Date

# The Statement of Accounts were authorised for issue by the Chief Financial Officer on 13 December 2024.

# Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes.

# Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2023, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

The financial statements and notes have not been adjusted for the following events, which took place after 18 July 2023, as they provide information that is relevant to an understanding of the authority’s financial position but do not relate to conditions at that date:

• On 25 May-23 the Council purchased the leasehold of The Meads Business Centre, the

Kingsmead Shopping Centre and other connected buildings for £9.485m. The Council already

held the freehold of the land these properties occupy.

• In the 2020 Spending Review the Government announced a £4.8 billion capital fund, known as the Levelling Up Fund, aimed at smaller infrastructure projects that have a visible impact on people and communities. The first round of funding was awarded in March 2021. The Council applied for funding in the second round in July 2022, under the investment theme of Regeneration and Town Centre Investment, and in January 2023 was notified that it had been successful in its bid for £20m towards a £45m scheme – however this is currently being subjected to subsidy checks prior to being released.

• In December 2022 the Council was informed that it had been awarded £1.02m under the UK Shared Prosperity Funding. The funding is spread over two and a half years with the amounts in each year detailed below;

2022-23 £53,868

2023-24 £67,737

2023-25 £898,395

# Note 8 - Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against.

General Fund balance

The General Fund is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of an authority are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the authority are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact on the General Fund balance, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The General Fund balance therefore summarises the resources that the council is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment (or the deficit of resources that the council is required to recover) at the end of the financial year.

Capital receipts reserve

The capital receipts reserve holds the proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets, which are restricted by statute from being used other than to fund new capital expenditure or to be set aside to finance historical capital expenditure. The balance on the reserve shows the resources that have yet to be applied for these purposes at the year-end.

Capital grants unapplied

The capital grants unapplied account (reserve) holds the grants and contributions received towards capital projects for which the council has met the conditions that would otherwise require repayment of the monies but which have yet to be applied to meet expenditure. The balance is restricted by grant terms as to the capital expenditure against which it can be applied and/or the financial year in which this can take place.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2022/23** | **General Fund Balance**  **£’000** | **Capital Receipts Reserve**  **£’000** | **Capital Grants Unapplied Account £’000** | **Movement Unusable Reserves**  **£’000** |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Rev of items dr/cr to the CIES |  |  |  |  |
| Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets (PPE) | (1,216) |  |  | 1,216 |
| Revaluation gain/loss on PPE | 2,430 |  |  | (2,430) |
| Movement in FV of Investment Properties | 1,117 |  |  | (1,117) |
| Amortisation of Intangible assets | (92) |  |  | 92 |
| Capital grants and contributions applied | 1,488 |  | (200) | (1,288) |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute | (1,080) |  |  | 1,080 |
| Non-current assets w- off on disposal/sale, part of gain/loss disposal to CIES | (614) |  |  | 614 |
| Insertion of items not dr/cr to the CIES |  |  |  |  |
| Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund | 336 |  |  | (336) |
| Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment | 2,101 |  |  | (2,101) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve** |  |  |  |  |
| Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from rev to CRR | 1,318 | (1,318) |  | 0 |
| Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure |  | 0 |  | 0 |
| Cap grant RiA (LTL BS) to CGU | 220 |  | (220) | 0 |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Pooled Fin Instr Adj Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Unrealised Fair Value gains/losses on financial investments | (2,650) |  |  | 2,650 |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve** |  |  |  |  |
| Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits dr/cr to the CIES | (5,441) |  |  | 5,441 |
| Employer's pen conts and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year | 2,136 |  |  | (2,136) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adj Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rating income credited or debited to the CIES is different from council tax and non-domestic rating income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements | 2,293 |  |  | (2,293) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Amount by which Officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements | 39 |  |  | (39) |
| **Total Adjustments** | **2,384** | **(1,318)** | **(420)** | **(647)** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22** | **General Fund Balance**  **£’000** | **Capital Receipts Reserve**  **£’000** | **Capital Grants Unapplied Account £’000** | **Movement Unusable Reserves**  **£’000** |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Rev of items dr/cr to the CIES |  |  |  |  |
| Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets (PPE) | (1,391) |  |  | 1,391 |
| Revaluation gain/loss on PPE | 1,225 |  |  | (1,225) |
| Movement in FV of Investment Properties | 1,804 |  |  | (1,804) |
| Amortisation of Intangible assets | (118) |  |  | 118 |
| Capital grants and contributions applied | 5,710 |  | (444) | (5,266) |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute | (816) |  |  | 816 |
| Non-current assets w- off on disposal/sale, part of gain/loss disposal to CIES | (13,585) |  |  | 13,585 |
| Insertion of items not dr/cr to the CIES |  |  |  |  |
| Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund | 400 |  |  | (400) |
| Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment | 2,103 |  |  | (2,103) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve** |  |  |  |  |
| Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure | 1,725 | (1,725) |  |  |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Pooled Fin Instr Adj Account** |  | 0 |  | 0 |
| Unrealised Fair Value gains/losses on financial investments | 654 |  |  | (654) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve** |  |  |  |  |
| Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits dr/cr to the CIES | (5,970) |  |  | 5,970 |
| Employer's pen conts and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year | 2,074 |  |  | (2,074) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adj Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rating income credited or debited to the CIES is different from council tax and non-domestic rating income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements | 8,205 |  |  | (8,205) |
| **Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account** |  |  |  |  |
| Amount by which Officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements | 69 |  |  | (69) |
| **Total Adjustments** | **2,089** | **(1,725)** | **(444)** | **80** |

# Note 9 - Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund balance in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2022/23.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Bal at 1st April 2021** | **Transfers out 2021/22** | **Transfers in 2021/22** | **Bal at 31 Mar 2022** | **Internal 2022/23** | **Transfers out 2022/23** | **Transfers in 2022/23** | **Bal at 31st Mar 2023** |
|  | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** |
| COVID BRR EMR reserve | (10,812) | 10,427 | (4,162) | (4,547) | 0 | 2,655 | 0 | (1,892) |
| Commuted sums | (4,550) | 54 | (35) | (4,531) | 0 | 44 | (1,155) | (5,642) |
| Stability & Resilience Reserve | (4,577) | 176 | 0 | (4,401) | 513 | 1,143 | (168) | (2,913) |
| Pension Reserve | (669) | 0 | (818) | (1,487) | 1,487 | 0 | 0 | (0) |
| Commercial Reserve | (1,750) | 267 | 0 | (1,483) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1,483) |
| Flexible Hou Grant | (634) | 217 | (331) | (748) | 0 | 147 | (211) | (812) |
| Mercury abatement | (408) | 0 | (39) | (447) | 0 | 0 | (41) | (488) |
| Budget carry fwds | (390) | 390 | (432) | (432) | 0 | 432 | (93) | (93) |
| Affordable Housing Reserve | (400) | 0 | 0 | (400) | 0 | 205 | 0 | (195) |
| Other Grants (below £45k) | (225) | 22 | (182) | (385) | 0 | 118 | (80) | (347) |
| Civil parking enforcement surplus | (281) | 20 | (66) | (328) | 0 | 127 | (6) | (207) |
| Business sup grant admin | 0 | 0 | (297) | (297) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (297) |
| Regeneration Reserve | (357) | 100 | 0 | (257) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (257) |
| Insurance Reserve | (253) | 0 | 0 | (253) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (253) |
| A331 Air Quality Project | (246) | 11 | 0 | (235) | 0 | 8 | 0 | (227) |
| Treasury Earmarked reserves | (400) | 180 | 0 | (220) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (220) |
| Climate emergency reserve | (239) | 31 | 0 | (208) | 0 | 30 | 0 | (178) |
| deprivation reserve | (94) | 55 | (100) | (139) | 0 | 28 | 0 | (111) |
| LADGF disc res | 0 | 0 | (130) | (130) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (130) |
| Commercial Property Reserve | (121) | 0 | 0 | (121) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (121) |
| Workforce Reserve | (200) | 100 | 0 | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (100) |
| TAG env Fund | (96) | 0 | (1) | (97) | 0 | 0 | (34) | (131) |
| LCTS scheme admin | 0 | 0 | (93) | (93) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (93) |
| Covid ctax hardship | (108) | 17 | 0 | (91) | 0 | 48 | 0 | (43) |
| Feasibility Victoria Road EMR | (102) | 17 | 0 | (85) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (85) |
| Custom Build Grant | (75) | 0 | 0 | (75) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (75) |
| Cohesion/Migration Impact/Gurkha Settle | (66) | 0 | 0 | (66) | 0 | 1 | 0 | (65) |
| Control outbreak | (85) | 25 | 0 | (60) | 0 | 37 | 0 | (23) |
| Cyber security | (100) | 51 | 0 | (49) | 0 | 18 | 0 | (31) |
| Land Charges | (45) | 0 | 0 | (45) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (45) |
| Emergency assistance grant | (64) | 19 | 0 | (45) | 0 | 45 | 0 | 0 |
| Covid19 t&t | (89) | 65 | (13) | (37) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (37) |
| Ward reserve | (26) | 0 | 0 | (26) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (26) |
| BR equalisation reserve (NEW) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (2,000) | 0 | 0 | (2,000) |
| Homes for Ukraine support A (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (165) | (165) |
| Pipeline env imp res (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (107) | (107) |
| Dilapidation res (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (71) | (71) |
| Prop Serv Covenant release (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (59) | (59) |
| UK shared prosp fund (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (48) | (48) |
| Homes for Ukraine support B (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (30) | (30) |
| Election integrity (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (14) | (14) |
| Afghan relocation scheme (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (14) | (14) |
| Admin support- benefits team (new) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (10) | (10) |
| Local elections (EMR ) | (87) | 87 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cultural recovery | (47) | 47 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Service Improvement Fund | (129) | 129 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total** | **(27,725)** | **12,507** | **(6,700)** | **(21,918)** | **0** | **5,086** | **(2,306)** | **(19,138)** |

# 

# Note 10 - Other Operating Expenditure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 0 | Photovoltaic Cells Feed-In Tariff | (20) |
| 11,758 | Gains/losses on disposal of non-current assets | (704) |
| 1,880 | Other Corporate Income & Expenditure | 575 |
| **13,638** | **Total Other Operating Expenditure** | **(149)** |

# Note 11 - Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 369 | Interest payable and similar charges | 1,234 |
| 1,150 | Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) | 1,148 |
| (932) | Interest receivable and similar income | (1,528) |
| (1,804) | Investment properties changes in their fair value | (1,117) |
| (654) | Unrealised Fair Value gains/losses on financial investments | 2,650 |
| 305 | Impairment losses (including reversals of impairment losses or impairment gains) | (24) |
| **(1,566)** | **Total** | **2,363** |

# Note 12 - Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (6,928) | Council tax income | (7,196) |
| 22 | Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - Council Tax | 153 |
| 2,177 | Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit - NDR | 64 |
| (3,543) | National non-domestic rates income and expenditure | (1,752) |
| 1,981 | Non-Domestic Rates (Safety net)/Levy Payment | 1,073 |
| (2,784) | Other COVID Related Grants | 0 |
| (6,682) | Non-ringfenced government grants | (4,193) |
| (4,507) | Capital grants and contributions | (285) |
| **(20,263)** | **Total** | **(12,137)** |

# 

# Note 13 - Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2022/23** | **Land & Buildings**  **£’000** | **Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £’000** | **Community Assets**  **£’000** | **Surplus Assets**  **£’000** | **Assets Under Construction**  **£’000** | **Total Property, Plant & Equipment £’000** |
| **Cost or Valuation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **at 1 April** | 66,075 | 8,788 | 7,396 | 1,380 | 11,309 | **94,947** |
| Additions | 856 | 790 | 61 | 100 | 19,048 | **20,854** |
| Reval inc/(dec) in the Revaluation Reserve | 637 | 0 | 0 | (117) | 0 | **520** |
| Reval inc/(dec) in the Surp/Def on the PoS | 2,484 | 0 | 0 | (53) | 0 | **2,430** |
| Derecognition/Disposal | 0 | (31) | 0 | 0 | 0 | **(31)** |
| Deprec w/back upon reval | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| Reclassifications and transfer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| **at 31 March** | **70,051** | **9,547** | **7,456** | **1,310** | **30,356** | **118,721** |
| **Accumulated Depreciation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **at 1 April** | (138) | (4,453) | 0 | 0 | 0 | **(4,591)** |
| Depreciation charge in year | (530) | (686) | 0 | 0 | 0 | **(1,216)** |
| Deprec written out | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deprec w/back upon reval | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| Derecognition/Disposal | 0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **31** |
| Deprec written out to the Surp/Def on PoS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| **at 31 March** | **(667)** | **(5,109)** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **(5,776)** |
| **NBV at 31 March 2023** | **69,384** | **4,438** | **7,456** | **1,310** | **30,356** | **112,944** |
| **NBV at 31 March 2022** | **65,937** | **4,335** | **7,396** | **1,380** | **11,309** | **90,356** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22** | **Land & Buildings**  **£’000** | **Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £’000** | **Community Assets**  **£’000** | **Surplus Assets**  **£’000** | **Assets Under Construction**  **£’000** | **Total Property, Plant & Equipment £’000** |
| **Cost or Valuation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **at 1 April** | 70,799 | 8,290 | 6,988 | 1,434 | 6,338 | **93,850** |
| Additions | 1,806 | 498 | 426 | 20 | 5,843 | **8,592** |
| Reval inc/(dec) in the Revaluation Reserve | 4,012 | 0 | 0 | 738 | 0 | **4,750** |
| Reval inc/(dec) in the Surp/Def on the PoS | 1,243 | 0 | 0 | (18) | 0 | **1,225** |
| Derecognition/Disposal | (12,657) | 0 | 0 | (812) | 0 | **(13,469)** |
| Deprec w/back upon reval | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** |
| Reclassifications and transfer | 872 | 0 | (18) | 18 | (872) | **0** |
| **at 31 March** | **66,075** | **8,788** | **7,396** | **1,380** | **11,309** | **94,947** |
| **Accumulated Depreciation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **at 1 April** | 543 | (3,743) | 0 | 0 | 0 | **(3,200)** |
| Depreciation charge in year | (681) | (710) | 0 | 0 | 0 | **(1,390)** |
| Deprec written out | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deprec w/back upon reval | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Derecognition/Disposal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deprec written out to the Surp/Def on PoS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **at 31 March** | **(138)** | **(4,453)** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **(4,591)** |
| **NBV at 31 March 2022** | **65,937** | **4,335** | **7,396** | **1,380** | **11,309** | **90,356** |
| **NBV at 31 March 2021** | **71,342** | **4,547** | **6,988** | **1,434** | **6,338** | **90,649** |

**Depreciation**

The following useful lives and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

· Other Land and Buildings 5 to 55 years

· Vehicles, Plant and Equipment 4 to 15 years

**Effects of Changes in Estimates**

In 2022/23, the Council made no material changes to its accounting estimates for Property, Plant and Equipment.

**Revaluations**

The Council carries out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at current value or fair value as appropriate is revalued at least every five years. All valuations were carried out by Wilkes, Head and Eve. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and basis for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations concerning vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment are based on current prices where there is an active second-hand market or latest list prices, with consideration given for the condition of the asset. The effective date of each revaluation is the date that the revaluation was produced.

# Note 14 - Investment Properties

The following items of income and expenditure have been accounted for in the Major Projects & Property Services section in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Investment Property Income & Expenditure** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (7,882) | Rental income from investment property | (8,151) |
| 1,162 | Direct operating expenses from investment property | 758 |
| **(6,720)** | **Net (gain)/loss** | **(7,393)** |

There are no restrictions on the Council’s ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council’s right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or repairs, maintenance or enhancement. All Investment Properties were re-valued as at 31st March 2023.

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Investment Property Fair Value Movements in Year** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 125,857 | Opening Balance | 127,581 |
| 37 | Additions | 28 |
| (116) | Disposals | (614) |
| 1,804 | Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments taken to the CIES | 1,117 |
| **127,581** | **Balance at the end of the year** | **128,112** |

**Fair Value Hierarchy**

All the Council’s investment properties have been value assessed as Level 2 on the fair value hierarchy for valuation purposes.

