

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE –  
THURSDAY, 26 JULY 2018**

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**LATE AGENDA ITEM(S)**

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**5. APPROVAL FOR PUBLICATION OF THE 2017/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (Pages 3 - 184)**

To consider the Auditor's Report and approval of the Annual Governance Statement, the Letter of Representation and the Annual Financial Report.

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## HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

<b>Title:</b>	Approval for Publication of the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement and the Annual Financial Report
<b>Meeting/Date:</b>	Corporate Governance Committee – 26 July 2018
<b>Executive Portfolio:</b>	Strategic Resources: Councillor J A Gray (Deputy Executive Leader)
<b>Report by:</b>	Head of Resources
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All Wards

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### Executive Summary:

The Council is required by statute to produce both an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and an Annual Financial Report (AFR). Both of these documents are produced in line with statutory regulations and are required to be approved by 'those charged with governance' and published by 31 July.

In order to approve the accounts the Committee must:

- Consider the Auditors Report (Audit Results Report) (paragraph 3) which comments on the auditor's findings on the Annual Finance Report and their view on Value for Money. Both the Annual Finance Report and the Value for Money position of the Council are expected to receive an unqualified audit opinion. At the time of writing the Auditors Results Report at Annex A is still provisional as the audit is still ongoing.
- Approve the Annual Governance Statement (paragraph 4) which includes the following themes:
  - Housing affordability
  - Morbidity/growing number of years of ill health
  - Wider economic environment
  - Skill levels and educational attainment
  - Partner agency operational pressures
- Approve the Letter of Representation (paragraph 5)
- Approve the Annual Financial Report (paragraph 6)

### Recommendations:

1. Receives the Auditors Results Report (**Annex A**)
2. Approve the Annual Governance Statement (**Annex B**) and authorises the Executive Leader and Managing Director to sign the Statement on behalf of the Council.
3. Approves the Letter of Representation (**Annex C**) and authorises the Head of Resources (as Section 151 officer) to sign it on behalf of the Council.
4. Give delegated powers to the Chairman of the Committee and Head of Resources (as Section 151 officer) to authorise and sign the Annual Financial Report (**Annex D**) on behalf of the Council subject to the auditors confirming an unqualified opinion on the AFR 2017/18.

## 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To complete the processes for finalising and publishing the Council's Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Annual Finance Report (AFR) for 2017/18.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Corporate Governance Committee is designated as 'those charged with governance' and consequently it is required to approve both the AGS and AFR prior to publication by the statutory deadline of 31 July. To do this the Committee needs to follow the stages in the order shown in the report.

## 3 RECEIVING THE AUDITORS REPORT (AUDIT RESULTS REPORT)

- 3.1 At the time of writing the report the audit is not yet complete with the auditors having some final queries to resolve to enable them to approve the accounts. An up to date position will be reported at the Committee however the auditors anticipate that the audit will be concluded by the 31 July providing all queries and audit review procedures are completed in time.

- 3.2 The Audit Results Report will be presented to the meeting by the auditors and a draft is attached at **Annex A**. The auditors will verbally update the Committee at the meeting of any further changes since the issuing of the report.

- 3.3 There were 3 issues raised as 'Control Observations' by the auditors within the Audit Results Report in respect of the AFR for 2016/17 which related to:

- Accounting records
- Timeliness of deliverables
- Reliance on key personnel

- 3.4 This year's Audit Results Report updates their opinion on the above matters stating:

"We have seen leadership, commitment and engagement from management in addressing the issues arising from the prior year audit. The Council's finance team has invested in enhancing working papers and ensured that the accounts and audit process has been delivered alongside the implementation and migration to a new finance system.

In particular, we have not had any significant issues with debtors and creditors working papers or the mapping of the general ledger to the financial statements.

We have seen a general improvement in the working papers and provision of evidence, and there has been a high degree of partnership working between both the finance team and us.....

We no longer consider these matters to be significant control deficiencies but recommend the Council continues to enhance their closedown process"



3.5 However, within the same commentary their report makes the following observations:

“Whilst we have seen a significant improvement which should be commended, we have still experienced some issues with the following areas:

- Agreed timescales for the provision of evidence and query resolution have not always been met in certain areas of the audit. This has created some pressures on the close down of areas of the audit.
- A bank reconciliation as at 31 March for one of the Council’s accounts has not been completed
- We have seen an increase in the level of issues within fixed assets, particularly in relation to the reconciliation of the information provided by the Council’s valuer to the fixed asset register.”

3.6 In addition to reviewing the AFR, the auditors are required to give a view on Value for Money within the Council. The auditors anticipate an unqualified opinion in respect of the Value for Money conclusion.

#### **4. APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

4.1 The Committee, on behalf of the Council is required to review once a year the effectiveness of its system of internal control and following that review approve the AGS. The AGS will be published alongside the AFR and is shown at **Annex B**.

4.2 A copy of the draft AGS has been previously circulated to all Committee members and no comments have been received.

4.3 The governance statement includes 5 significant themes:

- Housing affordability
- Morbidity/growing number of years of ill health
- Wider economic environment
- Skill levels and educational attainment
- Partner agency operational pressures

4.4 These issues notwithstanding, the governance arrangements and the internal control environment are considered to be operating effectively.

#### **5 APPROVE THE LETTER OF REPRESENTATION**

5.1 Each year a letter has to be given to the auditor by the Council which explains what the Council has done to ensure its financial records are accurate; a draft of the letter is attached as **Annex C**. It is ‘best practice’ for the Committee to approve the content of this letter and then authorise the Head of Resources to sign it on behalf of the Council.

5.2 The Committee is asked to agree the draft letter and once the external auditor has confirmed that both the AGS and AFR are unqualified, that the Head of Resources to sign it on behalf of the Council.

## **6 APPROVE THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

- 6.1 The Council is required to produce and approve by the 31 May the Draft AFR, which incorporates the Statement of Accounts. Then by 31 July 'those charged with governance' are required to approve and the Council is required to publish the AFR; a copy is attached at **Annex D**. The copy currently attached at **Annex D** is the draft AFR which could still be subject to amendment as a consequence of audit.
- 6.2 The Committee is asked to approve the AFR, which includes the Statement of Accounts. Once the external auditor has confirmed that the AFR is unqualified, then the report will be signed on behalf of the Council.
- 6.3 The issues that have been raised by the auditor in respect of the AFR are detailed within Section 3 of this report and Section 7 of the Auditors' Results Report.

## **7 KEY IMPACTS**

- 7.1 Paragraph 3 above outlines the control observations and the associated management comments.

## **8 LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN**

- 8.1 Ensuring we are a customer focused and service led Council – to become more business-like and efficient in the way we deliver services. The production of the AFR is also a statutory requirement.

## **9. CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 In line with the Account and Audit regulations the AFR was available for inspection from 1 June to 12 July 2018.

## **10 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

## **11 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 There is a specific budget for the Audit Fees.

## **12 REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS**

- 12.1 The process that has been followed in preparing the AGS and the AFR has been thorough and in line with statutory regulations.
- 12.2 The issues that have been identified for inclusion within the AGS are referenced within the statement and are a reflection of the current situation.
- 12.3 Both the AGS and the AFR have been subject to external audit and review by the Council's auditors, Ernst and Young LLP.

## **LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED**

Annex A – Auditors Report – Audit Results Report  
Annex B – 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement  
Annex C – Draft Letter of Representation  
Annex D – 2017/18 Annual Financial Report (Draft)

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**CONTACT OFFICER**

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**Huntingdonshire  
District Council  
Audit results report**  
Year ended 31 March 2018

25 July 2018

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A nighttime photograph of a street scene. In the foreground, a white and red street cleaner is parked on the left side of the road. Behind it, a white truck is visible. The road has white lane markings and a green 'X' marking on the pavement. In the background, there are buildings and streetlights.

25 July 2018



Dear Corporate Governance Committee Members

We are pleased to attach our audit results report for the forthcoming meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee. This report summarises our preliminary audit conclusion in relation to the audit of Huntingdonshire District Council for 2017/18. We will issue our final report once our audit procedures have been completed.

We are currently in the process of undertaking our audit of Huntingdonshire District Council (the Authority) for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Subject to concluding the outstanding matters listed in our report, we confirm that we expect to issue an unqualified audit opinion on the statement of accounts in the form at section 3. We also have no matters to report on your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Corporate Governance Committee, other members of the Authority, and senior management. It should not be used for any other purpose or given to any other party without obtaining our written consent.

We would like to thank your staff for their help during the engagement.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this report with you at the Corporate Governance Committee meeting on 26 July 2018.

Yours faithfully

Neil Harris

Associate Partner

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP

Encl

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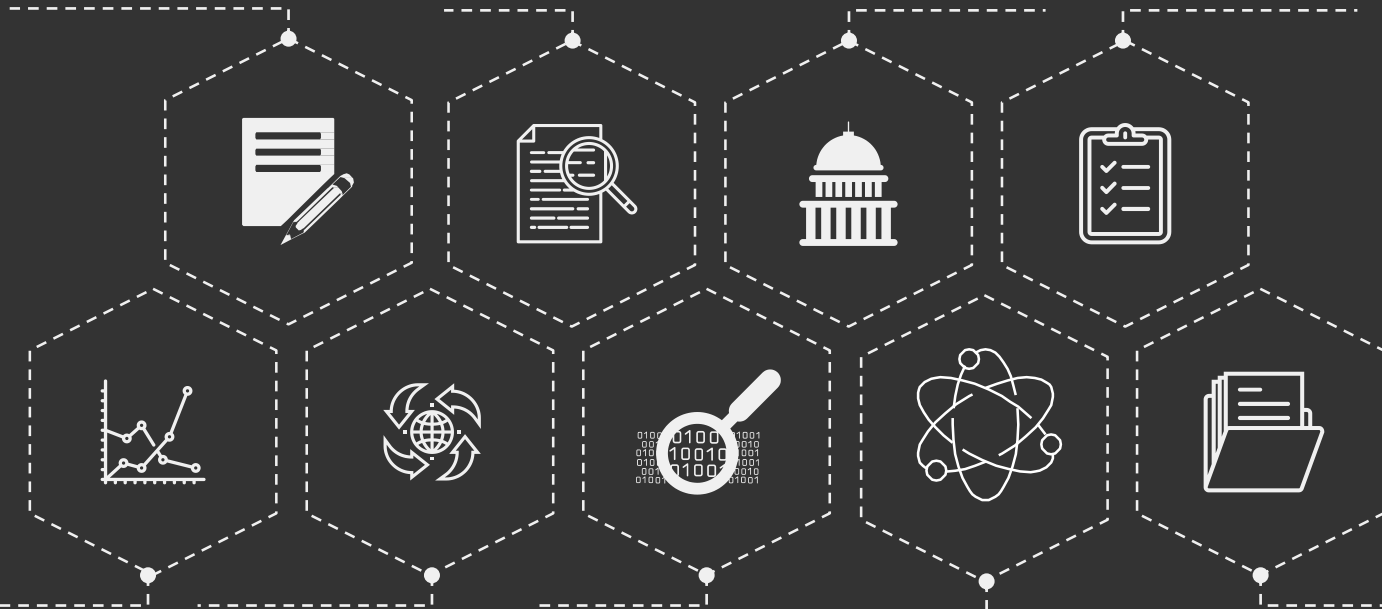
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02 Areas of Audit Focus

03 Audit Report

04 Audit Differences

05 Value for Money



06 Other reporting issues

07 Assessment of Control Environment

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In April 2015 Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd (PSAA) issued "Statement of responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies". It is available from the via the PSAA website ([www.PSAA.co.uk](http://www.PSAA.co.uk)). The Statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between appointed auditors and audited bodies. It summarises where the different responsibilities of auditors and audited bodies begin and end, and what is to be expected of the audited body in certain areas. The "Terms of Appointment (updated February 2017)" issued by the PSAA sets out additional requirements that auditors must comply with, over and above those set out in the National Audit Office Code of Audit Practice (the Code) and in legislation, and covers matters of practice and procedure which are of a recurring nature. This report is made solely to the Corporate Governance Committee and management of Huntingdonshire District Council in accordance with the statement of responsibilities. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Corporate Governance Committee, and management of Huntingdonshire District Council those matters we are required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Corporate Governance Committee and management of Huntingdonshire District Council for this report or for the opinions we have formed. It should not be provided to any third-party without our prior written consent.





# 01 Executive Summary



# Executive Summary

## Scope update

In our Audit Plan tabled at the 28 March 2018 Corporate Governance Committee meeting, we provided you with an overview of our audit scope and approach for the audit of the statement of accounts. We carried out our audit in accordance with this plan, with the following exception:

- ▶ There have been no changes in our risks assessment, however we have categorised some of the areas we have focussed on during our audit under different risk headings to facilitate with the reporting of the work performed.

- ▶ **Changes in materiality:**

In our Audit Plan, we communicated that our audit procedures would be performed using a materiality of £1.808m. We updated our planning materiality assessment using the draft consolidated results and have also reconsidered our risk assessment. Based on our materiality measure of gross expenditure on net cost of services plus expenditure on parish council precepts, drainage board levies, interest payable and pension interest costs, we have updated our overall materiality assessment to £1.854m. This results in updated performance materiality, at 75% of overall materiality, of £0.927m, and an updated threshold for reporting misstatements of £0.0927m. There have been no changes in our specific materiality levels. The basis of our assessment has remained consistent with prior years at 2% of gross expenditure on net cost of services plus expenditure on parish council precepts, drainage board levies, interest payable and pension interest costs.

## Status of the audit

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As set out in our audit planning report, as your auditor, we have had a more significant peak in our audit work and a shorter period to complete the audit. We agreed a timetable with the Council for our interim audit testing and our year end visit. There has been little room for slippage so we have been monitoring adherence to the timetable, the standard of information, query resolution, the complexity of any matters arising during the audit and any changes to the scope of our work.

At the time of writing this report we are in the process of completing our audit of the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018. We still have a number of areas to complete and are working in partnership with management to clear issues and outstanding information as quickly as possible. Subject to satisfactory completion of the following key outstanding items we expect to issue an unqualified opinion on the Council's financial statements in the form which appears at Section 3. However, at this stage there still remains a risk to achievement of the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 deadline. In addition, until work is complete, further amendments and reporting points may arise. We do appreciate the commitment and leadership shown by the Council's Head of Resources and accounts closedown lead to prioritise the Council's time and resources and work collaboratively with us to conclude the audit as quickly as possible whilst safeguarding the quality and integrity of our work.

- ▶ Receipt and review of management's justification for the treatment of a property acquisition in the financial statements as a donated asset.
- ▶ Conclusion of our work on the valuation of investment property, including assessment of the significant costs deducted from the valuation for one asset.
- ▶ Review of responses to queries on NDR and Council tax balances recognised in the Council's financial statements.
- ▶ Review of the revised pensions adjustments.
- ▶ Review of disclosures such as financial instruments.
- ▶ Review of the cash flow statements.
- ▶ Finalisation of our review over significant contracts, minutes and related parties.
- ▶ Finalisation of our work on property valuations.
- ▶ Finalisation of our work on journals.
- ▶ Completion of review Procedures.
- ▶ Review of the final version of the financial statements.
- ▶ Completion of subsequent events review.
- ▶ Receipt of the signed management representation letter.

We expect to issue the audit certificate at the same time as the audit opinion.

# Executive Summary

## Audit differences

At the time of writing this report we have identified five unadjusted audit differences in the draft financial statements. The current aggregated impact of unadjusted audit differences is £2.5 million. As they cumulatively are material we ask that they are corrected by management. We understand that at least the pension item (being the singular largest item) will be amended.

Any remaining uncorrected misstatements below materiality will require a rationale as to why they are not corrected and that this be approved by the Corporate Governance Committee and included in the Letter of Representation. Details can be found in Section 4 Audit Differences.