**Valuation Techniques Used to Determine Level 2 Fair Value for Investment Property**

The fair value of investment property has been measured using a market approach, which takes into account quoted prices for similar assets in active markets, existing lease terms and rentals, research into market evidence including market rentals and yields, the covenant strength for existing tenants, and data and market knowledge gained in managing the Council’s Investment Asset portfolio. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs are significant, leading to the properties being categorised as level 2 on the fair value hierarchy.

In estimating the fair value of the Council’s investment properties, the highest and best is used as advised by the valuer. The Council has no investment properties where the fair value measurement has been carried out at Level 1 (Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets) or Level 3 (Significant unobservable inputs).

**Valuation Process for Investment Property**

The Council’s investment property has been valued as at 31st March 2023 by the Wilkes, Head & Eve in accordance with the methodologies and basis for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

# Note 15 - Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its 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. Intangible assets consist of purchased licenses only. All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Council. The useful lives assigned to the major software suites used by the Council is five years.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £92k charged to revenue in 2022/23 was charged directly to service revenue accounts and is therefore included in the cost of services. No items of capitalised software are individually material to the Financial Statements. The movement on Intangible Asset balances during the year is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Intangible Assets** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
|  | Balance at start of year: |  |
| 1,834 | Gross carrying amounts | 1,834 |
| (1,580) | Accumulated amortisation | (1,699) |
| **254** | **Net carrying amount at start of year** | **136** |
| 0 | Additions | 33 |
| 0 | Disposals | 0 |
| (118) | Amortisation for the period | (92) |
| 0 | Rev of past amortisation of disposal | 0 |
| 0 | Other charges | 0 |
| **136** | **Net carrying amount at end of year** | **76** |
|  | Comprising: |  |
| 1,834 | Gross carrying amounts | 1,867 |
| (1,699) | Accumulated amortisation | (1,791) |
| **136** | **Total** | **76** |

# Note 16 – Interests in Jointly Controlled Operations

**CCTV Service**

On 1 May 2013 the Council entered into a jointly controlled operation with Hart District Council to deliver a shared CCTV service. This jointly controlled operation ended on 28 February 2023.

Rushmoor Borough Council’s element of the shared CCTV service costs are shown on the Operational Services line in the Cost of Services section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Below is a memorandum account of the financial activity of the shared CCTV service from 1 April 2022 to 28 February 2023.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **RBC**  **2022/23**  **£’000** | **Hart DC**  **2022/23**  **£’000** | **TOTAL**  **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| Employee related expenditure | 167 | 107 | 274 |
| Premises related expenditure | 37 | 3 | 40 |
| Supplies and Services | 76 | 9 | 85 |
| Support Services | 77 | 0 | 77 |
| Capital charges | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| **Net expenditure** | **370** | **119** | **489** |
| Hosting charge | (15) | 15 | - |

**Building Control Service**

On 2nd July 2015 the Council entered into a jointly controlled operation with Hart District Council to deliver a shared Building Control service.

Rushmoor Borough Council’s element of the shared Building Control service costs are included in the Planning and Economy line in the Cost of Services section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Below is a memorandum account of the financial activity of the shared Building Control service from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **RBC**  **2022/23**  **£’000** | **Hart DC**  **2022/23**  **£’000** | **TOTAL**  **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| Employee related expenditure | 240 | 311 | 551 |
| Premises related expenditure | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Transport related expenditure | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Supplies and Services | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| Support Services | 138 | 0 | 138 |
| Capital charges | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| **Expenditure** | **393** | **332** | **725** |
| Hosting charge | (9) | 9 | 0 |
| Fees and charges | (197) | 0 | (197) |
| Other income | (31) | 0 | (31) |

As Hart District Council receive their income directly, no figures are shown for their income.

The purpose of the jointly controlled operations is for the councils to work together in a spirit of partnering in connection with their dealings with each other in respect of these services so that, wherever possible the activities of one complement and enhance the activities of the other for the benefit of all residents, businesses and visitors to their respective administrative areas.

There is no requirement for an authority to produce Group Accounts where the authority only has an interest in a jointly controlled operation.

# Note 17 – Long Term Debtors

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 6,700 | Farnborough International Airport Loan | 6,700 |
| 0 | Rushmoor Development Partnerships | 63 |
| 683 | Loan to Subsidiary | 1,307 |
| 0 | Service provider loan | 60 |
| 56 | Car Loans | 29 |
| 12 | Rent Free Lease Periods | 10 |
| **7,452** | **Total** | **8,169** |

# Note 18 - Financial Instruments

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

**Financial Assets**

A financial asset is a right to future economic benefits controlled by the Council that is represented by cash, equity instruments or a contractual right to receive cash or other financial assets or a right to exchange financial assets and liabilities with another entity that

is potentially favourable to the Council. The financial assets held by the Council during the year are accounted for under the following three classifications:

Amortised cost (where cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest and the Council’s business model is to collect those cash flows) comprising:

• cash in hand,

• bank current and deposit accounts with Lloyds bank,

• loans to companies,

• certificates of deposit and covered bonds issued by banks and building societies, and

• trade receivables for goods and services provided.

Fair value through profit and loss (all other financial assets) comprising:

• money market funds managed by fund managers,

• pooled bond, equity and property funds managed by fund managers,

Financial assets held at amortised cost are shown net of a loss allowance reflecting the statistical likelihood that the borrower or debtor will be unable to meet their contractual commitments to the Council.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Financial Assets** | **Non-current** | | | | **Current** | | | | **TOTAL** | |
|  | **Inv** | | **Debtors** | | **Inv&cash** | | **Debtors** | |  |  |
|  | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** |
| Pre IFRS9 Categories |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fair value through Profit or loss | 21,943 | 19,293 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 21,943 | 19,293 |
| Amortised cost |  |  |  |  | 14,814 | 1,817 |  |  | 14,814 | 1,817 |
| Total financial assets | 21,943 | 19,293 | 0 | 0 | 14,814 | 1,817 | 0 | 0 | 36,757 | 21,110 |
| Non-financial assets; |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash at amortised cost |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 0 |
| Trade Debtors \* |  |  | 395 | 0 |  |  |  | 673 | 6,215 | 673 |
| Loan Debtors \* |  |  | 7,383 | 8,169 |  |  | 5,820 | 6,205 | 7,383 | 14,374 |
| **Total** | **21,943** | **19,293** | **7,778** | **8,169** | **14,814** | **1,817** | **5,820** | **6,878** | **50,355** | **36,157** |

\*Debtors due within 1 year excludes £347k in respect of Council Tax debtors, HMRC, Non-Domestic Rates and Housing Benefit subsidy payments, from the total of £6,878k reported on the Balance Sheet, as these are statutory levies not falling within the definition of financial instruments. £283k is also excluded in respect of Payments in Advance.

**Financial Liabilities**

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

The majority of the Council’s financial liabilities held during the year are measured at amortised cost and comprised:

• long-term loans from the Local Enterprise Partnership,

• short-term loans from other local authorities,

• lease payables detailed in note 40, and

• trade payables for goods and services received.

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Financial Liabilities** | **Non-current** | | | | **Current** | | | | **TOTAL** | |
|  | **Borrow&leases** | | **Creditors** | | **Borrow&lease** | | **Creditors** | |  |  |
|  | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-**  **Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-**  **Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-Mar 2023**  **£’000** | **31-**  **Mar 2022**  **£’000** | **31-**  **Mar 2023**  **£’000** |
| **Amortised cost** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Borrowings at amortised cost | 0 | (5,000) |  |  | (100,000) | (115,000) |  |  | (100,000) | (120,000) |
| Finance Lease Liabilities at amortised cost | (1,396) | (1,048) |  |  |  |  | (340) | (329) | (1,736) | (1,377) |
| **Total financial liabilities** | **(1,396)** | **(6,048)** | **0** | **0** | **(100,000)** | **(115,000)** | **(340)** | **(329)** | **(101,736)** | **(121,377)** |
| Non-financial liability (creditors) \* |  |  |  |  |  |  | (19,075) | (16,404) | (19,075) | (16,404) |
| **Total** | **(1,396)** | **(6,048)** | **0** | **0** | **(100,000)** | **(115,000)** | **(19,415)** | **(16,733)** | **(120,811)** | **(137,781)** |

\*Creditors due within 1 year excludes £6,383k from the total of £16,404k reported on the Balance Sheet, in respect of Council Tax creditors and payments for Non-Domestic Rates. £796k is also excluded in respect of Income in Advance as these do not meet the definition of a financial liability as they relate to non-exchange transactions.

**Gains and Losses**

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments are made up as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Fin Liab**  **Amort cost**  **£’000** | **Fin Asset**  **Amort cost**  **£’000** | **Fin Asset**  **FV PL**  **£’000** | **2022/23**  **Total**  **£’000** | **2021/22**  **Total**  **£’000** |
| Interest expense | 1,234 |  |  | 1,234 | 369 |
| **Interest paid and similar charges** | **1,234** | **0** | **0** | **1,234** | **369** |
| Interest revenue |  | (1,528) |  | (1,528) | (933) |
| **Interest receivable and similar income** | **0** | **(1,528)** | **0** | **(1,528)** | **(933)** |
| Losses from changes in fair value (Unrealised) |  |  | 2,650 | 2,650 | 597 |
| Gains from changes in fair value (Unrealised) |  |  |  | 0 | (1,250) |
| Fee income/(expense) | 94 |  |  | 94 | 81 |
| **Other investment income** | **94** | **0** | **2,650** | **2,744** | **(572)** |
| **Net impact on Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services** | **1,140** | **(1,528)** | **2,650** | **2,450** | **(1,136)** |

**Fair value**

Financial instruments, except those classified at amortised cost, are carried in the Balance Sheet at fair value. For most assets, including bonds, shares in money market funds and other pooled funds, the fair value is taken from the market price.

Financial instruments classified at amortised cost are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair values have been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31st March 2023, using the following methods and assumptions:

• Loans borrowed by the Council have been valued by discounting the contractual cash flows over the whole life of the instrument at the appropriate market rate for local authority loans

• The fair value of all financial liabilities is equal to the carrying value reported in the balance sheet

• The fair value for all financial assets is equal to the carrying value reported in the balance sheet

Fair values are assessed against the following fair value hierarchy:

• 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.

All financial assets and liabilities apart from long term loans (assessed as a level 2) are assessed as being level 1 using an unadjusted quoted price in active markets.

# Note 19 – Inventory

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 8 | Memorial vaults | 0 |
| 5 | Bar stock | 4 |
| 0 | Fuel stock | 37 |
| **12** | **Total** | **41** |

# Note 20 – Short Term Debtors

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 3,095 | Trade Receivables | 673 |
| 588 | Payments in advance | 283 |
| 3,160 | Other Receivables | 5,922 |
| **6,844** | **Total** | **6,878** |

# 

# Note 21 - Cash and Cash Equivalents

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (462) | Cash and Bank balances held by the Council | 717 |
| 14,154 | Short Term Deposits / Cash Equivalents | 1,100 |
| **13,692** | **Total** | **1,817** |

# Note 22 – Short Term Borrowing

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (100,000) | Borrowing from LA’s | (115,000) |
| **(100,000)** | **Total** | **(115,000)** |

# Note 23 – Short Term Creditors

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (4,533) | Trade payables | (604) |
| (8,819) | Receipts in advance | (1,546) |
| (15,961) | Other payables | (14,254) |
| **(29,313)** | **Total** | **(16,404)** |

# Note 24 – Long Term Provisions

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (4,480) | Opening Balance | (2,550) |
| (2,896) | Increase in provision during year | (3,012) |
| 4,827 | Utilised during year | 3,875 |
| **(2,549)** | **Closing Balance** | **(1,688)** |

The Council had long-term provision in respect of Business Rate appeals only.

# Note 25 – Long Term Borrowing

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 0 | Borrowing from LA’s | (5,000) |
| **0** | **Total** | **(5,000)** |

# Note 26 – Other Long Term Liabilities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (46,256) | Pensions Liability | (12,336) |
| (1,396) | Finance Leases Liability | (1,071) |
| **(47,652)** | **Total** | **(13,407)** |

# 

# Note 27 - Unusable Reserves

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (43,784) | Revaluation Reserve | (44,303) |
| (61,136) | Capital Adjustment Account | (65,406) |
| (45) | Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account | 2,605 |
| 46,256 | Pension Reserve | 12,336 |
| 2,115 | Collection Fund Adjustment Account | (178) |
| 162 | Accumulated Absences Account | 124 |
| **(56,431)** | **Total** | **(94,822)** |

**Revaluation Reserve**

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. 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.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **(47,015)** | | **Balance 1 April** | | **(43,784)** |
| (9,234) | | Upward revaluation of assets | | (4,482) |
| 4,230 | | Downward reval of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Sur/Def on PoS | | 3,659 |
| **(5,004)** | | **Movement in year** | | **(823)** |
| 254 | | Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation | | 303 |
| 7,981 | | Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped | | 0 |
| 0 | | Other amounts written off to the Capital Adjustment Account | | 0 |
| **8,235** | | **Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account** | | **303** |
| **(43,784)** | | **Balance 31 March** | | **(44,303)** |

**Capital Adjustment Account**

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Property and gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1st April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains. Note 8 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **(58,267)** | | | **Balance 1 April** | **(61,135)** |
| (7,981) | | | Amount written out of the Revaluation Reserve | 0 |
|  | | | Reversal of Items relating to capital expenditure dr/cr to the CIES |  |
| 1,391 | | | Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets (PPE) | 1,216 |
| (971) | | | Net revaluation gains/losses on non-current assets (PPE) | (2,127) |
| 118 | | | Amortisation of intangible assets | 92 |
| 816 | | | Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute | 1,080 |
| 13,585 | | | Amounts of non-current assets w/off on disposal/sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to CIES | 614 |
| **14,938** | | | **Net of above transactions** | **875** |
| (254) | | | Adjusting Amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve | (303) |
| **14,684** | | | **Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year** | **572** |
| 0 | | | Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure | 0 |
| (5,266) | | | Capital Grants and Contributions credited to the CIES that have been applied to capital financing | (1,288) |
| (400) | | | Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund balances | (336) |
| (2,103) | | | Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund balances | (2,101) |
| **(7,769)** | | | **Net of above transactions** | **(3,725)** |
| (1,804) | | | Movements in the market value of Investment Properties dr/cr to the CIES | (1,117) |
| **(61,136)** | | | **Balance 31 March** | **(65,406)** |

**Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **609** | | **Balance 1 April** | | **(45)** |
| (1,250) | | Upward revaluation of investments charged to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services | | 1,775 |
| 597 | | Downward revaluation of investments charged to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services | | 875 |
| **(45)** | | **Balance 31 March** | | **2,605** |

**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, 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.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **59,602** | | **Balance 1 April** | | **46,256** |
| 0 | | Opening balance adjustment per IAS19 actuary report | | (2,646) |
| (17,242) | | Remeasurements of the net defined benefit (liability)/asset | | (34,579) |
| 5,970 | | Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits dr/cr to Surp/Def on PoS in the CIES | | 5,441 |
| (2,074) | | Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year | | (2,136) |
| **46,256** | | **Balance 31 March** | | **12,336** |

**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.

Information for the Collection Fund Adjustment Account is shown below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **10,321** | | **Balance 1 April** | | **2,115** |
| (8,205) | | Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements | | (2,293) |
| **2,115** | | **Balance 31 March** | | **(178)** |

**Accumulated Absences Account**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **231** | | **Balance 1 April** | | **162** |
| (231) | | Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year | | (162) |
| 162 | | Amounts accrued at the end of the current year | | 124 |
| **(69)** | | **Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in year in accordance with statutory requirements** | | **(39)** |
| **162** | | **Balance 31 March** | | **124** |

# Note 28 - Cash Flow Statement – Adjustments to net surplus/deficit

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 1,391 | | Depreciation of tangible | | 1,216 |
| 118 | | Amortisation of intangible | | 92 |
| (971) | | Impairment and downward valuations | | (2,127) |
| 306 | | Increase/decrease in provision for doubtful debts | | (223) |
| 0 | | Increase/decrease in interest creditors | | 735 |
| 4,999 | | Increase/decrease in creditors | | (11,979) |
| 0 | | Increase/decrease in interest debtors | | (74) |
| 8,502 | | Increase/decrease in debtors | | (3,859) |
| (12) | | Increase/decrease in inventories | | (29) |
| 3,896 | | Movement in pension liability | | 3,305 |
| 13,469 | | Carrying amount of non-current assets & non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised | | (271) |
| (25,755) | | Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services | | 24,783 |
| **5,942** | | **Total** | | **11,569** |

**Note 29 - Cash Flow Statement – Adj’s for items in net surp/def on PoS that are investing or financing activities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 1,050 | Proceeds from sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets | (1,318) |
| 0 | Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows | (1,488) |
| **1,050** | **Total** | **(2,806)** |

**Note 30 - Cash Flow Statement – Operating Activities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 909 | Interest received | 1,454 |
| (666) | Interest paid | (443) |
| **243** | **Total** | **1,011** |

# Note 31 - Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (8,628) | | Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets | (20,915) |
| (675) | | Other payments for investing activities | (650) |
| 0 | | Purchase of short-term and long-term investments | 0 |
| 0 | | Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments | 0 |
| 7 | | Other receipts from investing activities | 1,318 |
| **(9,296)** | | **Net cash flows from investing activities** | **(20,247)** |

# Note 32 - Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 0 | Cash receipts of short and long-term borrowing | 0 |
| (369) | Cash payments for the reduction of outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases | (336) |
| (2,000) | Repayments of short- and long-term borrowing | 21,740 |
| 0 | Other payments for financing activities | 2,351 |
| **(2,369)** | **Net cash flows from financing activities** | **23,755** |

# Note 33 - Reconciliation of liabilities arising from Financing Activities

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1st Apr’22**  **£’000** | **Fin cash flows**  **£’000** | **Non-cash changes**  **£’000** | **31st Mar’23**  **£’000** |
| Long Term Borrowing | 0 | 5,000 | 0 | 5,000 |
| Short Term Borrowing | 100,000 | 15,000 | 0 | 115,000 |
| Lease Liabilities | 1,741 | 0 | (336) | 1,405 |
| **Total Liabilities from Financing Activities** | **101,741** | **20,000** | **(336)** | **121,405** |

# 

# Note 34 - Officers’ Remuneration and Termination Benefits

The remuneration paid to the Council’s senior employees is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| 50,000 to £54,999 | 16 | 21 |
| £55,000 to £59,999 | 10 | 10 |
| £60,000 to £64,999 | 7 | 8 |
| £65,000 to £69,999 | 5 | 7 |
| £70,000 to £74,999 | 4 | 3 |
| £75,000 to £79,999 | 1 | 3 |
| £80,000 to £84,999 | 0 | 1 |
| £85,000 to £89,999 | 2 | 0 |
| £90,000 to £94,999 | 2 | 0 |
| £95,000 to £99,999 … | 0 | 3 |
| £125,000 to £129,999 … | 0 | 1 |
| £135,000 to £139,999 … | 0 | 1 |
| £140,000 to £144,999 | 1 | 0 |
| **Total** | **48** | **58** |

The rate of pension contribution to the Hampshire Pension Fund is 18.2%. The number of employees whose remuneration (including taxable benefits, but excluding employers’ pension contributions) was £50,000 or more, in bands of £5,000, is shown below. Data shown includes senior employees.

**Senior Officer Remuneration**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Salary, Fees and Allowances** | **Expenses Allowances** | **Compensation for Loss of Office** | **Pension Contribution** | **Total** |
|  |  | **£** | **£** | **£** | **£** | **£** |
| **Chief Executive** | **2022/23** | 135,243 | - | - | 23,420 | 158,663 |
| **2021/22** | 142,007 | - | - | 25,845 | 167,852 |
| **Executive Director** | **2022/23** | 99,341 | 349 | - | 18,033 | 117,723 |
| **2021/22** | 94,643 | 349 | - | 17,288 | 112,280 |
| **Executive Director** | **2022/23** | 98,093 | 349 | - | 17,806 | 116,248 |
|  | **2021/22** | 93,587 | 349 | - | 17,096 | 111,032 |
| **Head of Fin. Services (CFO)** | **2022/23** | 47,960 | - | - | 8,729 | 56,689 |
| **“** | 71,920 | - | - | - | 71,920 |
| **“** | 61,070 | - | - | - | 61,070 |
| **2021/22** | 79,923 | - | - | 14,546 | 94,469 |

**Exit Packages**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exit package cost band (including special payments)** | **Number of comp redundancies** | | **Number of other departures agreed** | | **Total number of exit packages by cost band** | | **Total cost of exit packages in each band** | |
|  | **21/22** | **22/23** | **21/22** | **22/23** | **21/22** | **22/23** | **21/22** | **22/23** |
| £0-£20,000 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | £24,536 | £46,328 |
| £20,001-£40,000 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | £92,823 | £129,928 |
| £40,000-£60,000 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | £0 | £86,424 |
| £60,001-£80,000 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | £63,753 | £71,432 |
| £80,001-£100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | £0 |
| £100,001-£120,000 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | £119,978 | £106,463 |
| **Total** | **3** | **6** | **5** | **8** | **8** | **14** | **£301,090** | **£440,575** |

# 

# Note 35 - External Audit Costs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 81 | Fees payable to external auditors with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor | 142 |
| 11 | Fees payable to external auditors for the certification of grant claims & returns | 22 |
| (6) | Refund of fee payable to external auditors | 0 |
| **86** | **Total** | **164** |

# Note 36 - Grant Income

The Council credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement- Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (863) | New Homes Bonus Grant | (344) |
| (5,267) | S.31 grants paid to compensate loss of nndr income | (3,265) |
| (4,507) | Capital Grants and Contributions | (285) |
| (450) | New Burdens Grant | (310) |
| (2,784) | Other Covid-19 related Grants | (0) |
| 0 | DLUHC Service Grant | (164) |
| (101) | Lower Tier Services Grant | (109) |
| **(13,972)** | **Total** | **(4,477)** |

The Council credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement- Net Cost of Services:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (473) | DLUHC- Flexible homelessness grant | (483) |
| (92) | DLUHC- Localising Ctax admin subsidy | (95) |
| (441) | DLUHC- Other & Covid related grants | (278) |
| (25,515) | DWP- HB subsidy | (23,838) |
| (265) | DWP- HB admin subsidy | (257) |
| (226) | DWP- Disc Hou payments | (160) |
| (56) | DWP- Other | (39) |
| 0 | Cabinet Office | 0 |
| (827) | Developers Contributions | (1,268) |
| (1,203) | HCC- Better Care Fund | (1,203) |
| 0 | HCC- Household support | (57) |
| (252) | HCC- Other & Covid related grants | (231) |
| (126) | DEFRA | (0) |
| (48) | Contributions for other projects | (45) |
| (306) | Other covid related grants | (0) |
| (5) | Support thru Big Local (Local Trust for the Big Lottery Fund) | (4) |
| **(29,835)** | **Total** | **(27,958)** |

The Council has received a number of grants and contributions that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that could require the monies to be returned to the giver. The balances at year-end are shown in the table below:

**Capital Grant Receipts in Advance- Non-current Liabilities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (4,813) | Developers’ Contributions | (4,807) |
| (25) | Creditor- armed forces community covenant | (16) |
| **(4,838)** | **Total** | **(4,823)** |

# Note 37 - Members’ Allowances

# In 2022/23 a total of £364k was paid out in members’ allowances (2021/22 £335k).

# Note 38 - Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party’s ability to bargain freely with the Council. During 2022/23, the Council provided financial assistance to 113 organisations by way of direct loans (£1,456,000), direct grant payments (£535,599), awards of rent relief (£171,123), awards of business rates relief (£538,215) and free parking permits (£68,469).

Within the Business Rates Retention Scheme, rate relief has been awarded to charitable and not-for-profit organisations. The cost of the rate relief is shared between central government, Rushmoor Borough Council and Hampshire County Council (including Fire Authority) in the following proportions 50:40:10. The Council did not provide material financial assistance to any organisation, being more than 50% of their funding, on terms that gave the Council effective control over their operations. However, of the voluntary organisations that the Council provided financial assistance to, significant financial assistance was given to the following organisations:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **2022/23**  **£** |
| Rushmoor Homes Ltd | 1,456,000 |
| Rushmoor Citizens Advice | 249,142 |
| Places for People Leisure Ltd | 106,496 |
| Step-by-Step | 89,653 |
| Rushmoor Voluntary Services | 76,324 |
| British Heart Foundation | 57,274 |
| Basingstoke Canal Management Committee | 42,246 |
| Ndreams Ltd | 36,666 |
| Dial-a-Ride | 32,591 |
| Aldershot Military Museum | 31,612 |
| Farnborough Air Sciences Museum | 29,660 |
| Royal Aeronautical Society | 25,114 |
| Salus Medical Services | 25,025 |

**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 the majority of its 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). Details of funding transactions with government departments in the form of grants and contributions are set out in Note 36.

**Members**

Members of the council have direct control over the Council’s financial and operating policies. The total of members’ allowances paid in 2022/23 is shown in Note 37.

During 2022/23 no works or services were commissioned from companies in which members had an interest.

Financial assistance totalling £2,255,493 was awarded to voluntary organisations in which 22 members and 3 ex-members had an interest. These financial awards were made with proper consideration of declarations of interest and the relevant members did not take part in any discussion or decision relating to the grants.

Details of all these transactions are recorded in the Statement of Accounts working papers and the Register of Members interest, open to public inspection.

**Officers**

Financial assistance totalling £1,471,192 was awarded to organisations in which 2 senior officers of the Council had an interest.

**Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council**

The Council controls Rushmoor Homes Ltd (RHL) through its ownership of 100% of the shares in the company. The company is currently in development and will assist to develop new homes to meet the Council’s regeneration priorities and desire to improve the availability of quality housing within the Borough. The first full year of operation will be 2021/22. The Council made a long-term loan of £1,307k and a short term loan of £225k to the company.

# The Council holds a 50% stake in Rushmoor Development Partnership (RDP). The partnership is currently in development with the objective to redevelop sites in Farnborough and Aldershot. 2020/21 was the first full year of operation for the partnership. The Council invested £168,000 in set up of the partnership.

# Note 39 - Capital Expenditure and Financing

As at 31st March 2023 use of borrowing for capital expenditure resulted in the Council incurring a capital financing requirement of £140.8m. Total capital expenditure in 2022/23 was £22.6m, of which £1.1m was revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute. An amount of £0m was drawn from available capital receipts and government grants and contributions amounted to £1.3m. A summary of this expenditure and how it was financed is shown below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| **119,570** | **Opening Capital Financing Requirement** | **121,918** |
|  | Capital Investment: |  |
| 672 | Loans to external bodies | 632 |
| 8,592 | Property Plant and Equipment | 20,854 |
| 37 | Investment Properties | 28 |
| 0 | Intangible Assets | 33 |
| 816 | Rev. Exp. Funded from Capital Under Statute | 1,080 |
| **10,117** | **Total Capital Investment** | **22,627** |
|  | Sources of Finance: |  |
| 0 | Capital receipts | 0 |
| (5,266) | Government Grants and other contributions | (1,288) |
| (400) | Direct revenue contributions | (336) |
| (2,103) | Minimum revenue provision | (2,101) |
| **(7,769)** | **Total Sources of Finance applied** | **(3,725)** |
| **121,918** | **Closing Capital Financing Requirement** | **140,819** |

Explanation of movements in year;

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 2,614 | Increase in underlying need to borrow (unsupported by government financial assistance) | 19,167 |
| (266) | Assets acquired under finance leases | (266) |
| **2,348** | **Inc/(dec) in Capital Financing Requirement** | **18,901** |

# Note 40 - Leases

**Council as Lessee**

**Operating Leases**

The Council has various operating leases related to property, vehicle and equipment. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (105) | Not later than 1 year | (147) |
| (125) | Later than 1 but no later than 5 years | (108) |
| (1) | Later than 5 years | (0) |
| **(231)** | **Total** | **(255)** |

The expenditure charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year in relation to these leases was:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (50) | Minimum lease payments | (50) |
| **(50)** | **Total** | **(50)** |

**Finance Leases**

The Council has identified an embedded finance lease under IFRIC 4 for the refuse and grounds maintenance vehicles. These assets are shown as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 1,932 | Vehicles, Plant & Equipment | 1,560 |
| **1,932** | **Total** | **1,560** |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
|  | Finance lease liabilities (net present value of min. lease payments): |  |
| (340) | current | (329) |
| (1,396) | non-current | (1,048) |
| (50) | Finance costs payable in future years | (50) |
| **(1,786)** | **Total** | **(1,427)** |

The minimum lease payments will be payable over the following periods and Finance lease liability over the following periods;

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Minimum Lease Payments** | | **Finance Lease Liabilities** | |
|  | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
|  | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** |
| Not later than 1 year | (358) | (329) | (340) | (329) |
| Later than 1 but no later than 5 years | (1,319) | (1,098) | (1,288) | (1,067) |
| Later than 5 years | (108) | (0) | (108) | (0) |
| **Total** | **(1,785)** | **(1,427)** | **(1,736)** | **(1,396)** |

**Council as Lessor**

**Operating Leases**

The Council leases out property under operating leases for the following purposes:

• Returns from investment property and the provision of community services, such as sports facilities, tourism services and community centres

• Economic development purposes to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| (8,330) | Not later than 1 year | (8,316) |
| (28,915) | Later than 1 but no later than 5 years | (27,087) |
| (117,851) | Later than 5 years | (108,050) |
| **(155,096)** | **Total** | **(143,453)** |

The minimum lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2022/23, contingent rents of £64,267.00p, were receivable by the Council (£14,763.42p in 2021/22).

**Finance Leases**

The Council has no currently determined finance leases as lessor.

# Note 41 – Capital Commitments

The Council has £18,868k material capital commitments as at 31st March 2023 relating to Union Yard redevelopment.

# Note 42 - Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

**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 needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in two post-employment schemes:

• The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by Hampshire County Council. This is a funded defined benefit plan with benefits earned up to 31 March 2014 being linked to final salary. Benefits after 31st March 2014 are based on a Career Average Revalued Earnings scheme. The funded nature of the scheme requires

employers and its employees to pay contributions into the Fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.

• Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement. This is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.

**Transactions relating to post-employment benefits**

The cost of retirement benefits are recognised in the cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge required to be made against council tax 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:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** | | **£'000** |
| Cost of services: | |  |  |  | |  |
| Service cost comprising: | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* current service costs | | 4,760 | 4,240 | 0 | | 0 |
| \* past service costs | | 60 | 60 | 0 | | 0 |
| Financing and Investment income and exp: | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* net interest expense | | 1,150 | 1,060 | 0 | | 90 |
| **Total post emp benefit charged to the surplus/deficit on PoS** | | **5,970** | **5,350** | **0** | | **90** |
| Other post emp benefits charge to the CIES | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Remeas’ment of the net defined benefit liability comprising:** | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* Return on plan assets (exc amount inc the net interest exp.) | | (5,790) | 10,200 | 0 | | 0 |
| \* Actuarial gain/loss arising on changes in financial assumptions | | (10,250) | (56,050) | (90) | | (560) |
| \* Actuarial gain/loss arising on changes in demographic assump. | | (1,650) | 0 | (60) | | 20 |
| \* Actuarial (gains) and losses arising from liability experience | | 520 | 11,820 | 10 | | (10) |
|  | |  |  |  | |  |
| **Total post emp benefit charged to the CIES** | | **(11,200)** | **(28,690)** | **(140)** | | **(460)** |
|  | |  |  |  | |  |
| Movement in Reserves Statement | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* Rev of net charges made to sur/def on PoS for post emp ben. | | (5,970) | (5,350) | 0 | | (90) |
| Actual amount charged to GF for pensions in year: | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* Employer's contributions payable to scheme | | 0 | 1,890 | 0 | | 250 |
| \* Retirement benefits payable to pensioners | | 0 | (5,450) | 0 | | (250) |

**Impact on the Council's cash flows**

The objectives of the scheme are to keep the employers’ contribution at as constant a rate as possible. The scheme’s actuary assessed the scheme to be fully funded. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation is due to be completed on 31 March 2024.

The scheme will need to take account of the national changes to the scheme under the Public Pensions Services Act 2013. Under the Act , the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales and other main existing public service schemes may not provide benefits in relation to service after 31 March 2014 (or service after 31 March 2015 for other main existing public service pension schemes inn England and Wales). The Act provides for scheme regulations to be made within a common framework to establish new career average revalued earnings schemes to pay pension and other benefits to certain public servants.