## Areas of audit focus

Our Audit Plan identified key areas of focus for our audit of Huntingdonshire District Council's statement of accounts. This report sets out our observations and conclusions, including our views on areas which might be conservative, and where there is potential risk and exposure. We summarise our consideration of these matters, and any others identified, in the "Key Audit Issues" section of this report.

We ask you to review these and any other matters in this report to ensure:

- ▶ There are no other considerations or matters that could have an impact on these issues
- ▶ You agree with the resolution of the issue
- ▶ There are no other significant issues to be considered.

There are no matters, apart from those reported by management or disclosed in this report, which we believe should be brought to the attention of the Corporate Governance Committee.

## Control observations

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your statement of accounts and which is unknown to you.

We have adopted a fully substantive approach, so have not tested the operation of controls.



# Executive Summary

## Value for money

We have considered your arrangements to take informed decisions; deploy resources in a sustainable manner; and work with partners and other third parties. In our Audit Planning Report we identified a significant risk that focussed on the impact of additional time and costs incurred by the Council during the accounts and audit process, resulting in a risk that this distracts staff from the ongoing delivery of strategic priorities which should be avoidable with effective planning and resource deployment.

In light of the challenging financial environment we have performed a high level review of the financial resilience of the Authority and considered whether there are any significant issues with the robustness of the medium term financial plans and assumptions. Overall we have concluded that arrangements are appropriate.

We are in the process of finalising our work in this area but currently have no significant matters to report about your arrangements to secure economy efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

We anticipate having no matters to report about your arrangements to secure economy efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

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## Other reporting issues

We have reviewed the information presented in the Annual Governance Statement for consistency with our knowledge of the Authority. We have no matters to report as a result of this work.

We have performed the procedures required by the National Audit Office (NAO) on the Whole of Government Accounts submission. We have confirmed that the Authority are below the threshold for the completion of audit procedures over the Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) return. As such we are not required to complete any detailed work on the return. We will submit this audit results report to the NAO in line with their requirements.

We have no other matters to report.

## Independence

Please refer to Section 9 where we confirm our independence as your appointed auditor.

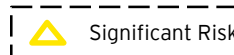


# 02 Areas of Audit Focus



## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk of fraud in expenditure recognition



**Risk of fraud in expenditure recognition through inappropriate capitalisation of expenditure and valuation of NNDR appeals provision**

### What is the risk?

Under ISA 240 there is a presumed risk that revenue may be misstated due to improper revenue recognition. In the public sector, this requirement is modified by Practice Note 10 issued by the Financial Reporting Council, which states that auditors should also consider the risk that material misstatements may occur by the manipulation of expenditure recognition.

The Council has historically performed well in relation to their outturn position for the year. In 2017/18 the Council incurred a surplus of £0.1 million chargeable to the General Fund. As the Authority is more focussed on its financial position over the medium term we do not consider there to be a heightened risk for the Authority's standard income and expenditure streams except for the capitalisation of revenue expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) given the extent of the Authority's capital programme. We will also considered other areas where management can apply judgement and estimation, including the valuation of the NNDR appeals provision.

### What judgements are we focused on?

In considering this risk we have focussed on management's judgement in capitalising expenditure as PPE. The Authority has a number of capital programmes and therefore judgement can be exercised in the allocation of costs between expenditure charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) and capital expenditure.

This judgement impacts the valuation/measurement of the expenditure and also the existence of the asset on the balance sheet and completeness of expenditure included within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

We have also considered the valuation of the NNDR appeals provision at the year end with a focus on any judgements management have made particularly in relation to expected new provisions arising from the change of rateable values at 1 April 2017.

We have set out the procedures we have undertaken in relation to the above, as well as other supplementary procedures we have performed to provide assurances over the identified risks, on the next page.

### What are our conclusions?

We are in the process of concluding our work in this area. To date our testing has not identified any material misstatements from the inappropriate capitalisation of expenditure.

Overall, we do not expect our audit work to identify any material issues or unusual transactions to indicate any misreporting of the Authority's financial position.

We will provide you with an update on the conclusion of our work.



## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk of fraud in expenditure recognition



### Further details on procedures/work performed

We have performed the following specific procedures over the identified risk areas:

- ▶ **Capital additions testing** - We selected a sample of capital additions based on our established testing threshold and tested these to confirm that all amounts could be agreed to appropriate audit evidence (e.g. invoice, valuation certificate etc.) and that the item being capitalised was capital in nature. We are in the process of concluding our work in this area. To date our testing has not identified any material misstatements from the inappropriate capitalisation of expenditure.
- ▶ **Journal entry testing** - As part of our journal testing we included specific tests to search for unusual activity that moves expenditure from the CIES to PPE on the balance sheet. No unusual activity was identified as part of our review.
- ▶ **NNDR appeals provision** - The provisions balance in the financial statements is £1.6 million at 31 March 2018 (£1.6 million at 31 March 2017). In the current year all of this balances relates to the provision for business rate appeals which the Council is required to estimate and include in the financial statements in accordance with the Code.
- ▶ New rateable values became effective from 1 April 2017, which means that the Council has made a provision for the expected claims arising from this, in addition to reassessing the provision for the 1 April 2010 rateable value listing. We have considered the assumptions used in the calculation and consider them to be reasonable. We note that the Council uses an external specialist to assist in the calculation of the liability. We have assessed the work of the specialist, including considering their qualifications and experience with no significant issues identified.

The new provision on the 1 April 2017 rateable values has been calculated based on the success rate on previous claims. This equates to c4.5%. We note that in order to be materially different the rate will need to move by c4% in either direction to create an error greater than performance materiality. Based on the success rate of claims to date we consider the provision included to be reasonable.

We have not identified any significant issues with the Council's basis of calculation.

#### Other procedures:

As set out in our audit planning report we confirm that we have also performed the following supplementary procedures to gain additional assurances around the recognition of revenue/expenditure recognition:

- ▶ Reviewed the appropriateness of revenue and expenditure recognition accounting policies and testing that they had been applied correctly during our detailed testing.
- ▶ Tested the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in the preparation of the financial statements (refer to details included in the management override of control section below).
- ▶ Reviewed accounting estimates (e.g. IAS 19 liability, valuation of PPE) for evidence of management bias (see relevant sections below);
- ▶ Performing cut off testing and unrecorded liabilities testing to consider the completeness of assets and liabilities included in the financial statements.
- ▶ Evaluating the business rationale for any significant unusual transactions.

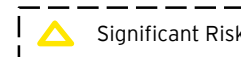
With the exception of the uncorrected adjustments set out in section 5 for unrecorded liabilities we have no matters to report.





## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk – Misstatements due to fraud or error



### Misstatements due to fraud or error

#### What is the risk?

The risk is that the financial statements as a whole are not free of material misstatements whether caused by fraud or error. As identified in ISA (UK and Ireland) 240, management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of its ability to manipulate accounting records directly or indirectly and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. We identify and respond to this fraud risk on every audit engagement.

We have assessed journal amendments, accounting estimates and unusual transactions as the area's most open to manipulation. We have also specifically considered the calculation of statutory reserve adjustments impacting the general fund such as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) and revenue expenditure financed from capital under statute (REFCUS).

Linking to the presumed risk of fraud in revenue and expenditure recognition we have identified the inappropriate capitalisation of expenditure on Property, Plant and Equipment as a risk as well as the valuation of the NNDR appeals provision. This has been identified as a specific risk as set out on the previous page, and therefore we have not repeated that information here.

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#### What judgements are we focused on?

In undertaking our work on management override of controls we have considered the balances included in the Authority's financial statements that are the most susceptible to judgement or estimation techniques. The key estimates are considered to be the NNDR appeals provision, the valuation of Property and the valuation of pension liabilities.

Due to the significance of PPE and pension valuations on the financial statements we have included them as higher inherent risks in our audit strategy and include a separate section to report on these separately below and not repeated that information here. Given that the impact of valuation and measurement of property, plant and equipment and pension liabilities do not impact the general fund we do not consider these to be significant estimates subject to fraudulent misreporting.

The valuation of the NNDR appeals provision has been identified within our expenditure recognition risk as set out on the previous page, and therefore we have not repeated that information here.

We have set out the specific procedures we have undertaken, as well as other supplementary procedures we have performed to provide assurances over the identified risks, on the next page.

#### What are our conclusions?

We are in the process of concluding our work in this area. To date we have not identified any material weaknesses in controls or evidence of material management override.

We have not identified any instances of inappropriate judgements being applied.

We have not identified any other transactions during our audit which appeared unusual or outside the Authority's normal course of business.

We will provide you with an update on the conclusion of our work.



## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk - Misstatements due to fraud or error



### Further details on procedures/work performed

#### Journal entry testing

We have tested the appropriateness of journal entries recorded in the general ledger and other adjustments made in the preparation of the financial statements. We obtained a full list of journals posted to the general ledger during the year and using our data analytics tool confirmed the completeness of the population and analysed these journals using criteria we set to identify any unusual journal types or amounts. We then tested a sample of journals that met our criteria and tested these to supporting documentation. We are currently concluding some minor outstandings in our work but have not identified any issues to date.

In response to our work over statutory adjustments relating to REFCUS and MRP we have included specific journal tests to identify any unusual activity. We have also reviewed and tested the calculation of MRP, as well as the amounts classified as REFCUS in the financial statements.

No issues have been identified in the completion of our audit work.

#### Accounting estimates

We evaluated the remainder of the Authority's estimates, including accruals, deferred liabilities, bad debt provision and depreciation, as low risk of material misstatement. We are concluding our work over these areas but have not identified any issues to date.

Other procedures - As set out in our audit plan we confirm that we have also performed the following supplementary procedures to gain additional assurances management override of control/misstatements due to fraud or error:

- ▶ Inquiring of management about risks of fraud and the controls put in place to address those risks and understanding the oversight given by those charged with governance of management's processes over fraud.
- ▶ Considering the effectiveness of management's controls designed to address the risk of fraud, identifying fraud risks during the planning stages and determining an appropriate strategy to address those identified risks of fraud.
- ▶ Reviewing material accounting policies and testing that they have been applied correctly during our detailed testing.
- ▶ Evaluating the business rationale for any significant unusual transactions - none were identified.

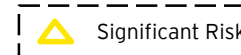
We have no matters to report in relation to the above.





## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk – Investment property



### Valuation of investment property item

#### What is the risk?

The fair value of Investment Properties (IP) represent significant balances in the Council's accounts and are subject to valuation changes, impairment reviews and depreciation charges. Management is required to make material judgemental inputs and apply estimation techniques to calculate the year-end balances recorded in the balance sheet.

There is one IP asset with a net book value of £5 million (£7 million as at 31 March 2017) representing c.14% of the IP portfolio which has been identified as requiring extensive repair and renovation. The quantum of work has been estimated at £2 million and has been taken into account when calculating the £5 million. This adds an additional layer of complexity to the valuation approach and as a result there is a risk that the financial statements could be materially misstated at year-end.

The overall valuation of investment property was designated as an area of audit focus last year with a higher inherent risk due to the assumptions/judgement and estimation used in calculating the valuation of the property. This risk continues to remain and we have covered this further in the valuation of capital assets section below.

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#### What judgements are we focused on?

We have focused on the following areas, which are consistent with those of management:

- ▶ The reasonableness of the underlying assumptions used by the Authority's valuation expert.
- ▶ Ensuring the information supplied to the valuer in relation to the Authority was complete and accurate.
- ▶ Checking the reasonableness of the estimated remediation works that have been deducted from the valuation.

#### What did we do?

- ▶ Considered the work performed by the Council's valuer, including the judgements and assumptions made in assessing the impact the capital works have on the property's value.
- ▶ Engage an EY estates specialist to consider the valuation of the property to ensure that the asset has been materially stated; and
- ▶ Test the base data used in performing the valuation (e.g. floor plans, structural repairs works schedules and costings).

A summary of the work performed is included on the following page.

#### What are our conclusions?

At the time of writing this report we are working with management to gather sufficient evidence to support the calculations for the costs of the capital works and the implications, if any, for our view on the valuation of the IP and whether it is within a reasonable range of estimation and uncertainty.

We will provide you with an update on the conclusion of our work.



## Areas of Audit Focus

# Significant risk - Investment property



### Further details on procedures/work performed

We have undertaken the following procedures:

- ▶ Considered the work performed by the Council's valuers, including the adequacy of the scope of the work performed, their professional capabilities and the results of their work.
- ▶ Engaged our internal valuation specialists to assess the work of the valuer and the methodology applied.
- ▶ In relation to the costs deducted from the valuation, these are based on an estimate of the cost of the works required following receipts of the structural engineers report. A number of assumptions have been made in the calculation of these. We note that the overarching premise has been to utilise the original build costs from when the property was constructed in 2004-2006 and then allocate a share of the costs for the percentage of the area impacted within the building.

At the time of writing this report we are working with management to gather sufficient evidence to support the calculations for the costs. Once this has been completed we will be able to finalise our view on the valuation of the property in conjunction with our internal specialists. We will provide you with an update on the conclusion of our work.



# Areas of Audit Focus

## Other areas of audit focus - Valuation of capital assets

### What is the risk and what judgements are we focused on?

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) and investment properties (IP) represent significant balances in the Authority's accounts and are subject to valuation changes, impairment reviews and depreciation charges. Management is required to make material judgemental inputs and apply estimation techniques to calculate the year-end balances recorded in the Balance Sheet for land and buildings in particular. The Authority will engage external expert valuers who will apply a number of complex assumptions to these assets. Annually, assets are assessed to identify whether there is any indication of impairment.

As the Authority's asset base is significant, and the outputs from the valuer are subject to estimation, there is a risk fixed assets may be under/overstated. This risk relates to assets that are revalued, being 'Other land and Buildings' and 'Investment Properties'. Vehicles, plant and equipment, infrastructure assets and community assets are held at cost. ISAs (UK and Ireland) 500 and 540 require us to undertake procedures on the use of management experts and the assumptions underlying fair value estimates.

### What did we do?

- ▶ Considered the work performed by the Council's valuers, including the adequacy of the scope of the work performed, their professional capabilities and the results of their work.
- ▶ Reviewed and sample tested key asset information used by the valuers in performing their valuation (e.g. floor plans).
- ▶ Considered the annual cycle of valuations to ensure that assets have been valued within a 5 year rolling programme as required by the Code for PPE and annually for IP. We have also considered if there are any specific changes to assets that have occurred and that these have been communicated to the valuer.
- ▶ Reviewed assets not subject to valuation in 2017/18 to confirm that the remaining asset base is not materially misstated and whether asset categories held at cost have been assessed for impairment and are materially correct.
- ▶ Considered external evidence of asset values via reference to the NAO commissioned Local Government Gerald Eve report and broader market data for the Cambridge area where relevant. Specifically we have considered if this indicates any material variances to the asset valuations performed by the valuers and to those assets not revalued.
- ▶ Considered changes to useful economic lives as a result of the most recent valuation and tested that the valuation accounting entries have been correctly processed in the financial statements, including the treatment of impairments.

### What are our conclusions?

We are in the process of concluding our work in this area.

Whilst we have not identified any instances of inappropriate judgements being applied we have identified a number of discrepancies in the following two areas:

1. One incorrect use of base data by the valuer in their calculations. The impact of this error is an increase to the property value of £133k. We are currently undertaking further work to confirm the impact of any further errors.
2. A number of variances between the fixed asset register and valuers report which management are currently investigating.

We will provide you with an update on the conclusion of our work.



## Areas of Audit Focus

### Other areas of audit focus - Pension valuations and disclosures

#### What is the risk?

The Local Council Accounting Code of Practice and IAS19 require the Authority to make extensive disclosures within its financial statements regarding its membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administered by Cambridge County Council. The Authority's pension fund deficit is a material estimated balance and the Code requires that this liability be disclosed on the Authority's balance sheet. At 31 March 2018 this totalled £74 million (£72 million at 31 March 2017).

Accounting for this scheme involves significant estimation and judgement and therefore management engages an actuary to undertake the calculations on their behalf. The information disclosed is based on the IAS 19 report issued to the Authority by the actuary to the County Council. ISAs (UK and Ireland) 500 and 540 require us to undertake procedures on the use of management experts and the assumptions underlying fair value estimates.

#### What judgements are we focused on?

We have focused on the following areas, which are consistent with those of management:

- ▶ The reasonableness of the underlying assumptions used by the Authority's expert - Hymans Robertson.
- ▶ Ensuring the information supplied to the actuary in relation to the Authority was complete and accurate
- ▶ Ensuring the accounting entries and disclosures made in the financial statements were consistent with the report from Hymans Robertson.

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#### What did we do?

We have liaised with the auditors of, Cambridgeshire Pension Fund, BDO, to obtain assurances over the information supplied to the actuary in relation to Huntingdonshire District Council.

We have assessed the work of the Pension Fund actuary (Hymans) including the assumptions they have used by relying on the work of PwC - Consulting Actuaries commissioned by Public Sector Auditor Appointments for all Local Government sector auditors, and considering any relevant reviews by the EY actuarial team. The assumptions used by the actuary have been reviewed by both PwC and our EY actuarial team who have both concluded that the assumptions and methodology used are considered to be appropriate.

We have reviewed and tested the accounting entries and disclosures made within the Authority's financial statements in relation to IAS19 - no issues have been noted.

#### What are our conclusions?

In calculating the scheme assets as at 31 March 2018 the actuary performs a roll forward technique based on asset data submitted to them by the Pension Fund at 31 December 2017.

The reporting from the Pension Fund auditors highlighted that the market value of the pension fund assets at 31 March 2018 is £2,958 million. When compared to the actuaries estimate of the fund assets at 31 March 2018 of £2,891 million this creates a judgemental difference of £67 million.

Management has obtained a revised IAS19 report from the actuary and has provided a working paper which shows an adjustment of £1.9 million reduction in the net liability. Management has indicated that they will be amending the financial statements once we have finalised our review of the revised working paper.

Assumptions used by the actuary and adopted by the Council are considered to be generally acceptable. The sensitivities surrounding these assumptions have been correctly disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

No other issues have been identified in completing our work.



# Areas of Audit Focus



## Other matters

### Implementation of IFRS 15:

The 2018/19 Code confirms that IFRS 15 replaces IAS 18 Revenue and IAS 11 Construction Contracts and their associated interpretations, with implementation from 1 April 2018. The core principle in IFRS 15 for local authorities is that they should recognise revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to the service recipient or customer in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the authority expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. adopts IFRS15 without adaptation. The scope includes:

- ▶ all contracts with customers except leases, financial instruments and insurance contracts; and
- ▶ excludes Council Tax and NDR income

Given the nature of the Authority's income streams, it is unlikely that the future implementation of IFRS 15 will have a material impact on the single entity financial statements of the Council. However, the Authority is yet to carry out a review of contract income from service recipients to assess the potential impact.



# 04 Audit Report



# Audit Report

## Draft audit report

### Our opinion on the financial statements

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

##### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Huntingdonshire District Council for the year ended 31 March 2018 under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The financial statements comprise the:

- ▶ Movement in Reserves Statement,
- ▶ Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement,
- ▶ Balance Sheet,
- ▶ Cash Flow Statement,
- ▶ the relates notes 1 to 39 to the accounts,
- ▶ and the Collection Fund and the related notes 1 to 4.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- ▶ give a true and fair view of the financial position of Huntingdonshire District Council as at 31 March 2018 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- ▶ have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

##### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of Huntingdonshire District Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (C&AG) AGN01, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

the Head of Resources' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or

the Head of Resources has not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Authority's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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# Audit Report

## Draft audit report

### Our opinion on the financial statements

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Financial Report set out on pages 4 to 21, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Head of Resources is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

##### *Arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources*

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in November 2017, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Huntingdonshire District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2018.

##### **Matters on which we report by exception**

We report to you if:

in our opinion the annual governance statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information forthcoming from the audit or our knowledge of the Council;

- ▶ we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- ▶ we make written recommendations to the audited body under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- ▶ we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- ▶ we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- ▶ we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects





# Audit Report

## Draft audit report

### Our opinion on the financial statements

#### Responsibility of the Head of Resources

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Head of Resource's Responsibilities set out on page 25, the Head of Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

In preparing the financial statements, the Head of Resources is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Authority either intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### *Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources*

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in November 2017, as to whether Huntingdonshire District Council had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people. The Comptroller and Auditor General determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether Huntingdonshire District Council put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2018.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, Huntingdonshire District Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements.



# Audit Report

## Draft audit report

### Our opinion on the financial statements

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

#### Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the accounts of Huntingdonshire District Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the National Audit Office.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Huntingdonshire District Council, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Huntingdonshire District Council and the Council's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Neil Harris (Key Audit Partner)

Ernst & Young LLP (Local Auditor)

Luton

Date:

The maintenance and integrity of Huntingdonshire District Council web site is the responsibility of the directors; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the web site.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.



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# 05 Audit Differences





## Audit Differences

In the normal course of any audit, we identify misstatements between amounts we believe should be recorded in the financial statements and the disclosures and amounts actually recorded. These differences are classified as “known” or “judgemental”. Known differences represent items that can be accurately quantified and relate to a definite set of facts or circumstances. Judgemental differences generally involve estimation and relate to facts or circumstances that are uncertain or open to interpretation.

### Summary of adjusted differences

At the time of writing this report we have identified a number of misstatements greater than £0.9m. These are yet to be corrected by management, however we are aware that the pension item (which is individually material) will be adjusted and we expect the unrecorded liability to be amended as well.

As we conclude our audit work we will agree with management the correction of any errors and provide an update to you.


The adjustments identified at the time of issuing our report are set out on the following page.



# Audit Differences

## Summary of unadjusted differences

In addition we highlight the following misstatements to the financial statements and/or disclosures which were not corrected by management. We request that these uncorrected misstatements be corrected or a rationale as to why they are not corrected be considered and approved by the Corporate Governance Committee and provided within the Letter of Representation:

Uncorrected misstatements 31 March 2018 (£000)	 Comprehensive income and expenditure statement Debit/(Credit)	Assets current Debit/ (Credit)	Assets non current Debit/ (Credit)	Liabilities current Debit/ (Credit)	Liabilities non- current Debit/ (Credit)
<b>Known differences:</b>					
1. Identification of an unrecorded liability where the invoice was received post year end: Dr Expenditure Cr Creditors	552			(552)	
2. Impact of movement in pension scheme assets: Dr Pension liability Cr Actuarial gains and losses	(1,900)				1,900
3. Discrepancies between the fixed asset register and valuers report: Dr Investment property Cr Movement in fair value	(460)		460		
<b>Judgemental differences:</b>					
4. Extrapolated error arising from incorrect use of rent for property valuations (actual error £133k): Dr Investment property Cr Movement in fair value	(776)		776		
Balance sheet totals		0	1,236	(552)	1,900
Income effect of uncorrected misstatements (before tax)	(2,584)				
5. Turnaround effect. See Note 1 below. Dr Income Cr Debtors	126	(126)			
<b>Cumulative effect of uncorrected misstatements, after turnaround effect</b>	<b>(2,458)</b>	<b>(126)</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>(552)</b>	<b>1,900</b>

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# Audit Differences

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## Uncorrected misstatements in the statement of cash flows

All misstatements, with the exception of misstatement 2 will have an impact on the cash flow statement.

## Uncorrected disclosure misstatements

We are undertaking a number of our financial statement review procedures and are working with management to update these in the financial statements. Any uncorrected items will be reported to you once our audit is completed.

Note 1: turnaround effect is the impact of uncorrected misstatements identified in the prior period, on results of the current period. In the prior year we identified an adjustment where rental income had been undercharged in 2016/17. Where this has been charged in 2017/18 we have included the reversal of the impact in our summary of uncorrected items.





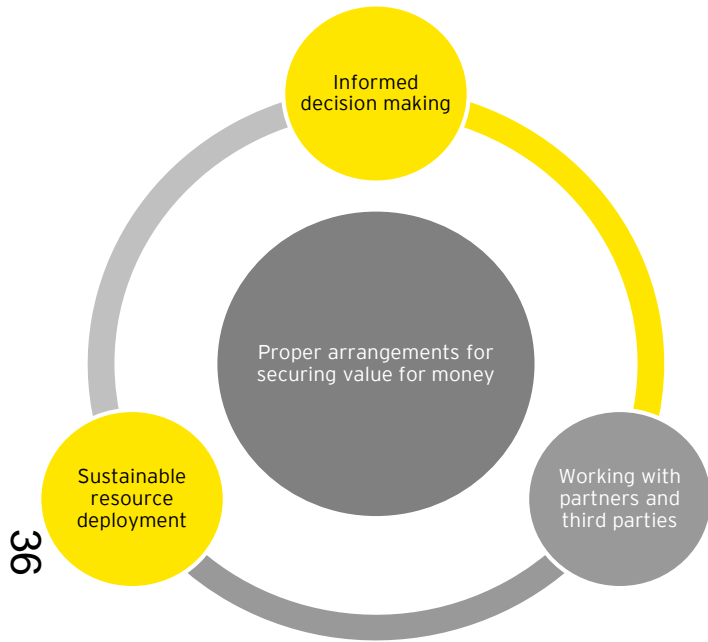
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# Value for Money Risks





# Value for Money



## Background

We are required to consider whether the Authority has put in place 'proper arrangements' to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness on its use of resources. This is known as our value for money conclusion. For 2017/18 this is based on the overall evaluation criterion:

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

Proper arrangements are defined by statutory guidance issued by the National Audit Office. They comprise your arrangements to:

- Take informed decisions;
- Deploy resources in a sustainable manner; and
- Work with partners and other third parties.

In considering your proper arrangements, we will draw on the requirements of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework for local government to ensure that our assessment is made against a framework that you are already required to have in place and to report on through documents such as your annual governance statement.

## Overall conclusion

We are only required to determine whether there are any risks that we consider significant within the Code of Audit Practice, where risk is defined as:

*"A matter is significant if, in the auditor's professional view, it is reasonable to conclude that the matter would be of interest to the audited body or the wider public"*

Our risk assessment supports the planning of enough work to deliver a safe conclusion on your arrangements to secure value for money, and enables us to determine the nature and extent of any further work needed. If we do not identify a significant risk we do not need to carry out further work.

We identified one significant risk around these arrangements. The tables below present our findings in response to the risks in our Audit Planning Report and any other significant weaknesses or issues we want to bring to your attention. We therefore expect having no matters to report about your arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.

Whilst they are not significant risks we have also set out our high level considerations of the Council's financial resilience and considered the purchase of an out of area property during the year.



## Value for Money Risks

### What is the significant value for money risk?

In the prior year we experienced significant difficulties in completing our audit. This included the adequacy of working papers and their reconciliation to the financial statements, the timeliness of deliverables and responses to auditor queries, over reliance on key individuals, and a number of adjustments being amended in the financial statements.

All of the above has had an impact on the efficiency of the accounts and audit process for both the Council and us as your auditors.

Following the prior year audit there have then been changes in the finance team resulting in a strain on resources and work on areas such as the budget. An interim Chief Accountant has recently been engaged to manage the finance team and lead on the preparation of the 2017/18 financial statements.

The faster close timetable in 2017/18, as well as the pressure of implementing a new finance system ready for 2018/19 will put considerable strain on the finance team's ability to deliver conflicting priorities.

Whilst our risk assessment for the financial statements audit has not identified a heightened risk in any particular area, we do consider that there is a risk to demonstrating that there have been effective arrangements in place to demonstrate the Council has planned, organised and developed the workforce (namely the finance team) to deliver the financial statements. The additional time and costs incurred by the Council during the accounts and audit process, risks distracting staff from the ongoing delivery of strategic priorities and should be avoidable with effective planning and resource deployment.

The risks to not being able to prepare and sign off on the financial results for the year also raises risks around the Council's ability to take informed decisions, where decisions are made on draft information which is then subject to significant amendment.

### What arrangements did the risk affect?

Take informed decisions / Deploy resources in a sustainable manner

### What are our findings?

Our approach has focussed on the following:

- ▶ Reviewing the changes made to the financial reporting process to address the issues identified in the prior year;
- ▶ Reviewing the accounts closedown timetable, including the timescales for the preparation of the financial statements and supporting working papers ready for audit;
- ▶ Considering the Council's allocation of tasks to individuals in the finance team for both preparation and review to ensure these are reasonable;
- ▶ Assessing the results of the interim audit for improvements in the process;
- ▶ Considering the adequacy of the draft financial statements and working papers, as well as the finance teams ability to respond to additional queries in a timely manner;
- ▶ Consider the overall accounts and audit experience as we complete the audit, seeking validation that changes have been made to address the issues identified in the prior year;
- ▶ Reviewing internal audit reports to identify any significant issues identified during finance related reviews and consider the impact on the overall control environment;
- ▶ Reviewing the monitoring of the significant findings arising from our audit in 2016/17 as part of the Corporate Governance Committee; and
- ▶ Testing for any significant impact resource capacity has had on the Council's in year financial reporting and budget setting. This will include comparing forecast vs actual outturns, assessing appropriate segregation of duties in the preparation and review/sign off of quarterly reporting and budget setting during 2017/18. We will also assess the appropriateness of significant assumptions used in the budget setting process for appropriateness.

In undertaking our procedures we have not identified any significant issues. We acknowledge that there has been resource dedicated to rectifying prior year issues and that this has resulted in a number of the prior year issues being resolved. At the same time as preparing for the accounts and audit process the finance team have also managed the migration to a new finance system.

We have provided an update on the prior year control finding in section 8.

## Value for Money Considerations – Financial resilience

### What are our findings?

The Council has historically performed well in relation to their outturn position for the year. In 2017/18 the Council incurred a small surplus of £0.1 million chargeable to the General Fund as set out in the Movement in Reserves Statement. To date the Council has responded well to the financial pressure it faces.

The Council's general fund balance as at 31 March 2018 stands at £2.658 million which is in line with the minimum level set by the Section 151 officer. The Council also has earmarked reserves (£16 million at 31 March 2018) which have been established for a number of purposes, including a Strategic Transformation Fund (£0.07 million), Commercial Investment Reserve (£3.598 million), Special Reserve (£1 million), Budget surplus reserve (£2.212 million) and other reserves (£2.123 million). In addition to the above there are also other earmarked reserves for repairs and renewals, collection fund and S106 monies.

8 The existence of these reserves provides evidence of the Council's prudent approach to financial management. These provide the Council with the flexibility to manage its financial position over the short-to-medium term, and reduce the risk that an unexpected overspend, or unexpected one-off item of expenditure, has a detrimental impact on the Council's financial standing. The Council plans to maintain this level of General Fund reserves indefinitely and we note that the projected general fund reserves in the MTFS does not fall below the target level over the next 3 years. The Authority plans to maintain this level of General Fund reserves over the medium term by making contributions to it from the budget surplus reserve.

The 2018/19 budget is balanced, through the use of efficiencies, income plans, but also the use of general fund reserves. The level of savings identified is £0.7 million and the budget also includes £1m in relation to investment income through the Commercial Investment Strategy.

While incrementally savings can become harder to achieve over time, the Council's performance in delivering its plans to date gives confidence that it can continue to do so. However, this will become harder over time, and therefore the council must ensure that it continues to ensure it identifies ways to be self financing over the longer term.

We also reviewed the key assumptions in the budget and MTFS, which adequately took into account the economic environment at that time for business rate projections, and the forecast for reduced central government funding and the potential settlement.

Our review of the budget setting process, assumptions used in financial planning, in year financial monitoring, and the Council's history of delivery has not identified any significant matters that we wish to report to you.

## Value for Money Considerations - Commercial investment

### What are our findings?

The Council has been actively pursuing its commercial investment strategy over the past few years, and 2017/18 has included the purchase of an additional out of area property.