**Pensions Assets and liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet**

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council’s obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** | | **£'000** |
| Fair value of plan assets | | 120,860 | 110,700 | 0 | | 0 |
| Present value of the defined benefit obligation | | (163,560) | (120,190) | (3,550) | | (2,850) |
| **Net liability arising from the defined benefit obligation** | | **(42,700)** | **(9,490)** | **(3,550)** | | **(2,850)** |

**Changes to the fair value of assets;**

The remeasurement gain on the net defined benefit liability is comprised of:

• Return on plan assets – a measure of return (income from dividends, interest etc., and gains on invested sums) on the investment assets held by the scheme for the year

• Actuarial gains and losses – arise where actual events have not coincided with actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** | | **£'000** |
| **Opening fair value of scheme assets** | | 114,600 | 120,860 | **0** | | **0** |
| Opening balance adjustment per IAS19 actuary report | | - | (350) | - | | 0 |
| Interest income | | 2,390 | 3,220 | 0 | | 0 |
| Remeasurement gain/(loss) on assets | | 5,790 | (10,210) | 0 | | 0 |
| Contribution from employer | | 1,820 | 1,890 | 260 | | 250 |
| Contribution from employee's into scheme | | 710 | 740 | 0 | | 0 |
| Net Benefits paid | | (4,450) | (5,450) | (260) | | (250) |
| **Closing fair value of scheme assets** | | **120,860** | **110,700** | **0** | | **0** |

**Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities (Defined Benefit Oblig.);**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **£'000** | **£'000** | **£'000** | | **£'000** |
| **Opening balance at 1st April** | | **170,340** | **163,560** | **3,870** | | **3,550** |
| Opening balance adjustment per IAS19 actuary report | | - | (3,000) | - | | 0 |
| Current service costs | | 4,760 | 4,240 | 0 | | 0 |
| Interest income | | 3,540 | 4,270 | 80 | | 90 |
| Contributions by scheme participants | | 710 | 740 | 0 | | 0 |
| Remeasurement gain/(loss): | |  |  |  | |  |
| \* Actuarial gain/loss arising on changes in financial assumptions | | (10,250) | (56,050) | (90) | | (560) |
| \* Actuarial gain/loss arising on changes in demographic assum. | | (1,650) | 0 | (60) | | 20 |
| \* Actuarial (gains) and losses arising from liability experience | | 520 | 11,820 | 10 | | (10) |
| Net Benefits paid | | (4,450) | (5,400) | (260) | | (250) |
| Past service costs | | 40 | 60 | 0 | | 0 |
| **Closing balance at 31st March** | | **163,560** | **120,190** | **3,550** | | **2,850** |

**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. Both the Local Government Pension Scheme and Discretionary Benefits liabilities have been assessed by Aon Hewitt Ltd, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates for the County Council Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31st March 2022.

The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been:

Financial Assumptions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **%** | **&** | **%** | | **%** |
| Discount | | 2.7% | 4.7% | 2.7% | | 4.7% |
| Rate of inflation (CPI) | | 3.0% | 2.7% | 3.0% | | 3.0% |
| Rate of increase to pensions in payment | | 3.0% | 2.7% | 3.0% | | 3.0% |
| Pension accounts revaluation rate | | 3.0% | 2.7% |  | |  |
| Salary increases | | 4.0% | 3.7% |  | |  |

Mortality assumption

The mortality assumptions are based on actual mortality experience of members within the Fund based on analysis carried out as part of the 2022 Actuarial Valuation and allow for expected future mortality improvements. Sample life expectancies at age 65 in normal health resulting from these mortality assumptions are shown below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **LGPS** | | | | **Disc Benefits** | |
|  | | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2021/22** | | **2022/23** |
|  | | **%** | **%** | **%** | | **%** |
| Longevity at 65 for current pensioners: | |  |  |  | |  |
| Men | | 22.9 yrs | 23.3 yrs | 22.9 yrs | | 23.3 yrs |
| Women | | 25.4 yrs | 25.7 yrs | 25.4 yrs | | 25.7 yrs |
| Longevity at 65 for future pensioners: | |  |  |  | |  |
| Men | | 24.7 yrs | 23.8 yrs | - | | - |
| Women | | 27.1 yrs | 26.7 yrs | - | | - |

Pension assets

The Discretionary Benefits arrangements have no assets to cover its liabilities.

The Local Government Pension Scheme’s assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
|  |  |  | **Total**  **%** | **Total**  **%** |
| Equities |  |  | 55.7 | 57.6 |
| Property |  |  | 6.9 | 6.8 |
| Government Bonds |  |  | 18.0 | 16.5 |
| Corporate Bonds |  |  | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Multi Asset Credit |  |  | 9.2 | 9.2 |
| Cash |  |  | 0.9 | 1.1 |
| Other Assets |  |  | 9.3 | 18.0 |
| **Totals** |  |  | **100.00** | **100.00** |

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions outlined above.

Sensitivity Analysis

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Impact on the present value of the funded defined benefit obligation**  **in the Scheme** | **Increase in assumption £m** | **Base £m** | **Decrease in assumption £m** |
| Rate of inflation (adjustment to discount rate +0.1% or -0.1% pa) | 118.26 | 120.19 | (122.23) |
| Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1% pa) | 120.21 | 120.19 | (120.07) |
| Rate of increase to pensions in payment and rate of revaluation of  pension accounts (increase or decrease by 0.1% pa) | 121.99 | 120.93 | (118.36) |
| Post retirement mortality assumption (increase or decrease by 0.1% pa) | 123.31 | 120.87 | (117.06) |

# 

# Note 43 – Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments

The Council complies with CIPFA’s Code of Practice on Treasury Management and Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, both revised in December 2017.

In line with the Treasury Management Code, the Council approves a Treasury Management Strategy before the commencement of each financial year. The Strategy sets out the parameters for the management of risks associated with financial instruments. The Council also produces Treasury Management Practices specifying the practical arrangements to be followed to manage these risks.

The Treasury Management Strategy includes an Investment Strategy in compliance with the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government Guidance on Local Government Investments. This Guidance emphasises that priority is to be given to security and liquidity,

rather than yield. The Council’s Treasury Management Strategy and its Treasury Management Practices seek to achieve a suitable balance between risk and return or cost.

The main risks covered are:

• 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.

**Credit Risk**

**Treasury Instruments**

The Council's credit risk management practices are set out in the 2022/23 Annual Treasury Management Investment Strategy. With particular regard to determining whether the credit risk of financial instruments has increased significantly since initial recognition.

Loss allowances on treasury investments have been calculated by reference to historic default data published by credit rating agencies and adjusted for current and forecast economic conditions. A two-year delay in cash flows is assumed to arise in the event of default. Investments are determined to have suffered a significant increase in credit risk where they have been downgraded by three or more credit rating notches or equivalent since initial recognition, unless they retain an investment grade credit rating. They are determined to be credit-impaired when awarded a “D” credit rating or equivalent. As at 31 March 2023, £0 (2021: £0) of loss allowances related to treasury investments.

**Trade and Lease Receivables and Contract Assets**

The following analysis summarises the Council’s trade and lease receivables, by due date. Only those receivables meeting the definition of a financial asset are included.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** |  | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 4,295 | Neither past due or impaired | 4,295 |
| 951 | Less than two months | 796 |
| 243 | Two to six months | 943 |
| 318 | Six months to one year | 21 |
| 792 | More than one year | 1,094 |
| **8,533** | **Total Receivables** | **7,149** |

Loss allowances on trade and lease receivables and contract assets have been calculated by reference to the Council’s historic experience of default and adjusted for current and forecast economic conditions. Receivables are determined to have suffered a significant increase in credit risk where they are 30 or more days past due and they are determined to be credit-impaired where they are 90 or more days past due.

Receivables are written off to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services when the debtor are formally insolvent, but steps are still taken to collect sums owing. The amount written off but still subject to enforcement action as at 31st March 2023 is £25,000 (2021: £25,000).

**Loans, Financial Guarantees and Loan Commitments**

In furtherance of the Council’s service objectives, it has lent money to Farnborough International. It has also committed to lend money to Farnborough International should it be requested to do so at market rates of interest.

The amounts recognised on the balance sheet, and the Council’s total exposure to credit risk from these instruments are:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Risk exposure**  **£’000** | **2022/23**  **£’000** | **Risk exposure**  **£’000** |
| Company Loan – Loans at market rate | 7,383 | - | 6,709 | - |
| Company Loan – Loan commitment at market rate | - | - | - | - |
| **Total** | **7,383** | **-** | **6,709** | **-** |

The Council manages the credit risk inherent in its loans for service purposes and loan commitments in line with its published Investment Strategy.

Loss allowances on loans for service purposes, financial guarantees and loan commitments have been calculated by reference to historic default data published by credit rating agencies and adjusted for current and forecast economic conditions. They are determined to have suffered a significant increase in credit risk where they are 30 or more days past due and they are determined to be credit-impaired where they are 90 or more days past due. Loans are written off to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services when they are two years past due, but steps are still taken to collect sums owing.

**Liquidity Risk**

The Council manages its liquidity position through risk management procedures as referred to above, including the setting and approval of prudential indicators and the approval of the Annual Treasury Management Strategy as well as through cash flow management procedures. This seeks to ensure that cash is available as needed.

In the event of an unexpected cash requirement, the Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow need. The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies re raised to cover annual expenditure.

There is no perceived risk that the Council will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments.

**Refinancing and Maturity Risk**

The Council maintains a significant investment portfolio. Whilst the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer-term risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to the maturing of longer- term financial assets. The approved limits placed on investments of greater than one year in duration, are the key parameters used to address this risk. The Council approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks, and the central treasury team address the operational risks within the approved parameters.

This includes monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure liquidity is available for the Council’s day to day cash flow needs and the spread of longer term investments provide stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer-term cash flow needs.

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.

The maturity analysis of its financial assets and analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Maturity Analysis of Financial Assets** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 20,903 | Less than one year | 9,723 |
| 22 | Between one and two years | 27 |
| 13 | Between two and three years | 18 |
| 30,719 | More than three years | 29,151 |
| **51,657** | **Total** | **38,919** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2021/22**  **£’000** | **Analysis of Financial Liabilities** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
| 119,940 | Less than one year | 120,940 |
| 369 | Between one and two years | 369 |
| 369 | Between two and three years | 369 |
| 748 | More than three years | 998 |
| **120,811** | **Total** | **122,676** |

**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 will fall

• investments at variable rates – the interest income will rise

• investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

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

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The Annual Treasury Management Strategy and Capital Strategy draws together the Council’s prudential indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. From the strategy, a prudential indicator is set which provides maximum and minimum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The treasury team will monitor the market and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposures appropriately. For instance, in

periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long-term returns. At 31 March 2023, £78.2m (2022: (£78.2m)) of net principal borrowed (i.e. borrowing net of investments) was exposed to fixed rates.

The treasury management team has an active strategy for assessing interest rate exposure that feeds into the setting of the annual budget and which is used to update the budget during the year. This allows any adverse changes to be accommodated.

At 31st March 2023, if interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Analysis of Financial Liabilities** | **2022/23**  **£’000** |
|  | Increase interest receivable on variable rate investments | 5 |
|  | Impact on surplus/deficit on the provision of service | 5 |

The impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be to push interest rates below zero and therefore would mean no interest would be receivable in the year.

**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 price risk associated with these instruments is managed alongside interest rate risk.

The Council’s investment in a pooled property fund is subject to the risk of falling commercial property prices. This risk is limited by the Council’s maximum exposure to property investments of £5m. A 5% fall in commercial property prices at 31st March 2023 would result in a £219k (2022: £226k) charge to Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure which is then transferred to the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account, when not elected.

The Council’s investment in a pooled equity funds is subject to the risk of falling share prices. This risk is limited by the Council’s maximum exposure to equity investments of £5m. A 5% fall in share prices at 31st March 2023 would result in a £294k (2022 £1,096k) charge to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services which is then transferred to the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account, when not elected.

# 

# Collection Fund

The Collection Fund (England) is an agent’s statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and business rates.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **31 March 2022** | | |  |  | **31 March 2023** | | |
| **Council Tax** | **NNDR** | **Total** |  | **Collection Fund** | **Council Tax** | **NNDR** | **Total** |
| **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** |  |  | **£’000** | **£’000** | **£’000** |
|  |  |  |  | **INCOME:** |  |  |  |
| (60,321) |  | (60,321) |  | Council Tax Receivable | (63,190) |  | (63,190) |
|  | (40,190) | (40,190) |  | Business Rates Receivable |  | (42,979) | (42,979) |
| **(60,321)** | **(40,190)** | **(100,511)** |  | **Total amounts to be credited** | **(63,190)** | **(42,979)** | **(106,169)** |
|  |  |  |  | **EXPENDITURE:** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **Apportm’nt of Prev. Year Sur/Def:** |  |  |  |
|  | (13,034) | (13,034) |  | Central Government |  | (3,044) | (3,044) |
| (633) | (2,346) | (2,979) |  | Hampshire County Council | (73) | (548) | (621) |
| (100) | (10,427) | (10,527) |  | Rushmoor Borough Council | (12) | (2,435) | (2,447) |
| (106) |  | (106) |  | Police and Crime Comm. Hampshire | (12) |  | (12) |
| (33) | (261) | (294) |  | Hampshire Fire and Rescue | (4) | (61) | (65) |
|  |  |  |  | **Precepts, demands and shares:** |  |  |  |
|  | 24,843 | 24,843 |  | Central Government |  | 22,605 | 22,605 |
| 43,632 | 4,472 | 48,104 |  | Hampshire County Council | 45,614 | 4,068 | 49,682 |
| 6,927 | 19,874 | 26,801 |  | Rushmoor Borough Council | 7,196 | 18,084 | 25,280 |
| 7,316 |  | 7,316 |  | Police and Crime Comm. Hampshire | 7,755 |  | 7,755 |
| 2,276 | 497 | 2,773 |  | Hampshire Fire and Rescue | 2,474 | 452 | 2,926 |
|  |  |  |  | **Charges to Collection Fund:** |  |  |  |
|  |  | 0 |  | Write-offs of uncollectable amounts |  |  | 0 |
| 1,446 | 653 | 2,099 |  | Inc/(dec) in allowance for impairment | 978 | (34) | 944 |
|  | (4,826) | (4,826) |  | Inc/(dec) in allowance for appeals |  | (2,154) | (2,154) |
|  | 119 | 119 |  | Charge to General Fund for allowable collection costs for non-domestic rates |  | 117 | 117 |
| **60,725** | **19,565** | **80,290** |  | **Total amounts to be debited** | **63,916** | **37,050** | **100,966** |
| **404** | **(20,625)** | **(20,221)** |  | **(Surplus)/Deficit arising in year** | **726** | **(5,929)** | **(5,203)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **(831)** | **26,027** | **25,196** |  | **(Surplus)/Deficit b/f at 1 April** | **(427)** | **5,402** | **4,975** |
| **(427)** | **5,402** | **4,975** |  | **(Surplus)/Deficit c/f at 31 March** | **299** | **(527)** | **(228)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | **Allocated to;** |  |  |  |
|  | 2,702 | 2,702 |  | Central Government |  | (264) | (264) |
| (308) | 486 | 178 |  | Hampshire County Council | 216 | (47) | 169 |
| (45) | 2,160 | 2,115 |  | Rushmoor Borough Council | 36 | (211) | (175) |
| (57) |  | (57) |  | Police and Crime Comm. Hampshire | 35 |  | 35 |
| (17) | 54 | 37 |  | Hampshire Fire and Rescue | 11 | (5) | 6 |
| **(427)** | **5,402** | **4,975** |  | **Total** | **298** | **(527)** | **(229)** |

**Notes to the Collection Fund**

**1. Council Tax Base**

Council Tax derives from charges raised according to the value of residential properties which have been classified into 8 valuation bands estimating 1st April 1991 values for this specific purpose. Individual charges are calculated by estimating the amount of income required to be taken from the Collection Fund by Hampshire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner, Fire and Rescue Authority and the Council for the forthcoming year and dividing this by the Council Tax base (the total number of properties in each band adjusted to convert the number to a Band D equivalent and adjusted for discounts: (32,018 for 2022/23). This basic amount of Council Tax for a Band D property (£1,861.76 for 2022/23) is multiplied by an appropriate ratio to produce the amount due for the bands A to H. Council Tax bills are based on the following dwellings and proportions.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Discounted Equivalent Dwelling** | **Weighting** | **Band D Equivalent** |
|  | Valuation Band A | 840 | 6/9 | 560 |
|  | Valuation Band B | 6,238 | 7/9 | 4,852 |
|  | Valuation Band C | 12,623 | 8/9 | 11,220 |
|  | Valuation Band D | 7,144 | 9/9 | 7,144 |
|  | Valuation Band E | 3,618 | 11/9 | 4,422 |
|  | Valuation Band F | 1,102 | 13/9 | 1,592 |
|  | Valuation Band G | 282 | 15/9 | 470 |
|  | Valuation Band H | 9 | 18/9 | 18 |
|  | Valuation Band O (Army) | 1,740 | - | 1,740 |
|  | **Total Band D Equivalents** |  |  | **32,018** |

**2. Income from Non-Domestic Rates**

The Council collects non-domestic rates for its area, which are based on local rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate specified by the government. In 2013/14 the administration of NDR changed following the introduction of the business rates retention scheme, so instead of paying the NDR to the pool the local authority retains a share of the total collectable rates due. For Rushmoor this is 40%, Hampshire County Council 9%, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority 1% and the Government 50%.