As government funding continues to come under pressure, the reliance on commercial revenue streams becomes heightened. The nature of commercialisation exposes to the Council to additional risks around property values, achievement of investment yields and more volatility in the preparation of budgets.

Where the Council is borrowing to invest in its strategy it is also important the Council considers all costs associated with the related investment, to confirm that the overall net return is consistent with the assumptions being included in the medium term financial strategy.

As part of our audit procedures we have:

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- ▶ Reviewed the decision making process for the acquisition of the out of area property purchased during the financial year, including any associated due diligence, and at a high level the factors taken into account in calculating the investment yield. We noted that the Council prepared a best, worst and expected scenarios for the expected returns and often built in a more pessimistic view when calculating these.
  - ▶ Reviewed the assumptions on commercialisation included in the 2017/18 budget and compare these against the actuals achieved, seeking explanation for any significant variance.
  - ▶ Reviewed the process for ongoing monitoring and reporting of the commercial investment strategy.
  - ▶ Reviewed the assumptions included in the medium term financial strategy and consider them for appropriateness.
  - ▶ Considered any recent case law and how the Council has taken this into account when reviewing their commercial investment strategy.

During our review we identified that as part of the purchase of the property the Council was required to invest in two companies responsible for the management of the site. Whilst the shareholding is not material to the Council, there is no evidence to demonstrate that the Council's investment in these two entities was considered as part of the decision making process. We would expect matters such as these to be fully considered as part of the governance process to mitigate any risks to the Council in the future. We do not consider this to be a significant value for money matter.

Having considered the above, and in the absence of any case law in relation to this in the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 we are not minded to challenge the Council's arrangements. We do note that the Council will, as part of its capital strategy and financial plans, continue to consider its options on future commercial investments and in doing so intends to apply the same due diligence it has undertaken to date and seek further independent legal, tax and professional services advice as necessary. This is an area in which we will continue to review the Council's decision making process and will form part of our 2018-2019 external audit plan.



# 07 Other reporting issues





## Other reporting issues

# Other reporting issues

### Consistency of other information published with the financial statements, including the Annual Governance Statement

We must give an opinion on the consistency of the financial and non-financial information in the Huntingdonshire District Council Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018 with the audited financial statements.

We must also review the Annual Governance Statement for completeness of disclosures, consistency with other information from our work, and whether it complies with relevant guidance.

Our findings are:

- ▶ We are currently finalising our work over the financial information in the Huntingdonshire District Council Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018 and published with the financial statements.
- ▶ We have reviewed the Annual Governance Statement and can confirm it is consistent with other information from our audit of the financial statements and we have no other matters to report.

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### Whole of Government Accounts

Alongside our work on the financial statements, we also review and report to the National Audit Office on your Whole of Government Accounts return. The extent of our review, and the nature of our report, is specified by the National Audit Office.

We have confirmed that the Authority are below the threshold for the completion of audit procedures over the Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) return. As such we are not required to complete any detailed work on the return. We will submit this audit results report to the NAO in line with their requirements.

### Other powers and duties

We have a duty under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to consider whether to report on any matter that comes to our attention in the course of the audit, either for the Authority to consider it or to bring it to the attention of the public (i.e. "a report in the public interest"). We did not identify any issues which required us to issue a report in the public interest.

We also have a duty to make written recommendations to the Authority, copied to the Secretary of State, and take action in accordance with our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. We did not identify any issues.

## Other reporting issues

# Other reporting issues

### Other matters

As required by ISA (UK&I) 260 and other ISAs specifying communication requirements, we must tell you significant findings from the audit and other matters if they are significant to your oversight of the Authority's financial reporting process. They include the following:

- ▶ Significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures;
- ▶ Any significant difficulties encountered during the audit;
- ▶ Any significant matters arising from the audit that were discussed with management;
- ▶ Written representations we have requested;
- ▶ Expected modifications to the audit report;
- ▶ Any other matters significant to overseeing the financial reporting process;
- ▶ Related parties;
- ▶ External confirmations;
- ▶ Going concern; and
- ▶ Consideration of laws and regulations.

We have no matters to report.



**08**

# Assessment of Control Environment



# Assessment of Control Environment

## Financial controls

It is the responsibility of the Authority to develop and implement systems of internal financial control and to put in place proper arrangements to monitor their adequacy and effectiveness in practice. Our responsibility as your auditor is to consider whether the Authority has put adequate arrangements in place to satisfy itself that the systems of internal financial control are both adequate and effective in practice.

As part of our audit of the financial statements, we obtained an understanding of internal control sufficient to plan our audit and determine the nature, timing and extent of testing performed. As we have adopted a fully substantive approach, we have therefore not tested the operation of controls.

Although our audit was not designed to express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control we are required to communicate to you significant deficiencies in internal control.

We have not identified any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of an internal control that might result in a material misstatement in your financial statements of which you are not aware. We have provided an update on the significant deficiency identified in the prior year on the following page.



# Assessment of Control Environment

## Description

### Preparation of the financial statements and related working papers

We have incurred delays in the completion of our audit work. We appreciate how the Council's staff have made time in their days for our audit enquiries, and approached our queries in a helpful and collaborative manner. However, we would note that we encountered the following difficulties during the audit which we believe had a detrimental effect on our ability to complete this audit efficiently.

1. Accounting records : We audited areas where the accounting records which the Council maintains were not initially sufficient for us to be able to complete our audit in the most efficient manner. This was particularly an issue when auditing creditors and debtors, leases and cash for the Council. In particular:

The working papers for debtors and creditors were not suitable for audit as they included a movement of all transactions during the year rather than just the balances that remained outstanding at the balance sheet date. It took various iterations being reviewed by management and us, in addition to several meetings to eventually generate useable working papers.

45 The Council incurred difficulties in mapping the general ledger data to the financial statements and to the categories used in our data analytics tools, being assets, liabilities, income, expenditure and equity. We held a number of meetings with the finance team and reviewed several of iterations of the reconciliation before receiving a final version that could be used for audit. We should note that this still included a difference of £321k that could not be mapped.

We note that the issues with debtors, creditors and data mapping are consistent with those encountered in the prior year.

2. Timeliness of deliverables : There were several occasions where the length of time between requesting a deliverable or working paper, and actually receiving it was longer than agreed. This meant that our staff had often finished their time on site for the audit by the time the information was available. There were some areas of our audit requested in the first two weeks of the audit that were not received until weeks 4 and 5.

3. Reliance on key personnel : During our time on site there were often staff unavailable either through illness or because the work had been completed by an external contractor. This caused delays in answering queries and in some instances demonstrated an over-reliance on individuals.

All of the above has had an impact on the efficiency of the accounts and audit process for both the Council and us as your auditors. We recommend that the Council undertake a thorough review of their processes, procedures and working papers. This is particularly important given the faster close deadline for 2017/18. Due to the above delays we will be seeking to agree a fee for the additional costs incurred.

## Update

We have seen leadership, commitment and engagement from management in addressing the issues arising from the prior year audit. The Council's finance team has invested in enhancing working papers and ensured that the accounts and audit process has been delivered alongside the implementation and migration to a new finance system.

In particular, we have not had any significant issues with the debtors and creditors working papers or the mapping of the general ledger to the financial statements.

We have seen a general improvement in the working papers and provision of evidence, and there has been a high degree of partnership working between both the finance team and us.

Whilst, we have seen a significant improvement which should be commended, we have still experienced some issues with the following areas:

- ▶ Agreed timescales for the provision of evidence and query resolution have not always been met in certain areas of the audit. This has created some pressures on the close down of areas of the audit.
- ▶ A bank reconciliation as at 31 March for one of the Council's accounts had not been completed.
- ▶ We have seen an increase in the level of issues within fixed assets, particularly in relation to the reconciliation of the information provided by the Council's valuer to the fixed asset register.

We no longer consider these matters to be significant control deficiencies but recommend the Council continues to enhance their closedown process.





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# 09 Data Analytics





# Use of Data Analytics in the Audit

## Data analytics – Journal Entry Analysis

### Analytics Driven Audit

#### Data analytics

We used our data analysers to enable us to capture entire populations of your financial data. These analysers:

- ▶ Help identify specific exceptions and anomalies which can then be the focus of our substantive audit tests; and
- ▶ Give greater likelihood of identifying errors than traditional, random sampling techniques.

In 2017/18, our use of these analysers in the authority's audit included testing journal entries, to identify and focus our testing on those entries we deem to have the highest inherent risk to the audit.

We capture the data through our formal data requests and the data transfer takes place on a secured EY website. These are in line with our EY data protection policies which are designed to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of business and personal information.

#### Journal Entry Analysis

We obtain downloads of all financial ledger transactions posted in the year. We perform completeness analysis over the data, reconciling the sum of transactions to the movement in the trial balances and financial statements to ensure we have captured all data. Our analysers then review and sort transactions, allowing us to more effectively identify and test journals that we consider to be higher risk, as identified in our audit planning report.

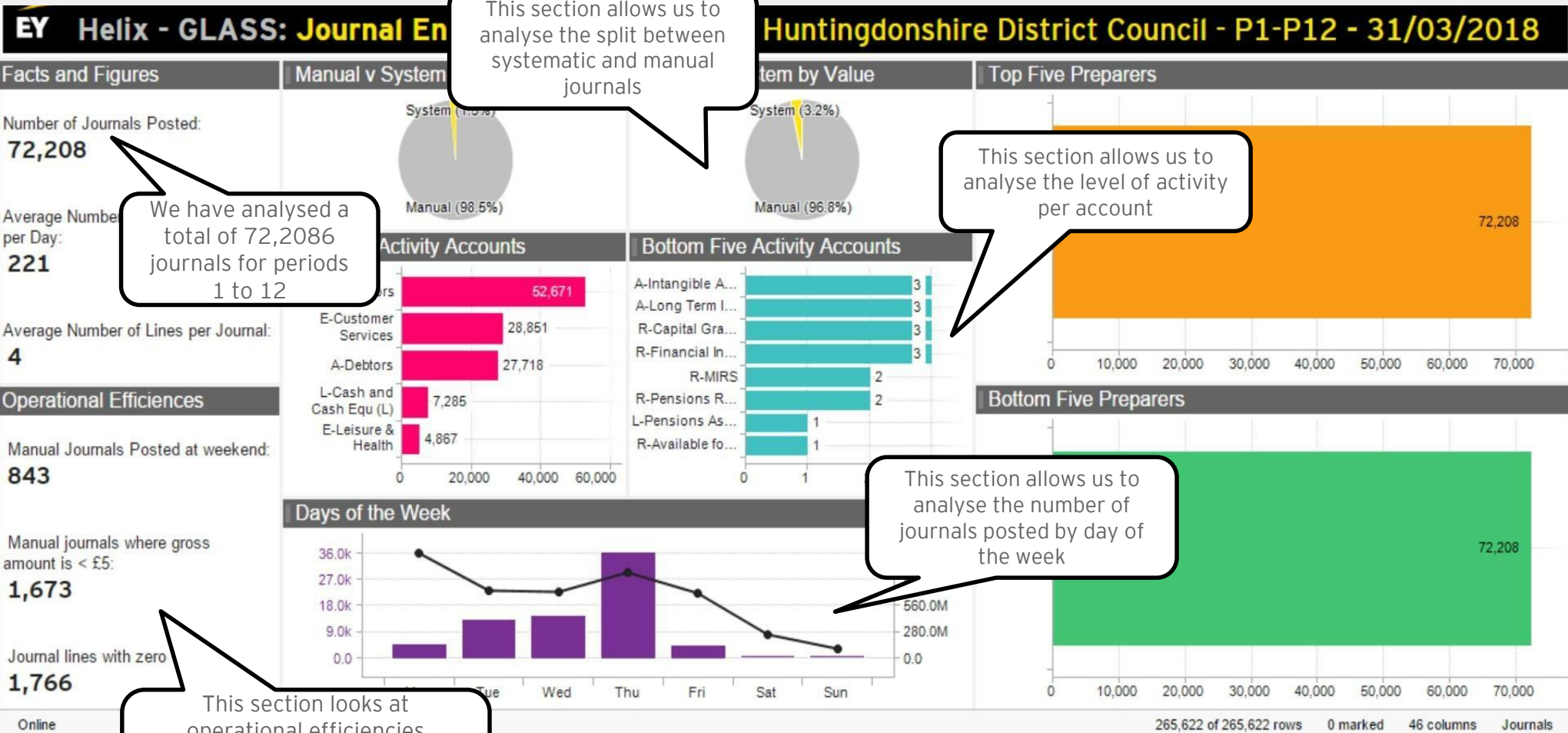


# Data Analytics

## Journal Entry Data Insights

The graphic outlined below summarises the journal population for 2017/18. We review journals by certain risk based criteria to focus on higher risk transactions, such as journals posted manually by management, those posted around the year-end, those with unusual debit and credit relationships, and those posted by individuals we would not expect to be entering transactions. The purpose of this approach is to provide a more effective, risk focused approach to auditing journal entries, minimising the burden of compliance on management by minimising randomly selected samples.

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## Journal Entry Testing

### Journal entry observations

In performing audit procedures responding to the risk of management override, we use data analysis tools to review the use of journals within the financial ledger. As part of performing these procedures we make the following observations:



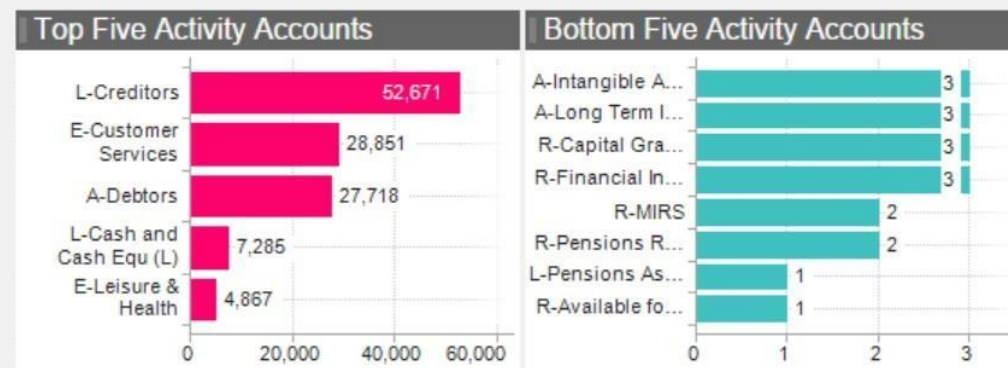
The top graphic shows that the Council posts a very high number of manual journals which is outside of what we would expect. Having investigated this we understand that this is because many journals require some form of manual intervention prior to the journals being posted.

Operational Efficiencies	Facts and Figures
Manual Journals Posted at weekend: <b>843</b>	Number of Journals Posted: <b>72,208</b>
Manual journals where gross amount is < £5: <b>1,673</b>	Average Number of Journals Posted per Day: <b>221</b>
Journal lines with zero value: <b>1,766</b>	Average Number of Lines per Journal: <b>4</b>

We also note, in the middle graphic, that the Council has posted 1,766 journal lines with a nil value and 1,673 journals where the amounts are less than £5.

Combined these identify some potential inefficiencies in the journal process. However, we note that the new finance system went live on 1 July 2018 and is expected to deliver efficiencies to the Council.

As such, it may be that the matters identified here do not recur.



This graphic shows the top five and lowest five accounts by activity. We have reviewed this and note that it is consistent with our expectations. The highest account relates to creditors and correlates to the second and fourth highest accounts which are expenditure. We can then see that the third and fifth highest accounts relate to debtors and cash, which is also consistent with our expectations.

The accounts with the least amount of activity are all associated with accounts primarily used during the financial statements process.





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Independence

## Independence

### Confirmation

We confirm that there are no changes in our assessment of independence since our confirmation in our audit planning board report dated 14 March 2018.