The rateable value of properties at 31st March 2023 is £116,008,655 and the national non-domestic multiplier was 49.9p. This gives a potential business yield of £57.9million. The actual business rates collectable for 2022/23 after reliefs is £45.1million. In addition, there is an adjustment to the business rates income for the provision on appeals to the collection fund.

**Business Rates Revaluation 2017**

At revaluation, the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) adjusts the rateable value of business properties to reflect changes in the property market. The most recent revaluation came into effect in England and Wales on 1st April 2017, based on rateable values from 1st April 2015.

Across England as a whole, the revaluation was expected to lead to an 11% increase in the rateable value of the average non-domestic property, with changes unevenly distributed across the country.

The business rates multiplier was adjusted so that revaluation would be revenue neutral, after accounting for a forecast of the cost of appeals against the new values.

A complex package of reliefs was introduced to phase in the biggest increase in bills to ratepayers resulting from the revaluation.

The impact of revaluation on the amount of business rates retained by individual councils has been offset by changes to the redistributive “tariffs” and “top-ups” between councils, with the aim of leaving underlying budgets unaffected by revaluation.

**3. Provision for Council Tax and NDR Bad or Doubtful Debts and NDR provision for valuation appeals**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |  |
|  | **Council Tax** |  |  |  |
|  | Provision at 1st April | (2,347) | (3,592) |  |
|  | Provisions made in year | (1,445) | (978) |  |
|  | Written off in year | 200 | 158 |  |
|  | **Provision at 31st March** | **(3,592)** | **(4,412)** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **NNDR** |  |  |  |
|  | Provision at 1st April | (1,275) | (1,807) |  |
|  | Provisions made in year | (653) | 34 |  |
|  | Written off in year | 121 | 478 |  |
|  | **Provision at 31st March** | **(1,807)** | **(1,295)** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **NNDR Valuation Appeals** |  |  |  |
|  | Provision at 1st April | (11,200) | (6,374) |  |
|  | Provisions made in year | 0 | 0 |  |
|  | Written off in year | 4,826 | 2,174 |  |
|  | **Provision at 31st March** | **(6,374)** | **(4,200)** |  |

Provisions for bad or doubtful debts are assessed annually and charged to the collection fund.

# 

# Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

# Introduction and Scope of Responsibility

Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) has approved and adopted a local code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the seven core principles of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) Framework ‘Delivering good governance in Local Government’. A copy of RBC’s adopted Code is on the Council’s website:

(Local Code of Corporate Governance) RBC updates its code annually and evidence is collated and assessment for compliance by the Corporate Governance Group (CCG) and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2022/23 states how the Council has complied with the Code and meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, regulation 6 (1b), and as amended by the Accounts and Audit (coronavirus) (Amendment) regulations 2020, which requires all relevant authorities to prepare an Annual Governance Statement. It is subject to detailed review by the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee (CGAS Committee) and approval in advance of them agreeing the Statement of Accounts, into which the AGS is referred.

RBC is responsible for ensuring its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local

Government Act 1999 to plan to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, which include arrangements for the management of risk, whist facilitating the effective exercise of its functions.

**The Purpose of the Governance Framework**

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture, and values by which the authority is directed and controlled. It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate and cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute

assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process, designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council’s policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood and potential impact of those risks being realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively, and economically.

# What is the Annual Governance Statement (AGS)?

# The Council is required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to prepare and publish an Annual Governance Statement, to report publicly on the extent to which we comply with our own local Code of Corporate Governance, including how we have monitored the effectiveness of our arrangements in year and on any planned changes to our governance arrangements in the coming year. In this document the Council:

# • acknowledges its responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of governance.

# • summarises the key elements of the governance framework and the roles of those responsible for the development and maintenance of the governance environment.

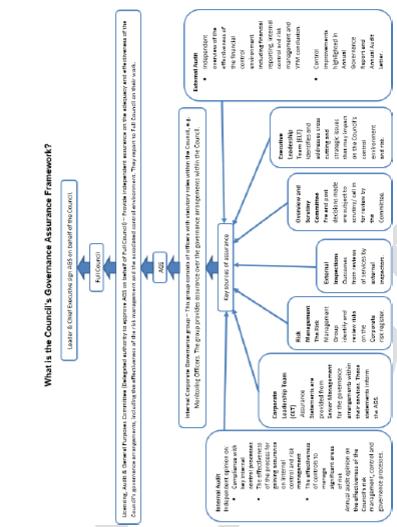
# • describes how the Council has monitored and evaluated the effectiveness of its governance arrangements in the year, and on any planned changes in the coming period;

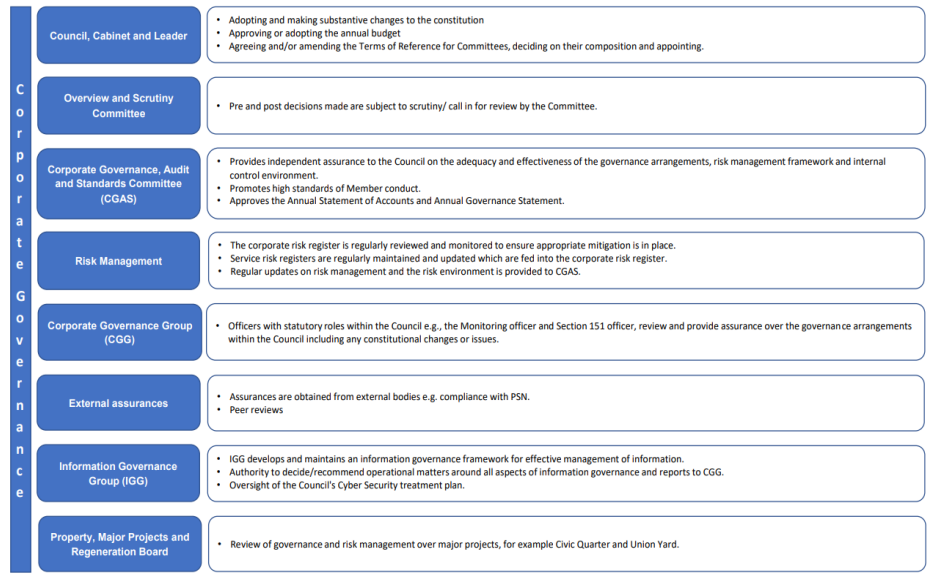
# • provides details of how the Council has responded to any issue(s) identified in last year’s governance statement; and

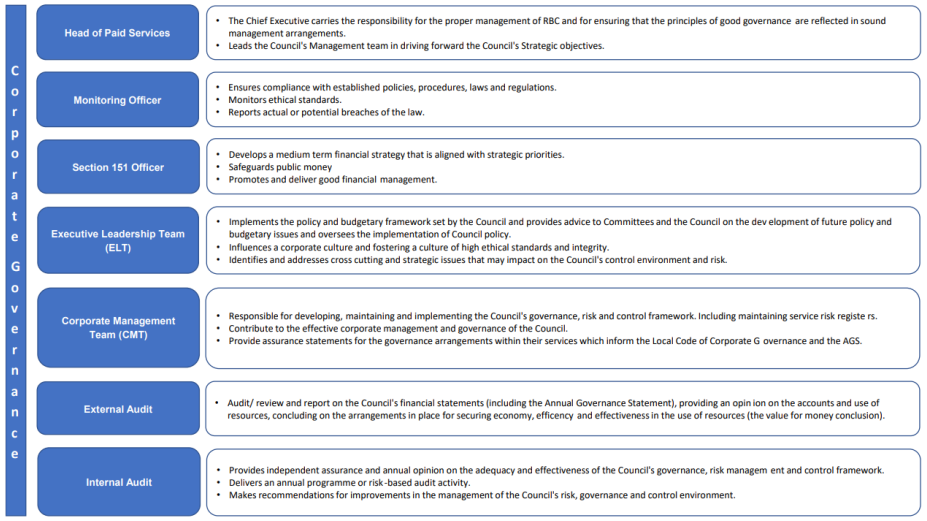
# • reports on any key governance matters identified from this review and provides a commitment to addressing them.

# The Council’s Governance Assurance Framework, which underpins the AGS, has been in place at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2023 and up to the date of approval of the AGS and Statement of Accounts.

**The Council’s Process for Developing and Adopting the AGS**









**Post Covid-19 Environment**

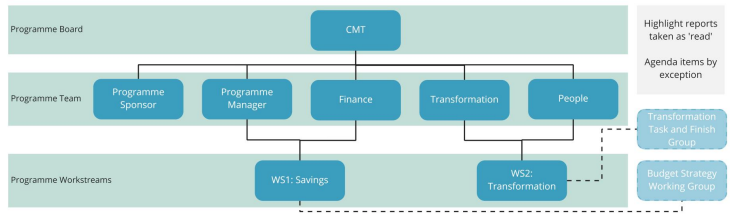
Hybrid Working

Since the mandatory requirement for the Council to implement remote working during the Covid-19 pandemic the Council has now opted to continue to provide a hybrid working environment for employees. A hybrid approach is also being taken with non-decision-making committees where attendance can be in person or remote.

Outcomes Based Budgeting (OBB)

The level of uncertainty around national policy issues (Levelling-up and the Local Government Finance Settlement) and the global economy makes it more difficult to predict the financial impact on the Council. The scale of the challenge currently faced for the Council in 2023/24 is c£3.250m. As a result, the Council’s ELT and Service Managers have shared views with the Council’s Cabinet on the most appropriate methodology to produce new savings and income at a level suited to the materiality of the budget gap.

The OBB approach was determined through consultation and engagement as the primary methodology to apply for addressing the budget gap for 2023/24 and future years. The OBB work has identified c£2.3m in potential savings in 2023/24, in addition to the £1.8m previously identified savings. The work towards realising these savings will be monitored throughout the year as set out below



Two budget reductions groups from Workstream 1:

1. Budget monitoring:

– 69 items totalling £1.2 million

– Items are low risk, low value and/or complete

– Any variation to their respective budget/expenditure codes can be reported through budget monitoring in the usual way.

2. Programme monitoring:

– 36 items totalling £1.9 million

– These items are high risk, high value and/or have activity outstanding.

– They may need to be applied or increased in 24/25.

– They need to report more frequently to give us the opportunity to respond to any issues.

– Any variation should be reported through a more frequent, but parallel governance arrangement to budget monitoring.

This approach maintains monitoring and reporting of all budget reductions, at a reduced administrative burden through a risk-based approach.

Those items which are more likely to vary, or whose variance would have a disproportionate impact, will continue to be more closely monitored.

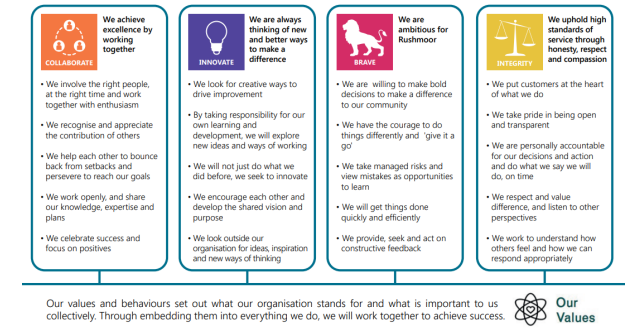
Levelling up fund

The Council has secured £20 million from the Governments Levelling up funding to develop a new leisure centre and cultural hub. As part of the regeneration of the Civic quarter. A project has been established and governance arrangement will be in place and regular meetings scheduled with Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), to ensure that spending of this funding is in line with their requirements.

External Audit

It is key to highlight that the Council has been working with the Council’s External Auditors, Ernst and Young, in order to sign off the 2019/20 accounts. This has now been completed and the 2019/20 accounts signed off by EY as both a ‘true and fair view’ and ‘compliant’ with the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice. Work has been undertaken by the Finance and Property teams to ensure that the process and record keeping for the remaining years are in line with the requirements of EY to ensure there are no unnecessary delays.

Our Values



**How does the Council monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of its governance**

**arrangements?**

The Council reviews the effectiveness of its governance arrangements annually. The key sources of assurance that informs this review are:

• The work of the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee (CGAS), Members and Senior Officers of the Council who have responsibility for good governance, as set out above in the diagram showing the overview of the Council’s corporate governance framework.

• A statement of assurance is obtained from Heads of Service to confirm the governance

arrangements in place within their service and any actions to be included within the AGS.

• Risk management reports and the corporate risk register is maintained and scrutinised by Corporate Management Team (CMT) quarterly and subsequently communicated to CGAS and the Corporate Governance Group.

• The Audit Manager’s update reports on the internal audit activity, which provides an

independent assurance that GRC is in place and provides an opinion on the effectiveness of these arrangements.

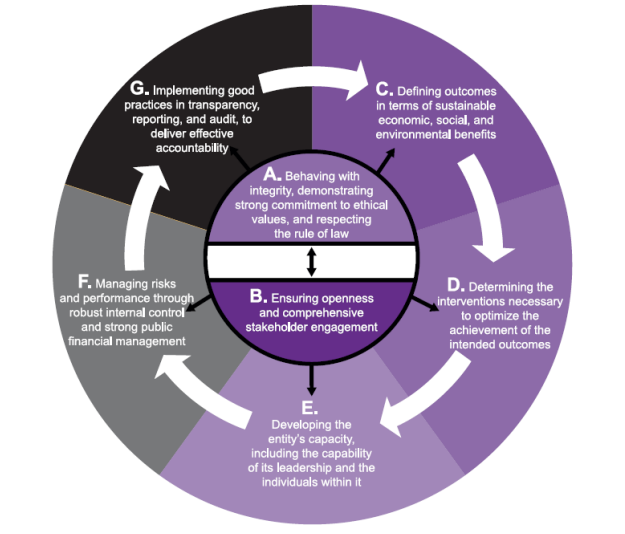
• Half yearly updates to the CGAS Committee monitoring the work carried out towards the governance actions identified in the previous year’s AGS.

• Any comments made by External Audit or other external reviews.

• Internal Corporate Governance Group provides assurance over the governance arrangements within the Council.

**What are the key elements of RBC’s Governance Framework?**

The Council aims to achieve good standards of governance by adhering to the seven core principles, detailed below, which form the basis of the Council’s code of Corporate Governance:



The following pages provide a summary of actions and behaviours taken by the Council in relation to each of these seven core principles and associated sub principles.