We complied with the FRC Ethical Standards and the requirements of the PSAA's Terms of Appointment. In our professional judgement the firm is independent and the objectivity of the audit engagement partner and audit staff has not been compromised within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements.

We consider that our independence in this context is a matter which you should review, as well as us. It is important that you and your Corporate Governance Committee consider the facts known to you and come to a view. If you would like to discuss any matters concerning our independence, we will be pleased to do this at the meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee on 26 July 2018.

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## Relationships, services and related threats and safeguards

The FRC Ethical Standard requires that we provide details of all relationships between Ernst & Young (EY) and your Authority, and its directors and senior management and its affiliates, including all services provided by us and our network to your Authority, its directors and senior management and its affiliates, and other services provided to other known connected parties that we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on the our integrity or objectivity, including those that could compromise independence and the related safeguards that are in place and why they address the threats.

There are no relationships from 1 April 2017 to the date of this report, which we consider may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and objectivity.

### Services provided by Ernst & Young

Below includes a summary of the fees that you have paid to us in the year ended 31 March 2018 in line with the disclosures set out in FRC Ethical Standard and in statute. Full details of the services that we have provided and the related threats and safeguards are included above.

We confirm that none of the services has been provided on a contingent fee basis.

As at the date of this report, there are no future services which have been contracted and no written proposal to provide non-audit services has been submitted.

# Independence

## Fee analysis

As part of our reporting on our independence, we set out below a summary of the fees paid for the year ended [XX Month 200X].

We confirm that we have not undertaken non-audit work outside the PSAA Code requirements.

	Final fee 2017/18	Planned fee 2017/18	Scale fee 2017/18	Final Fee 2016/17
	£	£	£	£
PSAA scale fee - Code work*	53,236	53,236	53,236	53,236
Prior year overrun	N/A	N/A	N/A	22,603
Impact of lower materiality thresholds	10,000 - 12,000	8,000 - 12,000	N/A	N/A
Investment property significant risk	3,000 - 4,500	2,500 - 3,000	N/A	N/A
Value for Money significant risk	2,000 - 3,500	2,000 - 3,500	N/A	N/A
<b>Total audit</b>	<b>68,236 - 73,236</b>	<b>65,736 - 71,736</b>		<b>75,839</b>
Other non-audit services not covered above (Housing Benefits)	18,136	18,136	18,136	17,522
<b>Total other non-audit services</b>	<b>18,136</b>	<b>18,136</b>	<b>18,136</b>	<b>17,522</b>
<b>Total fees</b>	<b>86,372 - 91,372</b>	<b>83,872 - 89,872</b>	<b>71,372</b>	<b>93,361</b>

All scale fee variations will be subject to agreement with the PSAA.

\*As set out in section 8 of this report we have experienced some delays in finalising our audit work. We will therefore discuss with management any expected additional fees arising from this and will report these to you once agreed.

We have included a number of fee ranges above for the additional work we are required to complete as part of the current year audit. These relate to:

1. The impact of being required to undertake our audit to a lower materiality level as a result of the findings arising from the prior year audit. Details of this are included in section 4. The lower threshold against which our audit procedures are to be performed means that additional audit testing will be required. This also decreases our threshold for investigating variances where we performed procedures such as substantive analytical review.
2. The additional work required as a result of the increase risk associated with investment properties, primarily relating to the use of EY specialist to provide assurance over the valuation of one particular asset. Details of this can be seen in section 2.
3. The work required to address the significant value for money risk set out in section 3.

Due to the ongoing nature of the issues we are not yet in a position to give a definitive view on the extent of work required but will keep this under review with management and provide you with updates accordingly.

All scale fee variations will be subject to agreement with the PSAA.





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**Appendices**

## Appendix A

# Required communications with the Corporate Governance Committee

There are certain communications that we must provide to the Audit Committees of UK clients. We have detailed these here together with a reference of when and where they were covered:

		 Our Reporting to you
Required communications	 What is reported?	  When and where
Terms of engagement	Confirmation by the Corporate Governance Committee of acceptance of terms of engagement as written in the engagement letter signed by both parties.	The statement of responsibilities serves as the formal terms of engagement between the PSAA's appointed auditors and audited bodies.
Our responsibilities	Reminder of our responsibilities as set out in the engagement letter.	Audit planning report - 28 March 2018
49 Planning and audit approach	Communication of the planned scope and timing of the audit, any limitations and the significant risks identified.	Audit planning report - 28 March 2018
Significant findings from the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Our view about the significant qualitative aspects of accounting practices including accounting policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures</li> <li>▶ Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit</li> <li>▶ Significant matters, if any, arising from the audit that were discussed with management</li> <li>▶ Written representations that we are seeking</li> <li>▶ Expected modifications to the audit report</li> <li>▶ Other matters if any, significant to the oversight of the financial reporting process</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Misstatements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Uncorrected misstatements and their effect on our audit opinion</li> <li>▶ The effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods</li> <li>▶ A request that any uncorrected misstatement be corrected</li> <li>▶ Material misstatements corrected by management</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Subsequent events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Enquiry of the Corporate Governance Committee where appropriate regarding whether any subsequent events have occurred that might affect the financial statements.</li> </ul>	No matters have been identified.

# Appendix A

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		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Going concern	<p>Events or conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Whether the events or conditions constitute a material uncertainty</li> <li>▶ Whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements</li> <li>▶ The adequacy of related disclosures in the financial statements</li> </ul>	No conditions or events were identified, either individually or together to raise any doubt about Huntingdonshire District Council's ability to continue for the 12 months from the date of our report.
Fraud	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Enquiries of the Corporate Governance Committee to determine whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud affecting the Authority</li> <li>▶ Any fraud that we have identified or information we have obtained that indicates that a fraud may exist</li> <li>▶ Unless all of those charged with governance are involved in managing the Authority, any identified or suspected fraud involving:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Management;</li> <li>b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or</li> <li>c. Others where the fraud results in a material misstatement in the financial statements.</li> </ol> </li> <li>▶ The nature, timing and extent of audit procedures necessary to complete the audit when fraud involving management is suspected</li> <li>▶ Any other matters related to fraud, relevant to Corporate Governance Committee responsibility.</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Independence	<p>Communication of all significant facts and matters that bear on EY's, and all individuals involved in the audit, objectivity and independence.</p> <p>Communication of key elements of the audit engagement partner's consideration of independence and objectivity such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The principal threats</li> <li>▶ Safeguards adopted and their effectiveness</li> <li>▶ An overall assessment of threats and safeguards</li> <li>▶ Information about the general policies and process within the firm to maintain objectivity and independence</li> </ul> <p>Communications whenever significant judgments are made about threats to objectivity and independence and the appropriateness of safeguards put in place.</p>	Audit planning report - 28 March 2018 and Audit results report - 26 July 2018

# Appendix A

		Our Reporting to you
Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Related parties	<p>Significant matters arising during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties including, when applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Non-disclosure by management</li> <li>▶ Inappropriate authorisation and approval of transactions</li> <li>▶ Disagreement over disclosures</li> <li>▶ Non-compliance with laws and regulations</li> <li>▶ Difficulty in identifying the party that ultimately controls the Authority</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
External confirmations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Management's refusal for us to request confirmations</li> <li>▶ Inability to obtain relevant and reliable audit evidence from other procedures.</li> </ul>	We have no matters to raise in this regard.
5 Consideration of laws and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Subject to compliance with applicable regulations, matters involving identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, other than those which are clearly inconsequential and the implications thereof. Instances of suspected non-compliance may also include those that are brought to our attention that are expected to occur imminently or for which there is reason to believe that they may occur</li> <li>▶ Enquiry of the Corporate Governance Committee into possible instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements and that the Corporate Governance Committee may be aware of</li> </ul>	We have asked management and those charged with governance. We have not identified any material instances or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Significant deficiencies in internal controls identified during the audit.</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018

# Appendix A

## Our Reporting to you

Required communications	What is reported?	When and where
Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Written representations we are requesting from management and/or those charged with governance</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Material inconsistencies or misstatements of fact identified in other information which management has refused to revise</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Auditors report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Any circumstances identified that affect the form and content of our auditor's report</li> </ul>	Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Fee Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Breakdown of fee information when the audit planning report is agreed</li> <li>▶ Breakdown of fee information at the completion of the audit</li> <li>▶ Any non-audit work</li> </ul>	Audit Planning Report - 28 March 2018 and Audit results report - 26 July 2018
Certification work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Summary of certification work</li> </ul>	Certification Report

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## Appendix B

# Management representation letter

### Management Rep Letter

To be prepared on the entity's letterhead]

[Date]

Ernst & Young LLP

One Cambridge Business Park

Cambridge

CB4 OWZ

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Huntingdonshire District Council ("the Council") for the year ended 31 March 2018. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Council financial position of Huntingdonshire District Council as of 31 March 2018 and of its financial performance (or operations) and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of our financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose - all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

#### **A. Financial Statements and Financial Records**

We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We acknowledge, as members of management of the Council, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements. We believe the financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance (or results of operations) and cash flows of the Council in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18. We have approved the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are appropriately described in the financial statements.

As members of management of the Council, we believe that the Council has a system of internal controls adequate to enable the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

# Management representation letter

## Management Rep Letter

We believe that the effects of any unadjusted audit differences, summarised in the accompanying schedule, accumulated by you during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. We have not corrected these differences identified by and brought to the attention from the auditor because they are not considered to be material to the financial statement either quantitatively or qualitatively.

### B. Non-compliance with law and regulations, including fraud

We acknowledge that we are responsible to determine that the Council's activities are conducted in accordance with laws and regulations and that we are responsible to identify and address any non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.

We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

We have no knowledge of any identified or suspected non-compliance with laws or regulations, including fraud that may have affected the Council (regardless of the source or form and including without limitation, any allegations by "whistleblowers"), including non-compliance matters:

- ▶ involving financial statements;
- ▶ related to laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the Council's financial statements;
- ▶ related to laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the operations of the Council's activities, its ability to continue to operate, or to avoid material penalties;
- ▶ involving management, or employees who have significant roles in internal controls, or others; or
- ▶ in relation to any allegations of fraud, suspected fraud or other non-compliance with laws and regulations communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

### C. Information Provided and Completeness of Information and Transactions

We have provided you with:

- ▶ Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
- ▶ Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- ▶ Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of the Council, and relevant committees (or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared) held through the year to the most recent meeting on the following date: 26 July 2018.

We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Council's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers of assets, liabilities and services, leasing arrangements, guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration for the year ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the year end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.



# Management representation letter

## Management Rep Letter

We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

We have disclosed to you, and the Council has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.

### D. Liabilities and Contingencies

All liabilities and contingencies, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, have been disclosed to you and are appropriately reflected in the financial statements.

We have informed you of all outstanding and possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with legal counsel.

We have recorded and/or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities related litigation and claims, both actual and contingent, and confirm that there are no guarantees given to third parties to disclose in the council financial statements.

### E. Subsequent Events

Other than described in Note 6 to the financial statements, there have been no events subsequent to year end which require adjustment of or disclosure in the financial statements or notes thereto.

### F. Other information

We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Financial Report on pages 4 to 22 and 25 to 26.

We confirm that the content contained within the other information is consistent with the financial statements.

### G. Going Concern

We have made you aware of any issues that are relevant to the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, including significant conditions and events, our plans for future action, and the feasibility of those plans.

### H. Use of the Work of a Specialist - Property, plant and equipment

We agree with the findings of the specialists that we engaged to evaluate the Valuation of Property Plant and Equipment and Investment Properties and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the consolidated and council financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

# Management representation letter

## Management Rep Letter

### I. Valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment Assets and Investment Properties

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimates have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the valuation of assets appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the consolidated and council financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate(s) are complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimate(s) and disclosures in the consolidated and council financial statements due to subsequent events.

We confirm that we have performed a desktop review of all assets not subject to revaluation as part of the 5 year rolling programme for valuations for property, plant and equipment, or for those investment properties not revalued at 31 March 2018, and that they are not materially misstated.

We confirm that for assets carried at historic cost that no impairment is required

### J. Use of the Work of a Specialist - Pension Liabilities

We agree with the findings of the specialists that we engaged to evaluate the Valuation of Pension Liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the consolidated and council financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

### K. Valuation of Pension Liabilities

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimate have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the valuation of the pension liability appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the consolidated and council financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate are complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimates and disclosures in the consolidated and council financial statements due to subsequent events.

# Management representation letter

## Management Rep Letter

### M. Ownership of Assets

Except for assets capitalised under finance leases, the Council has satisfactory title to all assets appearing in the balance sheets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Council's assets, nor has any asset been pledged as collateral. All assets to which the Council has satisfactory title appear in the balance sheets.

### N. Reserves

We have properly recorded or disclosed in the consolidated and council financial statements the useable and unusable reserves.

### O. Valuation of NNDR appeals provision

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimate have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the NNDR appeals provision appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate is complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimate and disclosures in the financial statements due to subsequent events.

### P. Retirement benefits

On the basis of the process established by us and having made appropriate enquiries, we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the scheme liabilities are consistent with our knowledge of the business. All significant retirement benefits and all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for.

### Q. Oak Tree Health Centre

We confirm that the valuation of the Oak Tree Health Centre represents the assets fair value as at 31 March 2018.

The costs of £2 million deducted from the value of the asset represent the amount we expect to pay to rectify the matters set out in the structural engineers report, and are materially correct.

Yours faithfully,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Head of Resources (Chief Financial Officer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee

## EY | Assurance | Tax | Transactions | Advisory

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**Huntingdonshire District Council  
Annual Governance Statement  
2017/18**

### **What is Governance?**

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Governance generally refers to the arrangements put in place to ensure that the intended outcomes are defined and achieved.

The Council approved a new local Code of Corporate Governance in July 2016. It is consistent with the seven principles set out in 'proper practice' for the public sector, namely 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE<sup>1</sup>.

The Council aims to achieve good standards of governance by:

1. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law.
2. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement.
3. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits.
4. Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes.
5. Developing its capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it.
6. Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management.
7. Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability.

The overall aim of the local Code of Corporate Governance is to ensure that:

- resources are directed in accordance with agreed policy and according to priorities.
- there is sound and inclusive decision making.
- there is clear accountability for the use of those resources in order to achieve desired outcomes for service users and communities.

Underpinning the Code is the Council's commitment to equality of opportunity in its approach to policy-making, service delivery and employment.

### **Opinion**

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After conducting a review of the governance arrangements across the Council and overall compliance with the Council's Code of Corporate Governance, we are satisfied that the arrangements are effective.

Over the course of the year it has become clear there are a number of overarching issues that are regularly informing and influencing the budget, performance and service delivery discussions at both Member and Officer level (e.g. homelessness/working with partners to keep people in their own home/service transformation).

The National Audit Office amongst other Local Government organisations are increasingly identifying these challenges as the issues that are likely to exert pressure on how the Council operates and how its finances are deployed during the period of the medium term financial strategy. These issues will also impact upon Corporate Plan objectives and shape its future direction.

Traditionally this statement has contained matters for which the Council itself was wholly responsible. In a climate of increasing partnership and public service reform, it is felt that this approach does not address the risks that are of greatest potential impact to the authority and the achievement of its objectives. The statement reflects a more strategic outlook in considering matters that could severely impair the Council's financial position and, therefore, its ability to function (or indeed identifying new opportunities to be realised). Consequently this statement details five themes that will be required to be addressed across the forthcoming financial years.

We are satisfied that this statement allows the Council to meet the requirements of the Accounts & Audit (England) Regulations 2015, to prepare an annual governance statement to accompany the 2017/18 Annual Financial Report.



Signature Councillor Graham Bull  
Executive Leader



Signature Joanne Lancaster  
Managing Director

23 July 2018  
Signed on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council

<sup>1</sup> The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) & Society of Local Authority Chief Executives & Senior Managers (SOLACE).

## Themes – 2017/18

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### Housing Affordability

*Leading to homelessness and constraining growth.*

---

This issue is one which impacts on the Council's ability to deliver the Corporate Plan primarily through the escalating financial consequences of homelessness. Furthermore it also has a bearing on the mobility of the local labour market, on inward investment and business growth opportunities. For the Council as an employer it also hampers our ability to recruit and retain suitably experienced and qualified staff.

#### Actions:

- Develop a more detailed understanding of the underlying causes of homelessness.
- Trialling new ways of working to spot opportunities for early intervention for those individuals whose circumstances mean that they are vulnerable to homelessness.
- Developing new delivery options to secure affordable homes within the District, where necessary using Council assets to provide alternatives to the market delivery homes.
- Work with the Combined Authority to develop local Community Land Trusts to bring forward genuinely affordable and local solutions.

### Morbidity/Growing number of years of ill health

*Impacting on people's ability to be self-reliant and generating additional cost through support needs.*

---

Increasing pressures are being felt by many parts of the public service system, primarily through the growing demand on support costs, a rise in complex individual cases which cuts across many service providers, through such things as disabled facilities grants and personal care costs. This is not something that any single agency has ownership of, but requires joint working to deliver effective solutions focussing on wellbeing and life choices as well as housing, open spaces, transport infrastructure and the design of place.

#### Actions:

- Use our leisure services to encourage healthier lifestyles through engaging people of all ages in activities to improve health.
- Pilot new ways of working within localities with local communities and other agencies to deliver tailored solutions to issues within defined communities.
- Create plans to encourage cycling and walking, and ensure that designs of new housing areas encourage active lifestyles.

### Wider economic environment

*Impact of Commercial Investment Strategy/Business rates receipts and level of need from residents.*

---

The Council's financial robustness is closely linked with the private sector, which also supports the delivery of one of its key Corporate Plan strategic priorities – delivering sustainable growth across the District. The Council is making tactical investments in the property market and is able to assist the private sector in many ways, but external factors such as market volatility will have a greater impact, which may in turn directly impact on the Council's financial plans and forecasts for new homes bonus, council tax and business rates incomes.

#### Actions:

- Use the Council's Commercial Investment Strategy to support the local economy.
- Maintain and enhance the Council's existing commercial estate to provide value accommodation for local businesses.
- Work with local Business Improvement District (BID) teams and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to further stimulate economic growth within the District to ensure a pipeline of new and high value jobs in the major growth sectors.
- Refocus our economic development activity to support new and emerging sectors in our economy, to create the environment within which new business can thrive.



**Skills level and educational attainment**

*As a means by which residents are able to attract profitable work and in attracting employers to the area.*

---

It is important that all young people are able to fulfil their potential and become active citizens with meaningful and valuable work. Furthermore the workforce within the area needs to be supported to continue to gain value employment and meet the demands for new skills in the labour market. In turn this will also contribute to the area's reputation for attracting inward investment and so grow and thrive. Finally, skilled and flexible workforces who possess digital skills will allow the Council to transform its current delivery models and offer new methods of service delivery.

**Actions:**

- Fully develop and deliver a digital vision for Huntingdonshire, ensuring that we support the establishment of the basic infrastructure of superfast broadband and 5G mobile coverage through our own estates and the planning system.
- Support apprenticeships, directly as an employer, but also through our supply chain and through promotion with local businesses.
- Continue to engage with schools through local careers fairs and EDGE, but also through fostering direct links between employers and educational institutions.
- Develop a brand for Huntingdonshire to establish a reputation which will draw in investment and create an environment in which industries of the future can thrive.

**Partner agency operational pressures**

*Financial challenges of partners impacting on demand for our services or reducing existing support.*

---

There is evidence to suggest that as parts of the public sector reduce their input into communities, that the demand transfers to other agencies. In Huntingdonshire whilst partners work well together there continues to be the challenge of controlling additional demand and the corresponding budget pressures that it brings. Elsewhere financial pressures in one sector, have had significant financial and capacity impacts on the authority.

**Actions:**

- Share budget planning activity with other public agencies to guard against unintended consequences of financial decisions.
- Continue to engage with near neighbours, particularly the County Council and health services to understand how best we can compliment each other's activity.

## Improvement areas - 2016/17

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There were four improvement areas included in the 2016/17 AGS. Progress made in respect of each area is set out below.



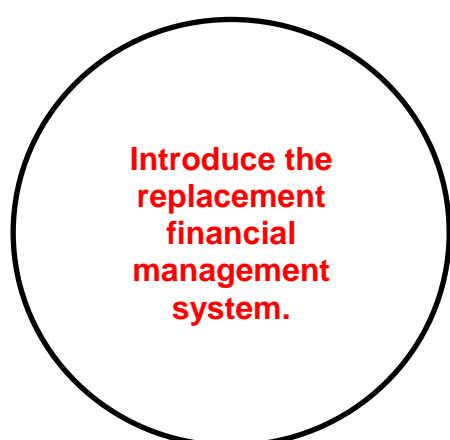
*Lead Officer: Corporate Director (Services)*

**Issue:** The Council delivers ICT for the 3C's partnership. The 2016/17 ICT savings target were not achieved primarily due to the use of expensive hired staff and the failure to achieve the savings from the rationalisation of contracts and the sharing of licence costs due to existing contractual obligations and insufficient time to re-procure common systems across all three authorities. Budget overspends were highlighted in the financial information presented to both the 3C Partnership Board and the 3C Management Board but not until early in Qtr.4 2016/17, highlighting the need for improved reporting and more proactive management of budget information.

Performance reporting – in respect of both delivery of the shared services business plan and budget – is not included in the performance management suite of information regularly presented to Members of the Council. Members received their only report on the performance of the three shared services in February 2017.

**Action taken:** An IT Strategy and IT roadmap laying out the future direction of 3CIT services, alongside a refreshed business case for 3CIT has been approved by the three constituent councils. Similar work is underway for the shared Building Control service.

A new governance structure is being developed to ensure appropriate oversight and alignment of all shared service activity by constituent authorities. This has been presented to the 3C Joint Management Board and final modifications are being made. IT shared service performance information has been included in the quarterly performance management suite reported to Members. Performance information is also included within the annual business plans. The new governance arrangements will embed member visibility of performance data.



*Lead Officer: Head of Resources*

**Issue:** The 3C Council's jointly purchased a financial management system (FMS) in June 2016 with the intention of modernising the way each Council undertakes its budgeting, financial forecasting, income collection, procurement and payment of suppliers. The 'go-live' date was April 2017.

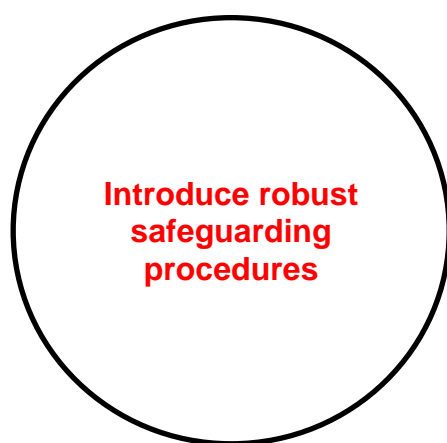
**Action taken:** The implementation was delayed due to issues with system functionality in a number of modules. These have been resolved and the FMS went live in July 2018.



*Lead Officer: Corporate Team Manager*

**Issue:** An internal audit review of customer feedback procedures was undertaken during Qtr. 3, 2016/17. It concluded that overly bureaucratic and time consuming systems were in place to handle customer complaints.

**Action taken:** A mini LEAN review on complaints management was undertaken in March 2017 and recommendations were worked up in summer of 2017. An action plan was produced which involved working with Services to understand their particular issues whilst exploring potential changes to our current system. There has been an ongoing resource issue in managing this but workshops have been held with the majority of Services. It is anticipated that by the end of September 2018 a new set of policies and procedures will be adopted.



Lead Officer: Head of Leisure & Health

**Issue:** An internal audit review of safeguarding procedures was undertaken during Qtr. 4 2016/17. It concluded that the procedures being followed were not as effective as they could be – there was an ad-hoc approach across Services to the assessment of safeguarding risks, piecemeal training and a lack of evidence that consistent checks on employees suitability for employment are carried out.

**Action taken:** The Managing Director set-up a Safeguarding Governance Board. Its terms of reference and membership have been agreed and it has met regularly. The safeguarding policy has been reviewed and a combined Children and Adult at Risk policy introduced. A staff training and awareness raising programme is due to commence in the Summer 2018. All staff will be required to complete an on-line e-learning module. Further specialist training will be delivered for those staff where there is an identified need based on their job role. It is anticipated that all of the audit actions will be completed by their due dates.

### How do we know our arrangements are working?

This statement builds upon those of previous years. Many of the key governance mechanisms remain in place and are referred to in previous statements which are available on the Council's website. The local [Code of Corporate Governance](#) (as at May 2018) is also available on the website and describes in more detail the governance processes in place.

The review of effectiveness was informed by the work of the Senior Management Team, who are responsible for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the Internal Audit & Risk Manager's annual report and comments made by the external auditors.

### Governance Framework

Assurance required upon	Sources of Assurance	Assurances received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of Corporate Plan priorities</li> <li>• Services are delivered economically, efficiently &amp; effectively</li> <li>• Management of risk</li> <li>• Financial planning and performance</li> <li>• Effectiveness of internal controls</li> <li>• Community engagement &amp; public accountability</li> <li>• Shared service governance</li> <li>• Project management &amp; project delivery</li> <li>• Procurement processes</li> <li>• Roles &amp; responsibilities of Members &amp; Officers</li> <li>• Standards of conduct &amp; behaviour</li> <li>• Training and development of Members &amp; Officers</li> <li>• Compliance with laws &amp; regulations, internal policies &amp; procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constitution (incl. statutory officers, scheme of delegation, financial management and procurement rules)</li> <li>• Council, Cabinet, Committees and Panels</li> <li>• Corporate and service plans</li> <li>• Shared service joint committee</li> <li>• Policy framework</li> <li>• Risk management framework</li> <li>• Project management methodology</li> <li>• Financial Performance Monitoring Suite</li> <li>• Medium Term Financial Strategy</li> <li>• Customer Service Strategy</li> <li>• Consultation and Engagement Strategy</li> <li>• Complaints system</li> <li>• Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer</li> <li>• HR policies &amp; procedures</li> <li>• Whistleblowing &amp; other countering fraud arrangements</li> <li>• Staff and Member training</li> <li>• Codes of conduct</li> <li>• Corporate/Senior Management Team</li> <li>• Independent external sources</li> <li>• Regular monitoring of outcome measures</li> <li>• Monitoring of economic indicators &amp; associated financial receipts</li> <li>• Effective joint working arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular performance and financial reporting</li> <li>• Annual financial report</li> <li>• External audit reports</li> <li>• Internal audit reports</li> <li>• Officer governance groups</li> <li>• On-going review of governance</li> <li>• External reviews and inspectorate reports</li> <li>• Customer feedback</li> <li>• Peer reviews</li> <li>• Council's democratic arrangements incl. scrutiny reviews and the 'audit' committee</li> <li>• Council annual report</li> <li>• Corporate Governance Committee annual report</li> <li>• Staff surveys</li> <li>• Community consultations</li> </ul>

Two key pieces of assurance are provided by Internal and External Audit.

The Internal Audit & Risk Manager stated in their 2017/18 annual opinion that the Council's internal control environment and systems of internal control provided adequate assurance over key business process and financial systems.

The external auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, issued an unqualified opinion on both the 2016/17 statutory financial statements and the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness (value for money) and in the use of its resources. This statement will be updated to reflect the outcome of the 2017/18 external audit once it has been completed.

## Future challenges

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The landscape for the delivery of public services is becoming increasingly challenging for all agencies and the National Audit Office (NAO) in its report 'Financial Sustainability of Local Authorities 2018' makes it very clear that all local authorities should be prepared, opining:

*The financial future for many authorities is less certain than in 2014. The financial uncertainty created by delayed reform to the local government financial system risks longer-term value for money.....(government) Departments need to build a consensus about the role and significance of local government as a whole in the context of the current funding climate, rather than engaging with authorities solely to deliver their individual service responsibilities.'*

This prediction around reform is also relevant in the context of the Combined Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, which has as part of its deal with Government the issue of public service reform. Any fundamental review of public services will impact on the Council's capacity to deliver services but also lead to uncertainty for the local communities.

## Post- year end events

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### **Council elections – 3 May 2018**

The Council agreed in February 2017 to move to all-out elections on a four year cycle. The first such election took place on 3 May 2018. This resulted in the Conservative Party remaining in overall control of the Council. The Council agreed at its first meeting following the elections to elect Cllr Graham Bull as the Executive Leader. Cllr Bull has made changes to the Cabinet, reducing by two the number of Executive Councillors and re-assigning portfolio responsibilities. The Council also agreed to changes in the Overview and Scrutiny process, replacing the three Panels that had operated in the 2017/18 municipal year with two new Panels. This degree of political continuity and refocusing of accountability and work programmes places the Council in a strong position to deal with decision making and prioritisation of resources and service delivery.

### **Organisational values**

A revised set of organisational values - ICARE – Inspiring, Collaborative, Accountable, Respectful and Enterprising – was launched in April 2018. All of the Council's permanent workforce attended launch events that clearly explained and set out how they are expected to go about their work and the level of internal challenge expected in order for them to deliver the best possible service in an increasingly collaborative and accountable way.

End

Ernst & Young LLP  
One Cambridge Business Park  
Cambridge  
CB4 0WZ

26 July 2018

**Letter of Representation – Huntingdonshire District Council – Audit of Financial Statements 2017/18**

This letter of representations is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Huntingdonshire District Council (“the Council”) for the year ended 31 March 2018. We recognise that obtaining representations from us concerning the information contained in this letter is a significant procedure in enabling you to form an opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Council financial position of Huntingdonshire District Council as of 31 March 2018 and of its financial performance (or operations) and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We understand that the purpose of your audit of our financial statements is to express an opinion thereon and that your audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, which involves an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, and is not designed to identify - nor necessarily be expected to disclose - all fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Accordingly, we make the following representations, which are true to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

**A. Financial Statements and Financial Records**

We have fulfilled our responsibilities, under the relevant statutory authorities, for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We acknowledge, as members of management of the Council, our responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements. We believe the financial statements referred to above give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance (or results of operations) and cash flows of the Council in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18. We have approved the financial statements.

The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are appropriately described in the financial statements.

As members of management of the Council, we believe that the Council has a system of internal controls adequate to enable the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

We believe that the effects of any unadjusted audit differences, summarised in the accompanying schedule, accumulated by you during the current audit and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. We have not corrected these differences identified by and brought to the attention from the auditor because they are not considered to be material to the financial statement either quantitatively or qualitatively.

## **B. Non-compliance with law and regulations, including fraud**

We acknowledge that we are responsible to determine that the Council's activities are conducted in accordance with laws and regulations and that we are responsible to identify and address any non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

We acknowledge that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud.

We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

We have no knowledge of any identified or suspected non-compliance with laws or regulations, including fraud that may have affected the Council (regardless of the source or form and including without limitation, any allegations by "whistleblowers"), including non-compliance matters:

- involving financial statements;
- related to laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the Council's financial statements;
- related to laws and regulations that have an indirect effect on amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, but compliance with which may be fundamental to the operations of the Council's activities, its ability to continue to operate, or to avoid material penalties;
- involving management, or employees who have significant roles in internal controls, or others; or
- in relation to any allegations of fraud, suspected fraud or other non-compliance with laws and regulations communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

## **C. Information Provided and Completeness of Information and Transactions**

We have provided you with:

- Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
- Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
- Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.

We have made available to you all minutes of the meetings of the Council, and relevant committees (or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared) held through the year to the most recent meeting on the following date: 26 July 2018.