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Behaving With Integrity | • A code of conduct is in place for both Councillors and staff, both are contained within the Council’s constitution. The codes outline the ethical standards and behaviours to be adopted and observed by elected Members and officers to ensure that Council business is conducted with fairness and integrity.  There are processes in place to ensure that Members and Officers are adequately trained in matters relating to the Constitution.  • A Member Constitution review group is in place to assist and review the Constitution as and when required.  • The Council also has in place various policies, procedures and guidance including HR policies, Anti-fraud, Acceptable Use of IT, Declarations of Interest, and Gifts and Hospitality. All colleagues are made aware of any new policies or changes and training is provided as necessary and the Council has  commenced a programme to ensure policies are reviewed on an annual basis.  • Specific legal and regulatory requirements and/or Standards and Codes of Practice are maintained by staff for Membership of relevant professional bodies, including continuing professional development.  • Where necessary the Council collaborates with other professionals for advice and guidance. For example, the Council appointed external professional advice from solicitors to support the legal work around property and construction for regeneration of Aldershot and Farnborough town centre.  • Records of Executive Decision to evidence delegated authority are maintained for Regeneration.  • A register of Member interests is published on the Council’s website to ensure that any conflicts of interests are open and transparent. Furthermore, these are reviewed by the Corporate Governance Group on an ad hoc basis.  • The Corporate Management Team has responsibility to ensure that decisions are made properly and that these are monitored by the Governance Group and Deputy Monitoring Officers.  • Financial reports to relevant committees. |
| Demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values | • The Council has established a Governance Group, which includes the Monitoring Officer, Deputy Monitoring Officers, the Chief Financial Officer, the Assistant Chief Executive, IT Service Delivery Manager, the Information Governance Officer and the Audit Manager, to ensure that the Council works  within its rules and that the necessary governance provisions are followed, and associated guidance, advice and training is provided.  • The Council has adopted a Corporate Values and Behaviours Framework which sets out the attitudes and behaviours expected from staff. The four corporate values are Collaborate, Innovate, Brave and Integrity  • Procurement processes are currently being reviewed to be made more robust to ensure high quality suppliers are selected and value for money is obtained.  • The Member Development Group maintains a programme for Member training and development and the Council has secured the Charter for Member Development, managed by South East Employers. Re-accreditation was achieved in March 2020. Furthermore, specific training has been provided by  South East Employers to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on effective scrutiny.  • Training has been provided to the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards (CGAS) Committee to strengthen their focus. In addition to this an independent member has been appointed with an audit background to provide further support to the Committee and scrutiny of the Council’s governance  arrangements.  • Member training is provided for Members to support them in their roles, and they are encouraged to attend training including on Equality, Diversity and inclusion.  • A Champion for Equality and Diversity has been appointed for Cabinet and Equality & Diversity Action Plan has been put in place as an outcome from the peer review work. |
| Respecting The rule of law | • The Constitution sets out responsibilities within the Council. This is maintained by the Corporate Manager – Democracy together with the Governance Group, to ensure that the Council’s legal requirements are met, and the provisions are up to date. The last major review of the Constitution was carried out in 2019/20, and since then the Constitution has been updated on a regular basis as documents are reviewed and kept up to date. The Corporate Manager – Democracy maintains a schedule of updates made to the Constitution. During 2022/23 a Constitution Working Group considered a number of proposals for change to ensure that the Constitution continues to facilitate council business. On the recommendation of the CGAS Committee, the Council approved these changes and the adoption of a revised and updated Constitution in February 2023.  • The Council has appointed the following officers as required:  - The Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) – Overall accountability for the governance arrangements operating within the Council  - The Monitoring Officer – Ensures decisions taken are within the law and the Council complies with the provisions of its Constitution.  - The Chief Financial Officer – Principal finance adviser to the Council and is responsible for the proper administration of the Council’s financial affairs and financial control environment.  • The Council’s in-house legal service identifies and advises the Council on key elements of the law and their application. External legal advice is sought where necessary, for example, on specialist areas of law and high value matters.  • The Council has commenced a programme to ensure compliance with all the mandatory publication requirements of the Local Government Transparency code. The Corporate Management Team own the elements of the code which are specific to their services while the Corporate Governance group have  oversight.  • The Corporate Health and Safety team collate breaches and liaise with appropriate partner organisations and authorities e.g. HSE  • The Council is compliant with the governments Public Services Network (PSN) and the Council is working towards completing the implementation of a Cyber Security treatment plan in line with the 10 steps guidance from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), with work to enhance ransomware defences, backup solutions, cloud delivery, identity management, business continuity and incident management for cyber security.  • The Council has in place a specific Data Protection Officer and breaches are reported to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) as appropriate. |



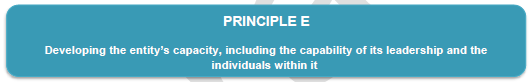
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Openness | • The Council’s policies and governance framework are published on the Council’s website – this includes:  − The Constitution  − Agenda and reports for all meetings within the Council’s decision-making framework  − Cabinet work programme  − Annual budget  − Pay Policy and Gender Pay Gap Statements  − Record of Executive Decisions  − Information required under the Transparency Code  − Annual Statement of Accounts  • The Council’s 3-year business plan is published on the council’s website along with the monitoring of the actions towards the plan.  • The Council regularly carry out consultations on major policy initiatives which is conducted in an open way with all consultations available on the Council’s website.  • Equality position statement reinforces how we will publish information to demonstrate compliance with the equality duty.  • The Council has an up-to-date Freedom of Information Act 2000 publication scheme in place on its website with links to information and guidance for stakeholders  • During 2022/23 the Council published 4 Arena magazines, to inform the community of the work and services carried out by the Council. However, due to the Council providing more of a digital offering in response to local appetite this will be reduced to 2 magazines being produced in the next financial year.  • Contracts are managed with a partnership approach and decisions are made in an open and transparent way, including open book accounting processes. |
| Engaging comprehensively with institutional stakeholders | • The Council engages with institutional stakeholders on key aspects, for example the Council engaged with the Citizens Advice (CA) who produced a report on the cost of living in Rushmoor.  • The Council regularly engages with other public services to a line our outcomes.  • Regular informal consultation is undertaken with representatives of all public sector partners that have a presence or footprint within the Borough’s area.  • A statement of community involvement is published on the Council’s website.  • Formal and informal consultation is carried out with Members through a range of working groups.  • As part of delivering regeneration projects and better use of assets there are regular interactions with organisations such as Homes England, Hampshire County Council, Enterprise M3 LEP, Defence Estates and major local landowners and appropriate services within the Council.  • The Council adopted the Local Plan 2014-2032 on the 21 February 2019, which involved participation from numerous stakeholders. Details are published on the Council’s website.  • Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) (Enterprise M3) – The Council has established good relationships and partnership arrangements as part of the involvement with the LEP.  • A relationship management approach and system is in place. We now have an audit trail on contacts and have increased our levels of engagement through visits, meetings and working through partners. As part of the development of the Strategic Economic Framework strategic  engagement to inform the framework was completed.  • The Council supports the Prospect Estate Big Local (PEBL)  • Re-negotiation of contracts based on open-book reviews for example on the Council’s waste contract, which has regular involvement from the Portfolio Holder, the Cabinet and other elected members. |
| Engaging with individual citizens and service users effectively | • The Council has invested in a range of traditional, digital, and social media channels to enable regular contact, engagement, and consultation with its key stakeholder groups, including customer feedback surveys, workshops, consultation items on the Council’s website and regular citizen consultation on both Borough-wide and place specific issues. There has been extensive consultation for the regeneration function including direct mailshots, public exhibitions, group meetings and presentations.  • The new Council’s website has been launched, which was informed by resident engagement and feedback on the old website.  • We have effective arrangements in place to communicate and consult with relevant key stakeholders where appropriate and to fully consider/ use their feedback and/or complaints to help inform decisions. Furthermore, following a Peer Review the Council has established a process for undertaking regular citizen consultation on both Borough-wide and place specific issues.  • The Council has actively engaged with the local community in the development of major regeneration projects across Aldershot (Union Yard) and Farnborough (Civic Quarter) via the Rushmoor Development Partnership through digital channels and drop-in sessions as part of the planning pre-application process.  • Working with Ukrainian refugees who have arrived in the Borough since March 2022 to shape the offer of the Council to support the Homes for Ukraine scheme.  • Business engagement – the council seeks to engage directly with local businesses to ensure that there is an understanding of local business needs. Underpinned by the aims and objectives of the council’s Strategic Economic Framework, this engagement includes bi-annual business  surveys, quarterly business forums with businesses and membership of/ regular engagement with, business representative organisations such as the Federation of Small Businesses and Hampshire Chambers of Commerce. A monthly business newsletter has also been developed to engage with local businesses and to provide a consultation mechanism.  • Through the development of the Rushmoor Cultural Strategy and in its enabling role in seeking to increase arts and cultural engagement in Rushmoor, the council also engages with arts organisations, creative practitioners and artists directly. This has included consultation on the  Rushmoor Cultural Strategy itself.  • The Council has facilitated a cost-of-living workshop with key partners to understand the level of impact on residents, and identify where we can support and collectively make the biggest difference.  • The Community & Partnerships team have visited several warm hubs and food banks across the borough to talk to local people and organisers and see where can provide further support. In addition, we have shared cost of living information/where to get help on the website and provided leaflets and other information at local GP surgeries, libraries, and job centres.  • The Cost of living continues to be a regular agenda item for the Supporting Communities working group  • On 26th October 2021, a news article was published inviting residents to shape the future of Southwood Country Park starting a public consultation on the proposed refurbishments running until 12th November and further information was provided on the Rushmoor website alongside an online survey. There were also two drop-in sessions where residents could find out more about the proposals and chat to the team about the project. Finally, there have been regular updates on progress provided in the quarterly Arena publications and via online social media.  • In May 22, local families were invited to vote for their preferred playground design and provide input to a Southwood Country Park playground online survey. The results were used to determine the final design and planning submission.  • Examples of consultation exercises carried out during 2022/23 included:  - Community Safety Survey 2023  - Living in Rushmoor – Tell us what you think (2022 resident survey)  - Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy 2022-2027  - Redan Hill Gardens playground  • A scheme is in place within the Council’s Constitution to have public participation at Member meeting. Therefore, meetings of the Council and its Committees are open to members of the public to attend, with agendas and minutes being publicly available on the Council’s website.  • Principle Committee meetings are webcasted to engage with stakeholders via different mediums. Full Council is the only meeting which is not webcasted. |



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Defining outcomes | • The Council’s plan has been developed with a 10 year ‘vision’ and a 3-year rolling business plan with objectives to assist with the achievement of the vision. The plan is shown on the council’s website along with the monitoring of the actions towards the plan, which is updated and published on a quarterly basis. The results of the Residents Survey 2021 were considered as part of the ‘evidence base’ for the Council Plan 2022-25. A Regeneration & Major Projects Programme is established and aligns to the Council Plan.  • The Council plan draws upon key strategic documents which underpin the Council’s work. The key strategies and plans are monitored, and performance reported to Cabinet on a half yearly basis. The key strategies and plans include:  - Climate change action plan 2020-2030  - Supporting communities strategy and action plan  - Equality, diversity and inclusion action plan  - The local plan  - Strategic economic framework  - Joint municipal waste strategy  - Procurement strategy  - The People Strategy  - Green infrastructure strategy  - Farnborough Town Centre strategy  • Strategies and plans currently in development include:  - Aldershot Town Centre Strategy  - Communications and Engagement strategy  - Customer, Digital & Technology strategy  - Car Parking Strategy  - Cultural Strategy  - Housing and Homelessness Strategy  - UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan  • To realise the delivery of the Council’s priorities in line with the Council Plan the Council has developed a People Strategy which encourages the development of all our staff, ensuring that people are developed to realise their potential, that people are engaged and feel valued and supported, as well as the Council being an employer of choice. Underpinning these four themes are a number of outcomes which in turn leads to actions. These actions are reviewed and discussed every sixth months with the Transformation, Task and Finish Group. An example of these actions includes the development and launch of the Council’s Values and Behaviours,  a Service Manager Leadership Programme, supporting 13 apprentices to gain qualifications, encouraging regular feedback with the Engage 24/7 survey, launching a Menopause Framework for staff and encouraging more flexible working arrangements for staff as well as holding a Staff Showcase.  • Following comprehensive resident and stakeholder consultation, the Council developed its priorities and measures of success with Members in a range of ways including discussions with individual portfolio holders, the Cabinet and the Policy and Project Advisory Board.  • The Cost Reduction & Efficiency Programme (CREP) was initiated to review significant expenditure across the Council’s services with a view to making savings. It has since been subsumed by the Savings & Transformation Programme (STP) and more recently  the Outcomes Based Budgeting (OBB) approach was adopted to support the STP. A funding gap was identified, and to ensure a balanced budget for this financial year and the next an Outcomes Based Budgeting (OBB) approach was adopted. This was taken within a larger context of the Council’s business plan. A governance framework to monitor the savings along with the Council’s regular spend forecasts has been put into place and report regularly to the Corporate Management Team. In addition, section reporting on a risk-based approach will be included in the quarterly financial monitoring report to Cabinet.  • Option appraisals are undertaken for all key decisions and are a standard part of the operations.  • Governance arrangements have been clearly set out for Rushmoor Homes Limited (RHL). There is proper management of Board reporting and relationship with Council.  • Service business plans are maintained and linked to the corporate plan to define the key areas for the service to deliver on within the year. |
| Sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits | • A template is in place for the Council’s reports to Cabinet which require the consideration of business, Strategic, Economic, Legal, Financial and Equalities impact of the decisions being made and how decisions are to be made. All reports requiring executive decisions (except those exempt) are accessible via the Council’s website. (Records of Executive Decisions)  • A PESTLE analysis was carried out in order to contribute to the 10-year Council vision and rolling 3-year plan. This looks at how external moves will impact on the Council’s plans and objectives. The Council’s Policy and Performance team monitors place and organisational data to support the work.  • Service and Project risk registers are regularly updated. Where necessary service level risks are submitted for inclusion on the Corporate Risk Register. Discussion of the corporate risks, including new risks identified are discussed quarterly at CMT. Services update their risk registers monthly via the central record for risk registers.  • The Council has adopted and implemented the Local Plan 2014-2032 (adopted 21 February 2019). Details are published on the Council’s website. Consultation was undertaken, and a proactive role was undertaken to engage as many residents and stakeholders as possible. Feedback from the consultation informed the submission of the Local Plan. Social, environmental and economic evidence was obtained to inform the development of the Local plan. The Local Plan is the basis together with the National Planning Policy Framework and associated guidance of all development decisions and therefore all decisions are informed by the consultation and evidence at a strategic level and assessed as to how they meet these requirements based on  the specific application.  • In November 2020, members of the council's Cabinet approved the council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2030. There are more than 90 actions in the plan, which will be updated in 2023 and includes plans to increase recycling and reduce waste, including by introducing a weekly food waste collection service in 2021/22, ahead of the anticipated national introduction.  • To look at how we make sure Aldershot and Farnborough town centre regeneration schemes include measures like energy efficient buildings, energy generation, and green transport  • To involve local people in our efforts, including through things like community gardens and helping people get more involved in their local neighbourhoods  • To make our own buildings more energy efficient, moving to green energy where possible, and to look at how our staff can work differently to reduce our impact on the environment  • Rushmoor Development Partnership  Through its business plan and site development plans the economic, social and environmental benefits of regeneration are quantified including:  • Placemaking – ensuring the that the developments proposed provide enhancements to the vitality of the local community and the physical environs.  • Sustainability – with the Climate Emergency declared by the Council the redevelopment of Farnborough town centre has been identified as offering the opportunity to display an exemplar approach to design, transportation and community facilities.  • Financial returns – developments are viable and deliverable while still achieving community support for transforming the town centres.  • Utilising external expertise – a partnership approach is taken to development making the most of the attributes of the respective partners in terms of risk, knowledge management, data assessment and communications. In addition, external advice has been sought to bolster officer capacity and expertise in deciding upon the best routes to deliver regeneration in terms of value for money. |