We confirm the completeness of information provided regarding the identification of related parties. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Council's related parties and all related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers of assets, liabilities and services, leasing arrangements, guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration for the year ended, as well as related balances due to or from such parties at the year end. These transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements.

We believe that the significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

We have disclosed to you, and the Council has complied with, all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.

#### **D. Liabilities and Contingencies**

All liabilities and contingencies, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, have been disclosed to you and are appropriately reflected in the financial statements.

We have informed you of all outstanding and possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with legal counsel.

We have recorded and/or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities related litigation and claims, both actual and contingent, and confirm that there are no guarantees given to third parties to disclose in the council financial statements.

#### **E. Subsequent Events**

Other than described in Note 6 to the financial statements, there have been no events subsequent to year end which require adjustment of or disclosure in the financial statements or notes thereto.

#### **F. Other information**

We acknowledge our responsibility for the preparation of the other information. The other information comprises the Annual Financial Report on pages 4 to 22 and 25 to 26.

We confirm that the content contained within the other information is consistent with the financial statements.

#### **G. Going Concern**

We have made you aware of any issues that are relevant to the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, including significant conditions and events, our plans for future action, and the feasibility of those plans.

#### **H. Use of the Work of a Specialist – Property, plant and equipment**

We agree with the findings of the specialists that we engaged to evaluate the Valuation of Property Plant and Equipment and Investment Properties and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the consolidated and council financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

#### **I. Valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment Assets and Investment Properties**

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimates have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the valuation of assets appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the consolidated and council financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate(s) are complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimate(s) and disclosures in the consolidated and council financial statements due to subsequent events.



We confirm that we have performed a desktop review of all assets not subject to revaluation as part of the 5 year rolling programme for valuations for property, plant and equipment, or for those investment properties not revalued at 31 March 2018, and that they are not materially misstated.

We confirm that for assets carried at historic cost that no impairment is required

#### **J. Use of the Work of a Specialist – Pension Liabilities**

We agree with the findings of the specialists that we engaged to evaluate the Valuation of Pension Liabilities and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures included in the consolidated and council financial statements and the underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to the specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an effect on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.

#### **K. Valuation of Pension Liabilities**

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimate have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the valuation of the pension liability appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the consolidated and council financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate are complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimates and disclosures in the consolidated and council financial statements due to subsequent events.

#### **M. Ownership of Assets**

Except for assets capitalised under finance leases, the Council has satisfactory title to all assets appearing in the balance sheets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on the Council's assets, nor has any asset been pledged as collateral. All assets to which the Council has satisfactory title appear in the balance sheets.

#### **N. Reserves**

We have properly recorded or disclosed in the consolidated and council financial statements the useable and unusable reserves.

#### **O. Valuation of NNDR appeals provision**

We believe that the measurement processes, including related assumptions and models, used to determine the accounting estimate have been consistently applied and are appropriate in the context of the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that the significant assumptions used in making the NNDR appeals provision appropriately reflect our intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the entity.

We confirm that the disclosures made in the financial statements with respect to the accounting estimate is complete and made in accordance with the CIPFA LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

We confirm that no adjustments are required to the accounting estimate and disclosures in the financial statements due to subsequent events.

**P. Retirement benefits**

On the basis of the process established by us and having made appropriate enquiries, we are satisfied that the actuarial assumptions underlying the scheme liabilities are consistent with our knowledge of the business. All significant retirement benefits and all settlements and curtailments have been identified and properly accounted for.

**Q. Oak Tree Health Centre**

We confirm that the valuation of the Oak Tree Health Centre represents the assets fair value as at 31 March 2018. The costs of £2 million deducted from the value of the asset represent the amount we expect to pay to rectify the matters set out in the structural engineers report, and are materially correct.

Yours faithfully,

Head of Resources (Chief Financial Officer)

Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee

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**DRAFT**

**Huntingdonshire District Council  
Annual Financial Report  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

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## **Narrative Report**

### **By the Head of Resources**

As the Council's Responsible Financial Officer, I am pleased to present the Council's 2017/18 Annual Financial Report which outlines the Council's financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The purpose of this report is to provide a guide to the most significant matters reported in the Council's accounts and is in three sections.

- Commentary and review of 2017/18.
- The Financial Statements
- Technical information

## **Commentary and Review of 2017/18**

### **The District**

Huntingdonshire District Council's area covers approximately 91,300 hectares of the north western part of Cambridgeshire county. With a population of 175,600, it is the largest district in the county by both land area and population. The population is forecast to grow to around 210,000 by 2036.

Huntingdonshire is well connected to other parts of the country via main roads and rail links. The A1 runs north to south and the A14 traverses the district east to west. Both Huntingdon and St. Neots are connected to London Kings Cross by a frequent 50 minute railway service.

The district has 4 market towns: Huntingdon, St. Ives, St. Neots and Ramsey. It is predominantly rural with village settlements providing the main focus for community facilities outside of the market towns.

Economic activity (production, distribution and consumption of goods and services) in the area is high with an estimated 84.2% of residents aged 16-64 classed as economically active and an 82.4% employment rate among residents aged 16-64.

The Council provides a range of services to residents, businesses and visitors. These include refuse and recycling, business growth support, car parks, elections, environmental health, housing advice, housing and council tax support, leisure centres, markets, parks and open spaces, planning and conservation.

### **Governance**

Following a statutory review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, from May 2018 the Council has now moved to an all-out election cycle. However, up until May 2018 the Council followed a 4-year election cycle with 1/3 member elections and then a fallow 4<sup>th</sup> year. The Council had 52 councillors representing 29 wards across the district. An "Executive Leader and Cabinet" decision making model was operated. Under this model, the executive leader appoints their own deputy executive leader and cabinet which comprised 7 other councillors.

All councillors meet as "Full Council" 6 times a year. The Full Council is responsible for the policy and strategy framework. It agrees the budget and council tax, elects the executive leader and appoints the executive deputy leader and members to the Council's committees and other panels.

Any specific issues related to governance are reported within the Council's Annual Governance Statement which accompanies this Annual Financial Report.



## Organisational Model

The paid service of the Council is headed by the Managing Director who has 2 Corporate Directors (Delivery and Services), 1 Assistant Director (Transformation) and 6 Heads of Services (Community, 3C's ICT, Development, Leisure and Health, Operations and Resources)

## Risks

Following a review of the strategic risks faced by the Council, the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement has identified the following key risks:

- **Housing affordability**

This issue is one which impacts on the Council's ability to deliver the Corporate Plan primarily through the escalating financial consequences of homelessness and the ability to recruit suitably experienced and qualified staff. Furthermore it also has a bearing on the mobility of the local labour market and inward investment and business growth opportunities.

- **Morbidity/Growing number of years of ill health**

Increasing pressures are being felt by many parts of the public sector, primarily through the growing demand on support costs, through such things as disabled facilities grants and personal care costs. This is not something that any single agency has ownership of, but requires joint working to deliver effective solutions. For this reason it is considered appropriate that it be included in the AGS.

- **Wider economic environment**

The Council is very much reliant on the private sector to deliver one of its key Corporate Plan strategic priorities – delivering sustainable growth across the District. Whilst the Council is able to assist the private sector in a number of ways, external factors such as a market volatility will have a greater impact, which in turn will have direct impacts on the Councils financial plans and forecasts for new homes bonus, council tax and business rates incomes.

- **Skill levels and educational attainment**

Linked to the issues noted above, it is important that the workforce within the area not only becomes more self-reliant but also contributes to the areas ability to grow and thrive. A skilled and flexible workforce which possesses digital skills will allow the Council to transform its current delivery models and offer new methods of service delivery.

## Review of the Year

2017/18 has been another challenging year for the Council with the reduction of grant funding from Central Government as austerity measures continue.

The Council set a gross budget for the year of £78.1m, following fees and charges income and reserve movements set a net budget £20.177m (2016/17; £19.931m), a net increase of £0.246m (1.23%). After allowing for the following non-ring fenced government grants:

- Revenue Support Grant of £1.182m (2016/17; £2.110m),
- Business Rates Retention scheme (NDR) of £4.622m (2016/17; £4.190m),
- New Homes Bonus of £3.656m (2016/17; £4.965m),
- Section 31 Grant of £1.018m (2016/17; £1.018m)
- Collection Fund surplus of £1.534m (2016/17; £0.257m deficit)

and a contribution to revenue reserves of £3.032m (2016/17 £2.276m) and a contribution from earmarked reserves of £0.065m (2016/17; £0). This left the Council to raise £8.166m (2016/17; £7.905m) from Council Tax which equated to a Council Tax of £135.84 (2016/17; £133.18) for a Band D equivalent property. This represented a 1.99% increase for a Band D council tax payer.

## Performance

How the Council performed against its Objectives and Budget are detailed below. Further information can be found in the 21 June Cabinet report ([click here](#)).

## Council Objectives

The following paragraphs outline how the Council has performed during 2017/18:

### **Theme: Enabling communities - We want to make Huntingdonshire a better place to live, to improve health and wellbeing and for communities to get involved with local decision making.**

- Our aim is to reduce household waste sent to landfill and for 2017/18 this was 45% (2016/17 49%). Household waste that was diverted from landfill has been recycled, reused or composted via our green waste and dry recycling collections.
- The One Leisure Active Lifestyle service, promoting active lifestyles, healthy activities and sports development, had 46,540 attendances which was 4% above the 2017/18 target. Right Start Group Exercise classes and commissioned classes in residential/care setting continued to perform strongly and the Right Start programme had its best ever year with nearly 9,000 attendances. Exercise Referral continues to be a high demand service and the team worked extremely hard to manage the transition from a free scheme to a paid scheme.
- The CCTV shared service continued to operate efficiently across both Huntingdonshire and Cambridge City. The team of CCTV Operators is fully staffed after successful recruitment to a number of vacant posts. Investment in the Huntingdonshire camera network was approved by Cabinet in February 2018 following a procurement exercise and plans to commence the camera and network upgrade are being finalised for implementation during 2018/19.
- Through the development of the Community Protection and Enforcement Team, there has been an increase in the number of fines issued for littering from a vehicle. The long term intention is to reduce littering by changing the mindset of residents, businesses, road users and communities.
- 363 households were successfully prevented from becoming homeless in the year, a 25% increase over last year as a result of our interventions at a time when alternative affordable housing options are increasingly difficult to find. However, the average length of stay of all households placed in temporary B&B accommodation increased to 7 weeks, up from 5.1 weeks in 2016/17 and exceeding the target of under 6 weeks.
- The time between date of referral of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) to practical completion for minor jobs up to £10,000 increased to an average of 40.6 weeks in 2017/18, which is worse than the 28 weeks target and the previous year's result of 35.8 weeks. A performance plan has been introduced to improve the time taken to complete DFGs.
- The results of over 2,100 inspections showed that only 74% of sampled areas were clean or predominantly clean of litter, detritus, graffiti, flyposting or weed accumulations

during 2017/18, against a target of 80%. While litter, fly posting and graffiti were delivered to standard across the district, there was seasonal variation and poor performance from the weed spraying contractor in the first half of the year. 2018/19 performance will be monitored and benchmarked against other comparable authorities using a Land Asset Management system (LAMS) provided by APSE (Association for Public Sector Excellence)

**Theme: Delivering sustainable growth - We want to make Huntingdonshire a better place to work and invest and we want to deliver new and appropriate housing.**

- The Local Plan to 2036 was submitted in March 2018.
- The Development Management Committee (DMC) resolved to approve an application for 2,800 homes at Wintringham Park, St Neots in March 2018. An updated report was provided to DMC in November 2017 on the Loves Farm, St Neots Phase 2 development and Officers continue to work positively with Urban&Civic on the Alconbury scheme.
- Following a public enquiry, an Inspector found against the Council in an appeal decision for development of 180 new homes in Buckden and took the view that the Council only had up to a 4.58 year housing land supply. However, a subsequent appeal decision received in December 2017 confirmed that the Council has a 5 year housing land supply and the Annual Monitoring Report published in December 2017 demonstrated a 5.78 year supply.
- A new Housing Strategy was adopted in June 2017. The Action Plan being implemented includes work with Altair to explore a Housing Delivery Vehicle.
- At its March 2018 Board Meeting, the Combined Authority agreed allocation of funding for master plans for all of the county's market towns. The St Neots Phase 1 report was completed in November 2017 and work is underway to prepare the Phase 1 business case to effect release of nominally allocated funds.
- The Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough has been wound up. A Business Transfer Agreement has been agreed between the LEP and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.
- At the start of the financial year 167 new affordable homes were expected to be completed during 2017/18. The programme was always heavily weighted towards completions during March 2018 and a number of homes which were due to handover during March slipped to early next financial year so only 123 new affordable homes were completed during 2017/18. All of the remaining homes are under construction and due to complete during 2018/19 which will boost the delivery figures for next year.

**Theme: Becoming a more efficient and effective Council - We want to continue to deliver value for money services**

- The employee survey was undertaken again in 2017 and showed improvement in over two-thirds of comparable results. An Action Plan seeking further improvements was endorsed by Employment Committee and is being implemented.
- The Licensing service was reviewed using LEAN principles to consider the areas where process improvements could be made. Changes have improved processes, however performance is still impacted by incomplete or inaccurate applications which take longer to process. Action is being made to support the licensed trades to ensure complete and accurate applications are submitted.

- Ten apprentices were recruited at an assessment day in October and joined the Council's Apprenticeship Academy on an 18 month Business Administration Apprenticeship. We also have four existing permanent members of staff who are undertaking apprenticeships in Team Leading and Business Administration and 19 existing members of staff in Operations have been undertaking a fully funded apprenticeship in Driving Goods Vehicles.
- The Council has been selected as only one of six local authorities nationally to work with the Design Council and Local Government Association on service improvement. The project is focusing on healthy lifestyles in Ramsey.
- Following new waste rounds being introduced, the number of missed bins increased significantly. 2017/18 outturn performance showed 1.06 bins were missed per 1,000 household collections against a target of 0.75 but performance continued to improve through the year with just 0.59 bins missed per 1,000 in March 2018.
- Missed bins also had a significant impact on some other performance indicators, particularly complaints and call centre responses. There were more than five times as many complaints received in Quarter 1 as in the previous year and just 26% of them were responded to within 20 working days. The percentage of calls to Call Centre answered in 2017/18 was just 79% against a target of 90%. Performance was lowest between April and September when calls about missed bins were at their highest.
- Customer satisfaction levels among Call Centre (90%) and Customer Service Centre (96%) customers have remained high, as measured through recent surveys.
- Sickness absence across the Council during 2017/18 was 10.0 working days lost per full time employee compared to 10.7 working days lost in 2016/17. The introduction of a new Sickness Absence and Attendance Policy in November 2016 continues to have had a positive impact on attendance. Managing long-term sickness absence (which accounted for 62% of all days lost in 2017/18) continues to be a key priority for our Senior Management Team with management, Human Resources and Occupational Health actions all being monitored closely in order to ensure that appropriate steps are being taken to facilitate a prompt return to work wherever this is possible.
- In-year collection levels of Council Tax and Business Rates has been maintained, with 98.5% of Council Tax and 99% of Business Rates collected.
- Since the autumn of 2014, the Council has undertaken a Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) programme that has fundamentally reviewed all Council services. For the 2017/18 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy setting, a Line-by-Line review was undertaken which achieved savings of £1.5m. Retaining tight budgetary control with affordability and value for money are at the core of the Council's decision making process. The 'Plan on a Page' strategy is to reduce reliance on Government grants over the next few years, and shows the Council will have removed all reliance on Government grants by 2019/20.

## Revenue Spending and Sources of Income

The Table below sets out the Council's Budget for 2017/18 and how it performed and details the main sources of income the Council receives to pay for its services.

2016/17 Outturn £000	Service	Budget £000	2017/18		%
			Outturn £000	Variation £000	
1,697	Community	1,953	1,837	(116)	(6)
2,816	Customer Services	2,396	2,504	108	5
1,972	ICT Shared Services	1,721	1,735	14	1
578	Development	1,132	1,080	(52)	(5)
55	Leisure and Health	(160)	127	287	179
4,292	Operations	4,035	4,832	797	20
3,221	Resources	4,423	4,291	(132)	(3)
2,693	Directors and Corporate	1,711	2,052	341	20
<b>17,324</b>	<b>Net Revenue Expenditure</b>	<b>17,211</b>	<b>18,458</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>7</b>
3,029	Contribution to Reserves	2,966	3,067	101	3
(150)	Contribution from Earmarked Reserves	0	(1,348)	(1,348)	-
<b>20,203</b>	<b>Budget Requirement</b>	<b>20,177</b>	<b>20,177</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Financing</b>				
(7,108)	NDR and Council Tax	(4,621)	(5,048)	(427)	9
(8,404)	Government Grant (Non-Specific)	(5,856)	(5,977)	(121)	2
3,214	Contribution from Collection Fund Reserve	(1,534)	(1,248)	286	(19)
	Contribution to Other Reserves	0	262	262	-
<b>(7,905)</b>	<b>Council Tax For Huntingdonshire DC</b>	<b>(8,166)</b>	<b>(8,166)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

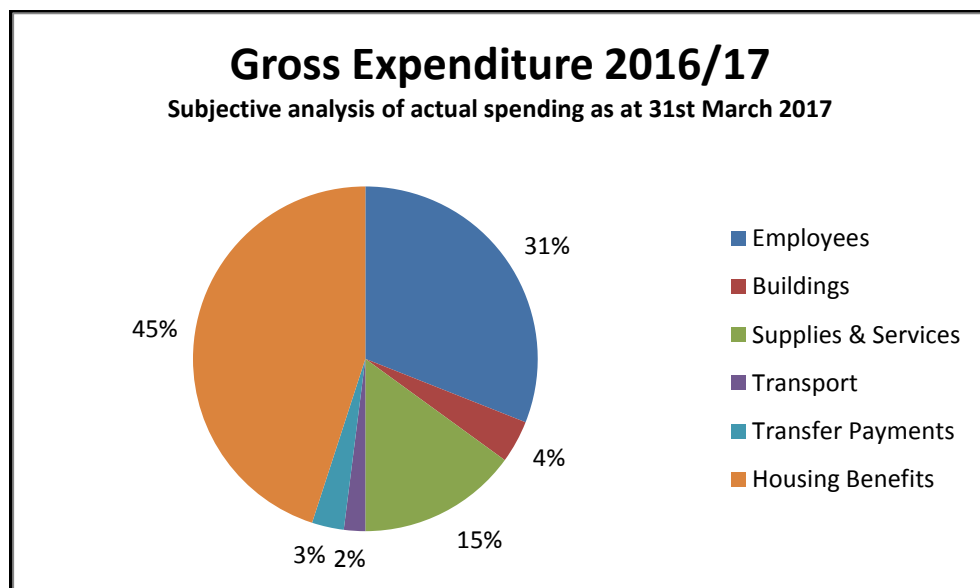
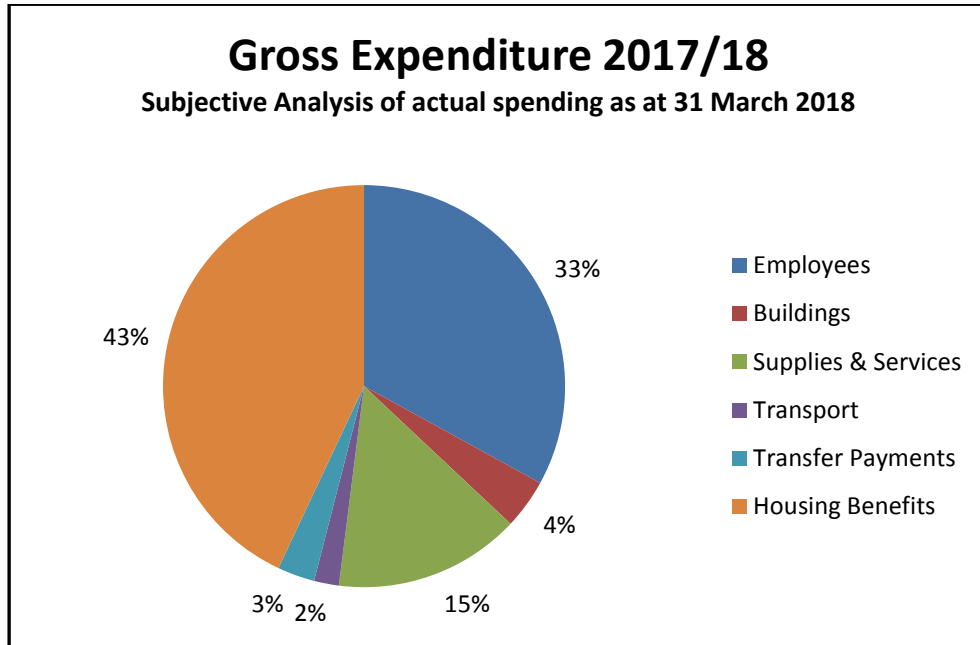
The outturn position above includes trading operations, commercial properties and some internal recharges that are not included in the cost of services section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (Note 7).

A summary of the variations of the outturn to the Budget are shown in the table below:

<b>Service</b>	<b>Main reasons for variance</b>
Community	Additional staff savings following a service restructure and additional income generated.
Customer Services	Additional accommodation costs incurred because of the increase in the number of homeless families. Satellite offices remained open so expected savings were not achieved.
ICT	Unplanned work as part of networking/firewall changes.
Development	Additional staff savings following a service restructure. Lower income from application fees was off-set by higher income from Community Infrastructure Levy (which is used to off-set the administrative costs).
Leisure and Health	Income from schools from the use of the Burgess Hall and from Impressions memberships is down but this has been mitigated in part by savings on employee costs and building running costs.
Operations	Expected savings on waste management as a result of round re-scheduling were not achieved. Recycling net costs increased due to issues with contamination rates.
Resources	Higher insurance premium costs were off-set by higher income from the Council's commercial investment activity.
Directors and Corporate	Additional expenditure on the Council's transformation programme (which is being funded from reserves) was partially off-set by savings on elections (no district council elections this year) and by seconded staff not being replaced.

## Analysis of Revenue Income & Expenditure

The Council spent £78.634m in 2017/18 and the chart below shows the type of expenditure this was spent on.

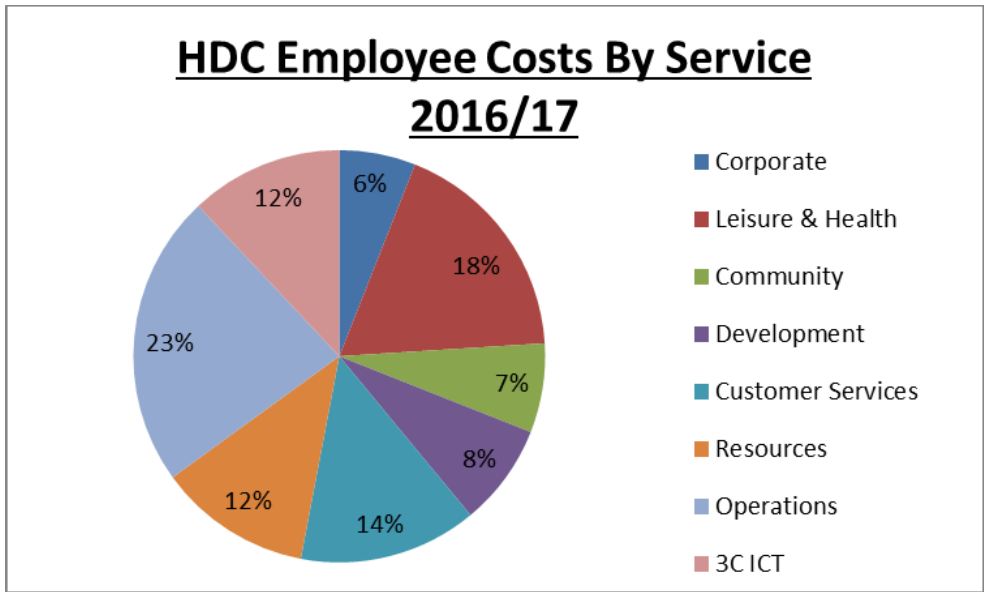
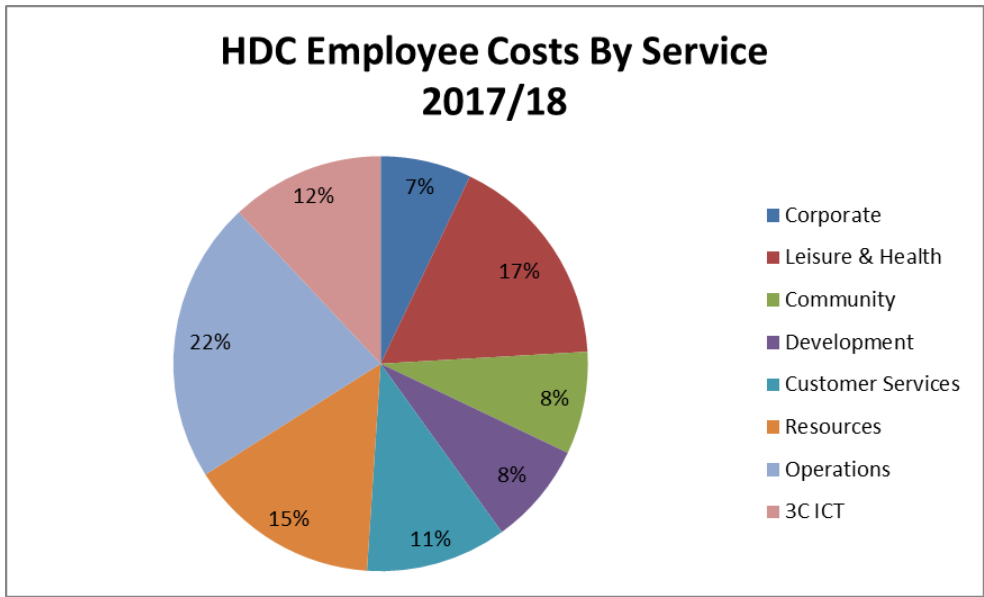


**Note:** These figures are different from those in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) as that is based on accounting regulations and contains a number of costs that are not included in the above figures as they are not part of the Council’s Management Accounts, for example depreciation charges.



## Employee Expenditure

As can be seen from the previous graph, the Council's biggest expenditure apart from Housing Benefits, is its staff. In 2017/18 it spent £26.230m (£24.490m 2016/17). This increase is due to the net impact of inflation, turnover adjustments and Cambridge City Council's decision to transfer their outsourced IT support function to 3C ICT. The chart below shows how this spend was split across the Council's Services.



**Reserves**

The table below shows the movement in the useable reserves during the year to 31 March 2018.

Revenue Usable Reserves 2017/18	B/f	Contributions		C/f
	£000	To £000	From £000	£000
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>3,592</b>	<b>(3,532)</b>	<b>2,658</b>
<b>Earmarked</b>				
Commercial Investment Fund	3,997	348	(747)	3,598
Market Towns Investment Fund	0	500	0	500
Special Reserve	1,300	0	(302)	998
S.106	2,399	398	(179)	2,618
Other	7,614	3,733	(3,048)	8,299
	<b>15,310</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>(4,276)</b>	<b>16,013</b>
<b>Total Usable Reserves</b>	<b>17,908</b>	<b>8,571</b>	<b>(7,808)</b>	<b>18,671</b>

The 2017/18 Outturn report showed a net service expenditure overspend of £0.508m against the original Budget approved in February 2017.

**Capital Spending****Capital Programme****Introduction**

The Council's final net capital budget for 2017/18 was £8.818m including loans to other organisations of £2.785m. The table below shows the total budget (Gross and Net), and the split between the Capital Programme, Assets, and Capital Programme, Loans.

<b>Capital Programme – Total</b>	<b>Gross £000</b>	<b>Grants £000</b>	<b>Net £000</b>
Original Approved Capital Programme 2017/18	9,346	(3,352)	5,994
Approved Slippage from 2016/17	3,098	(274)	2,824
<b>Updated Capital Programme for 2017/18</b>	<b>12,444</b>	<b>(3,626)</b>	<b>8,818</b>
Expenditure	8,475	(2,772)	5,703
<b>Variation Against Updated Capital Programme</b>	<b>3,969</b>	<b>(854)</b>	<b>3,115</b>

<b>Capital Programme – Assets</b>	<b>Gross £000</b>	<b>Grants £000</b>	<b>Net £000</b>
Original Approved Capital Programme 2017/18	7,361	(1,367)	5,994
Approved Slippage from 2016/17	2,298	(274)	2,024
<b>Updated Capital Programme for 2017/18</b>	<b>9,659</b>	<b>(1,641)</b>	<b>8,018</b>
Expenditure	7,470	(1,767)	5,703
<b>Variation Against Updated Capital Programme</b>	<b>2,189</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>2,315</b>

<b>Capital Programme – Loans</b>	<b>Gross £000</b>	<b>Grants £000</b>	<b>Net £000</b>
Original Approved Capital Programme 2017/18	1,985	(1,985)	0
Approved Slippage from 2016/17	800	0	800
<b>Updated Capital Programme for 2017/18</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>(1,985)</b>	<b>800</b>
Expenditure	1,005	(1,005)	0
<b>Variation Against Updated Capital Programme</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>(980)</b>	<b>800</b>

## Explanation of the Capital Programme Outturn

The original net capital programme was £5.994m. Schemes that were delayed were re-phased from 2016/17 totalling £2.824m. This resulted in an updated programme for the year of £8.818m.

Gross expenditure in 2017/18 totalled £8.475m. £7.470m related to the Assets Programme (which included expenditure of £4.334m on assets, £2.882m of grants and contributions, and £0.254m on intangible assets (software)). In addition, the Loans Programme advanced £1.005m to Urban&Civic.

Grants and contributions received were £2.772m, including £1.391m to fund Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) expenditure and £1.005m to fund the loan to Urban&Civic. The net capital programme was £5.703m.

The most significant schemes in 2017/18 were £2.467m spent on DFGs, £1.415m on vehicle replacements and £1.661m spent on One Leisure improvement and development schemes.

## Sale of Assets

Sales of assets in the year included clawback of housing right to buy receipts (£0.402m). Loan repayments (of loans previously financed from capital) totalled £0.273m and deferred loan receipt of £13,000. The total receipts (£0.688m) have been used to reduce the requirement to borrow to finance the capital programme, and reduced the amount that will be provided for the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) in future years.

## Commercial Investment Strategy

### Introduction

The Council also spent £5.709m on the purchase of 1400 and 1500 Parkway, Fareham. These purchases have been partly financed by use of an earmarked general fund reserve.

<b>Commercial Investment Strategy</b>	<b>Gross £000</b>	<b>Grants £000</b>	<b>Net £000</b>
Approved Business Plan 2017/18	30,000	0	30,000
<b>Updated Capital Programme for 2017/18</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,000</b>
Capital Outturn	5,758	0	5,758
<b>Variation Against Updated Budget</b>	<b>24,242</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,242</b>

### Explanation of Outturn

In 2017/18 the Council originally planned to invest up to £30m in Commercial Investment related acquisitions; however the Council only spent £5.7m. This difference was due to a lack of quality investments opportunities coming to the market that met the Councils exacting due diligence requirements; the Council reviewed 112 propositions but made formal offers on 4, resulting in the successful acquisition of 1 asset. The three bids which were unsuccessful were due to:

1. Seller withdrawing property from the market,
2. Being outbid
3. The seller choosing to proceed with a party which it had previously dealt with (in the climate of several other Councils withdrawing from transactions).

The table below shows the breakdown of the Capital expenditure by project. The capital contributions and the funding pie charts show the capital expenditure by Service area.