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Determining interventions | • Arrangements are in place to ensure all options are considered before decisions are taken and service changes implemented. External / independent expertise is often used if the decision is of a complex technical nature. An example of this being the use of external experts for the Council’s Union Yard Regeneration Project.  • The Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers the effective delivery of Council priorities and recommends interventions and remedies as appropriate.  • Consideration of alternative courses of action for all decision making is undertaken.  • The Corporate Governance Group consider legal/constitutional issues associated with decision making. |
| Planning Interventions | • At service level, priorities and objectives are encouraged to be SMART and these are underpinned by plans and, for major projects, there is significant emphasis on effective project management. The Council is investing in additional project management resources to ensure this.  • The Corporate Manager -Legal Services and the Principal Solicitors are engaged in wider discussions with client teams on options for resourcing larger legal projects and higher profile actions to ensure these are resourced as efficiently as possible e.g., making use of the EM Lawshare framework discounted rates; considering alternatives to prosecution; considering the terms of a Public Space Protection Order; resourcing and managing external legal support for the  regeneration projects. |
| Optimising achievement of intended outcomes | • Arrangements are in place to monitor operational and financial plans, priorities, KPI’s, quality and targets and to report on progress, e.g. quarterly monitoring, budget monitoring.  • The Council has several key partnerships with other local authorities and stakeholders in order to optimise the achievement of the Council’s corporate plan.  • The Council has in place more significant arrangements for project development, both internally and through the Member decision making structure. This has been achieved through the revised Member structure to include the following:  - Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards (CGAS) Committee, with specific roles to ensure effective governance  - The Property Investment Advisory Group (PIAG) provides early consideration of projects prior to submission to the Cabinet. This group is supported by LSHIM who provide market-based assessments of acquisition, disposal, and  asset performance.  - The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is undertaking both pre- and post-decision scrutiny on a range of issues and projects. Examples of work undertaken by the Committee during 22/23 include:  ▪ Oversight of the economic and environmental impact of Farnborough Airport  ▪ An understanding of the condition of property in the Borough in relation to damp and mould and its impact on local living conditions  ▪ An in-depth analysis of the impact of the “cost of living crisis” on local residents  ▪ Scrutiny of the Council’s performance in managing its own property and assets  ▪ Oversight of the Council’s plan for the provision and maintenance of playgrounds and play equipment  within the Borough  ▪ An analysis and understanding of customer contact to the Council and how this has changed post  pandemic  - The Regeneration and Major Projects Programme Board provides the oversight and key input into the delivery of projects and meets 6-weekly. Each project within the defined programme has an established resource structure across a number of disciplines within the Council to ensure the right course of action is taken.  - The Rushmoor Development Partnership Board meets bi-monthly (every two months) to provide oversight and scrutiny of the projects being taken forward by the Joint Venture. The partnership is well governed by a partnership agreement, project plans and a decision-making structure culminating in a board made up of 50:50 public: private directors with reports to the Executive Director that are taken to Cabinet/Full Council as required. |



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Developing the entity’s capacity | • The Council, where possible, collaborates with other authorities to share information and best practice and third parties, e.g. Hampshire & Isle of Wight Chief Executive group and subsequent groups.  • CMT actively carry out reviews of their services and plans during the year.  • The Council regularly makes use of ‘benchmarking’ exercises and other research to support corporate priorities and work.  • The property and regeneration service has historically been reliant on consultants for support on specific projects and to fill vacancies on an interim basis. A new structure has been approved in order to strengthen the Council’s capacity and resilience by developing internal employees and create more of a succession pipeline to assist recruitment and retention.  • The People strategy includes four themes which encourages the development of Council staff, ensuring that people are developed to realise their potential, that people are engaged and feel valued and supported, as well as the Council being an employer of choice.  • The Council engages external consultants when additional resources or specialist resources are required to ensure the effective delivery of its services or projects.  • The Council regularly supports the attendance of both executive and non-executive councillors at the LGA leadership essential courses and weekender events across a number of topic areas including finance, climate change and equalities. |
| Developing the capability of entity’s leadership and other individuals | • Arrangements are in place to ensure staff have the appropriate skills, knowledge, resources and support to fulfil their roles and responsibilities and are able to update their knowledge on a continuing basis e.g., CPD through attendance at seminars/conferences, mandatory training courses via  the Council’s E-learning modules etc.  • Development reviews are carried out annually. Within these reviews, training needs are identified and communicated to HR in order to ensure individuals are provided with the training they require for their role and identify any Council wide training which may be required.  • The Council has engaged in ‘learning at work week’ encouraging all staff to participate.  • The Council has adopted a Corporate Values and Behaviours Framework, which sets out the attitudes and behaviours expected from staff. The four corporate values are Collaborate, Innovate, Brave and Integrity.  • The Council is providing leadership programmes and apprenticeship leadership programmes to support the continued professional development of staff. The Service Manager Leadership programme together with the senior team 360’s, 121 coaching and development day are examples of leadership development, knowledge sharing whilst also strengthening collaboration. The annual development reviews and regular one to ones enable the Council to identify development and succession planning opportunities. The Council actively encourages the recruitment of apprentices and as well as promoting apprenticeship programmes to managers and staff. The Council is supporting 13  members of staff to gain apprenticeship qualifications.  • Due to the Council working more commercially across services and the regeneration programme and other capital projects a wider range of skills was required which impacted on the required need from senior leaders and service managers. Therefore, the senior leadership team was reviewed. The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) was broadened to provide a renewed focus on the Council’s priorities at an Executive level and the Corporate Management Team (CMT) was broadened to include existing managers to contribute to the leadership of the organisation and improve the diversity of input to corporate decision making.  • The Council has introduced an Employee Assistance Programme to support health and wellbeing. Training courses are also offered for example a recent mental health awareness course through the Council’s Occupational Health provider. Wellbeing weeks have also been introduced encouraging staff to participate, which have included a lunch time walk, a Menopause seminar and a choir session.  • Yammer has been introduced to encourage staff communication, promote Council initiatives, knowledge sharing and staff activities and information.  • The Council’s constitution defines the statutory and distinctive roles of the Leader and other Councillors and sets out to whom decision making powers are delegated.  • The Member Development Group maintains a programme for Member training and development and the Council has secured the Charter for Member Development, managed by South East Employers. Re-accreditation was achieved in March 2020. Furthermore, specific training has  been provided by South East Employers to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on effective scrutiny.  • The Council has a Corporate Governance, Audit & Standards Committee to provide a focus on all matters around corporate governance. The Committee has an independent member to assist with their roles and responsibilities as Members of CGAS.  • The Council subscribes to relevant professional bodies e.g., CIPFA publications |



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Managing risk | • The Risk management policy has been embedded over 2021/22 and 2022/23. Work will continue to ensure the risk management process is further embedded within the Council. Cabinet receives quarterly reports covering both performance and risk. Heads of Service update their relevant service risk registers monthly and record these on a central database. Any service risks which are appropriate for the corporate risk register are escalated to the Corporate Management Team (CMT) for further review and consideration. Bi-monthly the risk registers are reviewed by CMT.  • Where risks materialise the risk register is updated or processes to respond to the risk are updated following lessons learnt.  • Furthermore, risks are more specifically considered within activities and decision-making reports taken to Cabinet.  • The Council takes into account risks that could impact on the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, using scenario planning to understand potential impacts. The Council maintains a General Fund balance to £2m, together with a number of reserves to manage financial risk.  • Service and Project risk registers are managed and updated regularly. Risk registers for all major capital projects are presented as part of the Regeneration, Property and Major Works Board.  • Internal Audit provides a risk-based audit plan and reports on the effectiveness of risk management to the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards (CGAS) Committee.  • In recent years pressure has been placed on the County Council, and some of this pressure has flowed through to Districts. This poses some risks at a social level and within the budgets for the Council.  • An exercise was carried out in September 2022 to test the Council’s Emergency response plan. The findings found that overall, the exercise was well managed, some recommendations were made to further enhance the response plan. The plan will be updated to reflect the recommendations made.  A workshop was also carried out in October 2022 to review the Council’s business continuity plan.  • IT Disaster Recover business continuity service/ plans have been reviewed and updated – the work was linked to the DLUHC cyber security treatment plan 2021/22 – 2022/23.  • A new Cyber Security Stance was presented to the Corporate Management Team (Oct 2021), setting out the threat of cybercrime, the councils technology stance, work plans and mitigations. In addition, all staff attended a specific ‘phishing’ training and awareness session. IT follows End User Device (EUD) guidance issued by National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) when implementing security solutions and endpoint operating systems. Council IT infrastructure is audited annually, and results passed to NCSC for review and further guidance on actions to take to maintain compliance (including annual PSN assessment). Recently the Council has been awarded funding from the DLUHC to improve its Cyber Security arrangements. A new cyber security programme has been established and the next steps are to develop the Cyber Incident Response Plan and test it. A recent internal cyber audit was conducted along with a LGA 360 Peer Review. The recommendations of both have recently been received and are being reviewed and adopted where appropriate. Priorities include a review of the Councils supply chain,  security policy refresh, further cyber awareness training, cloud strategy development and assessment of the governments new cyber assessment framework. |
| Managing Performance | • Effective performance, financial and risk management arrangements are an integral part of all business activities, examples include:  - Option appraisals/ risk assessment  - Day to day business / performance / service business planning arrangements/ quarterly reporting  - Projects and programme management  - Contractual and third-party arrangements (including shared risks)  - Business continuity plans are in place, tested and communicated to staff as necessary  • The Council’s management ensures day-to-day performance management is normal as part of the culture and through the Council’s management teams there is a culture of robust challenge in place for all key decisions.  • The creation and publication of the Council’s 3-year business plan for 2022-25. The plan is published on the council’s website along with the monitoring of the actions.  • The Council has in place an Overview and Scrutiny Committee to encourage debate on policies, objectives and outcomes before, during and after decisions are made. They also review the quarterly monitoring of the Council plan. |
| Robust internal control | • All Rushmoor staff are responsible to some degree in the management of risk and adherence to internal controls in their day-to-day activities, from front line staff to Heads of Service (HoS), Executive Directors and the Chief Executive. Employees consider what might go wrong and take steps to reduce  the likelihood or impact if it does by the use of internal controls.  • Internal Audit provides an annual opinion on the effectiveness of the Council’s governance, risk management and internal control environment. This assurance is obtained from involvement with relevant governance, risk management and internal review groups and outcomes from audit reviews  carried out within the year. Details of these reviews and the annual opinion are reported to ELT and the CGAS Committee.  • The Council, through the Audit and Investigation Team investigate potential fraud, corruption and maladministration and provide effective counter fraud arrangements within the Council.  • The Council carries out relevant external compliance checks e.g., Fire, safety checks and Covid 19 measures |
| Managing data | • Effective arrangements are in place for the safe collection, storage, use and sharing of data with other bodies, including processes to safeguard personal data in line with GDPR requirements.  • An information Governance Officer is in place and work is currently underway to update the Council’s Information Security policies.  • Effective arrangements are in place for the disposal, storage of legacy IT equipment. All hard disk-based systems are erased to HMG Infosec Standard 5 prior to disposal using accredited partners. IT equipment is stored in a locked storeroom when not in use\awaiting disposal.  • Information governance and data security e-learning modules are mandatory for all staff and Members on how to manage Council data.  • Data breach logs are in place to record and enable review of breaches to ensure lessons are learnt and relevant action taken to prevent further breaches.  • Data validation is an ongoing process and there are a number of year-end validation processes carried out particularly around the financial systems.  In the past year, a new property system, Concerto, has been implemented, and a data validation exercise has been carried out to ensure that the data within the system is relevant, up to date and correct.  • The Finance Manager (deputy S151 officer) is member of Information Governance Group and the Council’s SIRO |
| Strong public financial management | • There are effective mechanisms in place for financial planning, budgetary control and reporting, including the management of financial risk.  • External Audit review and report on the Council’s financial statements providing an opinion on the accounts.  • The Council is developing its programme to ensure compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code. |



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub principle** | **Demonstrated by;** |
| Assurance and effective accountability | • The terms of reference and working arrangements of the CGAS Committee focus on ensuring transparency and effective audit of processes. Furthermore, an independent member has been appointed with specialist skills in audit to assist with the CGAS Committee.  • There are arrangements in place for ensuring all agreed actions from peer reviews, internal audit, external audit, or other inspectorate work are implemented by Management. Work continues towards implement the actions from the peer review.  • Risk based internal auditing provides ongoing assurance that the key risks are being managed.  • A review and subsequent update of the Constitution has recently been carried out and reported to Council for adoption. |

# How has the Council Addressed the governance improvements actions from 2021/22?

# The Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 contained the following key improvement actions. Details of the issues and how they have been addressed during the year are detailed below. Please note that where actions are ongoing these have been carried forward into the 2023/24 Action plan.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Governance issue** | **Action** | **Current Status** |
| Compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code | The Executive Head of Finance will undertake an assessment of the Council’s compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code during Q3 2021 and prepare an Action Plan on matters or areas for improvement. These will be included in subsequent reports to the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards committee as part of the update on the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan | The Deputy S151 undertook a review, the Interim  Executive Head of Finance further reviewed as  part of Letter of Representation.  A continual review of updates is now in place.  COMPLETED |
| External Audit have yet to provide an opinion for the 2019/20 accounts. | The Executive Head of Finance will ensure that the necessary information is provided to the external auditors to enable them to finalise their opinion on the 2019/20 accounts. | The external auditors provided a clean audit  opinion in March 2023, the accounts have now  been signed.  Plans for the audit for 2020/21 starting in June  2023 have been agreed.  COMPLETED |
| Office 365 governance set-up  (Information Governance Officer  and IT Services Delivery Manager) | The main aim of this to ensure that the  Council’s data is protected, retained and  handled appropriately. When Office365  was implemented across RBC governance  policies were not developed and applied  which needs rectifying.  Currently engaging with Silversands to  provision a set of activities for a Data  Protection Pilot to help focus on how to  control sharing of a sample data set stored  in Office365, assisting in the definition of  internal policies providing technical advice  and design of technical controls to  implement agreed policies. In addition to  provision a set of activities for an  Information Governance Pilot that will help  to focus on retention requirements for a  sample data set from the pilot department  which will assist in the development of a  corporate retention policy and to map this  policy to technical controls available in  Office365.  Outcomes of these pilots can then be  assessed and applied across the rest of  RBC, if agreed. | The work started with Silversands in September  2022 with the pilot going live in March 2023. The  pilot focus was on data loss prevention with  document labelling as RBC has become a  subscriber to LG Inform Plus, and adopted the LG  Inform Plus Records Retention schedule. The pilot has just come to an end with the service area  (HR and payroll). IG and IT are to have a follow  up meeting with Silversands and discuss moving  beyond the pilot. There will need to be further  wider discussions about how to implement and  roll out the document labelling functionality within  Office365 council wide. This will need to be  planned around other projects that IT will be  supporting as there will need to be training  delivered on the functionality, possible ongoing  support.  PROGRESSING |
| Ensuring comprehensive  compliance around cyber security in line with the guidelines provided by the  National Cyber Security Centre.  (Head of IT) | Enhancing our Cyber security Strategy and  formalisation of a cyber security action  plan. This is being actioned by the Cyber  Security Treatment Plan. | 2023 PSN compliance achieved.  DLUHC treatment plan, part 2 to be completed  by Sept 2023.  LGA Peer Review\* – complete  Internal audit – compete, ‘Reasonable  Assurance’  Members briefings – complete  Priorities from cyber security plan 2023/24;  • Cyber supply chain review\*  • Cyber Incident Response Plan\*  • NCSC Cyber Security Framework –  continued implementation  • Training & awareness & policy refresh  PROGRESSING |
| Implementing a Capital Strategy  to comply with the revised Prudential Code and the  Treasury Management Code of  Practice (b/f from previous year) | Finalise development of the Asset  Management Strategy which supports the  approved annual Capital Strategy. | The Asset Management Plan was agreed by  Cabinet in March 2023. Further work to ensure  we are meeting our requirements under the  transparency regulations will be undertaken in  2023/24.  COMPLETED |
| Ensuring compliance with the  mandatory elements of the Local  Government Transparency Code | Relevant services to carry out the  necessary work to ensure that the  mandatory elements of the transparency  code are appropriately published as  required. The Corporate Governance Group  will have oversight to ensure that this is  implemented | Process for achieving this has now been agreed  and will be implemented in 2023/24. This will  include monitoring and reporting on compliance  with the Transparency Code.  PROGRESSING |

**Governance issues identified for 2022/23**

The review of the effectiveness of the Council’s governance framework has identified the following actions that will need to be addressed during 2023/24, excluding the actions carried forward from 2022/23 as detailed above. The progress against these actions will be reviewed by the Corporate Governance Group and regularly reported to the Corporate Governance, Audit and Standards Committee.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Governance issue** | **Action** | **Target Date** | **Lead Officer** |
| External Audit have yet to provide an opinion for the 2020/21 or 2021/22  accounts. | The Interim Executive Head of Finance will ensure that the necessary information is provided to the external auditors to enable them to finalise their opinion for the 2020/21 and 2021/22 accounts. | 2020/21 – To  be finalised  by the end of  the financial  year  2021/22 –  preparation  work to be  underway this  financial year. | Simon Little, Interim  Executive Head of  Finance and S151  Officer |
| Lack of robustness for the  response to FOI requests  resulting in the ICO judging  against the Council due to lack of prompt response rather than the actual decision made not to  provide certain information. | Check if automated processes can be introduced and alerts to Service Managers/Heads of Service to avoid missing statutory deadlines.  Review the current system for logging FOIs and check whether it can be more robust (assuming no additional budget for 2023/2024) | Oct 23 | Sophie Thorp,  Corporate Manager –  Legal Services |
| Ensure appropriate  documentation is held within the Council for surveillance work. | Liaise with Service Managers and Heads of Service to ensure compliance with Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) or non-RIPA surveillance activities, carried out across the  Council.  Check documentation is correctly filled out and submitted by Service Teams to RIPA Coordinator (within Legal), as required  by legislation. | Sep 23 | Sophie Thorp,  Corporate Manager –  Legal Services |
| Ensure that all mandatory and statutory training for Elected Members and all staff is undertaken in a timely manner and regularly reviewed to ensure that it is maintained and up to date | Elected Member induction training programmes will be provided during the first year of a new Member’s office to ensure all basic induction training is undertaken and specific training is tailored according to the Members designated roles and identified needs.  Established Members needs will be assessed will be reviewed and provided as required.  Staff annual mandatory training will be facilitated by the People Team who will record completion rates and report to CMT. Any further compliance actions required will be the responsibility of CMT members to address. | From election  in May 23  and by 30th Sept 23  Ongoing  Individuals  will complete  training no  later than  annually from their start of  service  regular  reporting to CMT will  commence  from June 23onwards. | Corporate Manager –  Democracy  Corporate Manager –  Democracy, in liaison  with Member  Development Group  and Corporate  Governance Group  Enabled by Corporate  Manager, People and  performance managed  and overseen by CMT |

**Certification**

To the best of our knowledge, the governance arrangements, as defined above and within the Council’s Code of Corporate Governance, have been effectively operating during the year with the exception of those areas highlighted on page 29 above. We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters identified above 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 during the year and as part of our next annual review.

Signed:

**David Clifford Paul Shackley**

**Leader of the Council Chief Executive**

Date: June 2023

# Glossary

**Accounting Period**

The period of time covered by the accounts, normally a period of twelve months commencing on 1 April. The end of the accounting period is the Balance Sheet date.

**Accounting Policies**

The specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by the Council in preparing and presenting financial statements.

**Accruals**

Sums included in the financial statements to recognise income or expenditure earned or incurred in the financial year, but for which actual payment had not been received or made as at 31 March.

**Accrued Interest**

Interest accumulated but not yet received or paid.

**Actuarial**

The appraisal of economic and demographic factors in order to estimate future pension liabilities.

**Actuarial Gains and Losses**

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the changes in actuarial surpluses or deficits that arise because:

* Events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation (experience gains and losses); or
* The actuarial assumptions have changed

**Agency Services**

Services which are performed by or for other councils or bodies, where the council/body responsible for the service reimburses the council carrying out the work for the costs incurred.

**Amortisation**

The apportionment (charging or writing off) of the cost of an intangible asset as an operational cost over the asset's estimated useful life.

**Amortised Cost**

The amount at which a financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition, less principal repayments and plus or minus any unamortised original premium or discount.

**Asset**

An item having value to the Council in monetary terms. Assets are categorised as either current or non-current

* A current asset will be consumed or cease to have material value within the next financial year (e.g. cash);
* A non-current asset provides benefits to the Council and to the services it provides for a period of more than one year and may be tangible e.g. the Civic Centre, or intangible, e.g. computer software licence.

**Audit of Accounts**

An independent examination of the Council’s financial affairs.

**Authority/Local Authority**

A Local Authority is an administrative body in local government, also referred to in the Statement of Accounts as a Council.

**Balance Sheet**

A statement of the recorded assets, liabilities and other balances at the end of the accounting period.

**Billing Authority**

A local authority responsible for collecting the council tax and non-domestic rates in areas where there is a two-tier system of county and district councils.

**Borrowing**

Using cash provided by another party to pay for expenditure, on the basis of an agreement to repay the cash at a future point, usually incurring additional interest charges over and above the original amount.

**Budget**

The forecast of net revenue and capital expenditure over the accounting period.

**Capital Expenditure**

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset, which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

**Capital Financing**

Funds raised to pay for capital expenditure. There are various methods of financing capital expenditure including borrowing, leasing, direct revenue contributions, usable capital receipts, capital grants, capital contributions, revenue reserves and earmarked reserves.

**Capital Grants**

Grants received towards capital expenditure.

**Capital Programme**

The capital schemes the Council intends to carry out over a specific period of time.

**Capital Receipt**

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

**Collection Fund**

A separate fund that records the income and expenditure relating to Council Tax and non-domestic rates.

**Community Assets**

Assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks.

**Componentisation**

Component parts of a major asset may not have the same useful lives (i.e. they wear out or depreciate at different rates); therefore those components with a value that is significant in relation to the total value of the asset shall be depreciated separately. The purpose is to ensure that the depreciation charged in the Income & Expenditure Statement properly reflects the consumption of economic benefit.

**Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)**

The account of the Council that reports the net cost for the year of the functions for which it is responsible and demonstrates how that cost has been financed from precepts, grants and other income.

**Consistency**

The concept that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next are the same.

**Contingent Asset**

A contingent asset is a possible asset arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control.

**Contingent Liability**

A contingent liability is either:

* A possible obligation arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council’s control; or
* A present obligation arising from past events where it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

**Corporate and Democratic Core**

The corporate and democratic core comprises all activities which local authorities engage in specifically because they are elected, multi-purpose authorities. The costs of these activities are thus over and above those which would be incurred by a series of independent, single purpose, nominated bodies managing the same services. There is, therefore, no logical basis for apportioning these costs to services.

**Council Tax**

A local tax on domestic property set by local authorities in order to meet their budget requirement.

**Council Tax Base**

The total number of properties within the local authority area expressed in terms of band D equivalents, incorporating discounts, deductions and exemptions.

**CIPFA**

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

**Current Assets**

Assets which may change in value on a day-to-day basis

**Current Service Cost (Pensions)**

The increase in the present value of a defined benefits pension scheme’s liabilities, expected to arise from employee service in the current period.

**Defined Benefit Pension Scheme**

Pension schemes in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

**Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC)**

A method of valuation which provides the current cost of replacing an asset with its modern equivalent asset less deductions for all physical deterioration and all relevant forms of obsolescence. It is used for specialist assets where no market exists.

**Depreciation**

The measure of the cost of wearing out, consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of the Council’s fixed assets during the accounting period, whether from use, the passage of time or obsolescence through technical or other changes.

**Direct Revenue Contributions**

Capital expenditure funded from revenue budgets. Also known as Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay (RCCO).

**Discretionary Benefits (pensions)**

Retirement benefits, which the employer has no legal, contractual or constructive obligation to award and are awarded under the Council's discretionary powers such as the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996.

**Doubtful Debt (also known as bad debt)**

A debt that the Council may not be able to recover. A provision is made in the accounts for doubtful debts each year based on the value and age of debts outstanding.

**Earmarked Reserves**

Reserves which are held by a Council for specified purposes.

**Events after the Balance Sheet date**

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, favourable or unfavourable, that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue.

**Exceptional Items**

Material (see materiality) items that derive from events or transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the Council but which need to be disclosed separately by virtue of their size or incidence to give fair presentation of the accounts.

**Existing use Value (EUV)**

The amount for which an asset or liability should exchange on the valuation date between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction in its existing use; it is used for most PPE assets with a variation required for council dwellings.

**Expected Return on Pension Assets**

For a funded defined benefit scheme, this is the average rate of return, including both income and changes in fair value but net of scheme expenses, which is expected over the remaining life of the related obligation on the actual assets held by the scheme.

**Fair Value**

The fair value of an asset is the price at which it could be exchanged in an arm’s length transaction.

**Finance Lease**

A lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

**Financial Asset**

Any asset that is cash, a contractual right to receive cash or another financial asset from another party, or an equity instrument issued by another party, examples include bank deposits, bonds and stocks.

**Financial Instrument**

A financial asset that is tradable, for example, bank deposits and investments.

**Financial Liability**

An obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset.

**Funded Benefits**

The funded benefits are those payable by the Fund in accordance with The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended and The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)

**General Fund**

The main revenue fund from which the Cost of Services is met.

**Going Concern**

The concept that the Statement of Accounts is prepared on the assumption that the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

**Government Grants**

Grants made by the government towards either revenue or capital expenditure in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Council. These grants may be specific to a particular scheme or may support the revenue spend of the Council in general.

**Held for Sale**

Asset held for sale are those assets where it is probable that the carrying value will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use.

**Heritage Assets**

Assets that are held and maintained by an entity principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. The key feature of heritage assets is that they have cultural, environmental or historical associations that make their preservation for future generations important.

**Highest & Best Use**

The highest and best use of the asset provides the maximum value to market participants through its use, taking into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible.

**Historic Cost**

The amount originally paid for a fixed asset.

**Housing Capital Receipts Pool**

A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposal is payable to the Government in accordance with statutory requirements. This is known as housing capital receipts pooling.

**Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**

A separate account to the General Fund, which includes the income and expenditure arising from the provision of housing accommodation by the Council.

**IFRS**

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) a global language for business affairs so that accounts are understandable and comparable across international boundaries.

**Impairment**

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset to below its recoverable amount, the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

**Infrastructure Assets**

Fixed assets belonging to the Council that cannot be transferred or sold, on which expenditure is only recoverable by the continued use of the asset created. Examples are footpaths and coast protection defences.

**Intangible Assets**

An intangible (non-physical) item may be defined as an asset when access to the future economic benefits it represents is controlled by the reporting entity. This Council’s intangible assets comprise computer software licences.

**Interest Cost (Pensions)**

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period of the present value of the scheme liabilities because the benefits are one period closer to settlement.

**Investment Property**

Interests in land and/or buildings which are held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both. Investment Properties are valued at highest and best use and must be revalued every year.

**Investments (Pension Fund)**

The investments of the Pension Fund will be accounted for in the statements of that fund. However, authorities are also required to disclose, as part of the disclosure requirements relating to retirement benefits, the attributable share of the pension scheme assets associated with their underlying obligations.

**Joint Ventures**

An entity established with contractual or binding arrangements whereby two or more parties are committed to undertake an activity that is subject to their joint control, with strategic,

financial and operating decisions relating to the activity requiring the unanimous consent of the parties sharing the control.

**Lease**

A contract for the hire of a specific asset. The lessor owns the asset but conveys the right to use the asset to the lessee for an agreed period of time in return for the payment of specified rentals. Leases may be either operating leases or finance leases.

**Liability**

A liability is where the Council owes payment to an individual or another organisation.

* A current liability is an amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, e.g. creditors or cash overdrawn.
* A deferred liability is an amount which by arrangement is payable beyond the next year at some point in the future or to be paid off by an annual sum over a period of time.

**Liquid Investment**

Current asset investments that are readily disposable by the Council without disrupting its business and are either:

* Readily convertible to known amounts of cash at or close to the carrying amount; or
* Traded in an active market.

**Major Repairs Reserve**

All local housing authorities are required to operate this reserve which is used to fund either capital expenditure relating to HRA dwellings or the repayment of housing debt.

**Market Participants**

Buyers and sellers in the principal (or most advantageous) market for an asset or liability. The principal market is that with the greatest volume and level of activity, whilst the most advantageous is the market that maximises the amount that would be received to sell the asset or paid to transfer the liability after taking into account transport and transaction cost.

**Market Value**

The amount at which a property would be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm’s-length transaction.

**Materiality**

The concept that the Statement of Accounts should include all amounts which, if omitted, or misstated, could be expected to lead to a distortion of the financial statements and ultimately mislead a user of the accounts.

**MHCLG**

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, the main Government department dealing with local government, housing and community issues.

**Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)**

The minimum amount which must be charged to the revenue account each year in order to provide for the repayment of loans and other amounts borrowed by the Council.

**Net Book Value**

The amount at which fixed assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical costs or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

**Non-Domestic Rates (NDR)**

The Non-Domestic Rate is a levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by central government and multiplied by the assessed rateable value of the premises they occupy. In England it is collected by the Council on behalf of itself, central government and major preceptors.

**Non-Operational Assets**

Fixed assets held by the Council but not directly occupied, used or consumed in the delivery of services. Examples are investment properties, assets under construction or assets surplus to requirements pending sale or redevelopment.

**Observable Inputs**

Are those that are developed using market data, such as publicly available information about actual events or transactions, and that reflect the assumption that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

**Operating Lease**

A lease where the ownership of the fixed asset remains with the lessor.

**Operational Assets**

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Council in the pursuit of its strategy and in the direct delivery of those services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

**Orderly Transaction**

A transaction that assumes exposure to the market for a period before the measurement date to allow for marketing activities that are usual and customary for transactions involving such assets or liabilities; it is not a forced transaction.

**Payables (also known as Creditors)**

Financial liabilities arising from a contractual obligation to pay cash in the future for goods or services or other benefits that have been received or supplied and have been invoiced or formally agreed with the supplier. They are only recognised when the goods or services are delivered or received by the Council.

**Past Service Cost (Pensions)**

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the increase in the present value of the scheme liabilities related to employee service in prior periods arising in the current period as a result of the introduction of, or improvement to retirement benefits.

**Pension Scheme Liabilities**

The liabilities of a defined benefit pension scheme for outgoings due after the valuation date. Scheme liabilities measured during the projected unit method reflect the benefits that the employer is committed to provide for service up to the valuation date.

**Precept**

The levy made by precepting authorities by billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from Council Tax on their behalf.

**Precepting Authority**

An authority that sets a precept to be collected by a billing authority (Arun) through the Council Tax bill. West Sussex County Council and Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner are known as major precepting authorities. Parish/Town Councils are known as local precepting authorities.

**Prepayment**

An adjustment made in the financial statements for goods or services already paid which relate to the next financial year.

**Prior Year Adjustment**

Material adjustments applicable to previous years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. This does not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

**Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)**

Tangible assets (i.e. assets with physical substance) that are held for use by the Council for the supply of services, for rental to others or for administrative purposes that are expected to

be used for at least part of the succeeding financial year. These may be operational or non-operational.

**Provision**

An amount put aside in the accounts for future liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but the amounts or dates of when they will arise are uncertain.

**Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)**

A Central Government Agency, which provides loans for one year and above to authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the government can borrow itself.

**Rateable Value**

The annual assumed rental of a hereditament, which is used for NNDR purposes.

**Receivables (also known as Debtors)**

Financial assets not traded in an active market with fixed or determinable payments that are contractual rights to receive cash or cash equivalents. They are only recognised when goods or services have been transferred to the service recipient before the customer pays consideration or before payment is due.

**Related Parties**

There is a detailed definition of related parties in FRS 8. For the Council’s purposes related parties are deemed to include the Council’s members, the Chief Executive, its Directors and their close family and household members.

**Related Party Transactions**

The Statement of Recommended Practice requires the disclosure of any material transactions between the Council and related parties to ensure that stakeholders are aware when these transactions occur and the amount and implications of such.

**Remuneration**

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expenses allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits. Received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

**Reserves**

The accumulation of surpluses, deficits and appropriations over past years. Reserves of a revenue nature are available and can be spent or earmarked at the discretion of the Council. Some capital reserves such as the fixed asset restatement account cannot be used to meet current expenditure.

**Retirement Benefits**

All forms of consideration given by an employer in exchange for services rendered by employees that are payable after the completion of employment.

**Revenue Expenditure**

The day-to-day expenses of providing services.

**Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)**

Expenditure which ordinarily would be revenue but is statutorily defined as capital. Examples of REFCUS include grants of a capital nature such as disabled facility grants.

**Support Services Costs/Charges**

Expenditure on administrative and professional services and office accommodation, which is recharged to service users on a specified basis.

**Tangible Fixed Asset**

Physical assets that yield benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

**Useful Economic Life (UEL)**

The period over which the Council will derive benefits from the use of a fixed asset.

**Unobservable Inputs**

Are inputs for which market data is not available and that are developed using the best information available to the Council about the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability.

**Unusable Reserve**

Those reserves that the Council may not use to fund the services it provides. This includes the Revaluation Reserve that holds the unrealised gains and losses on Property Plant and Equipment.

**Usable Reserve**

Those reserves that the Council may use to fund the services it provides, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use e.g. the Capital Receipts Reserve may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt.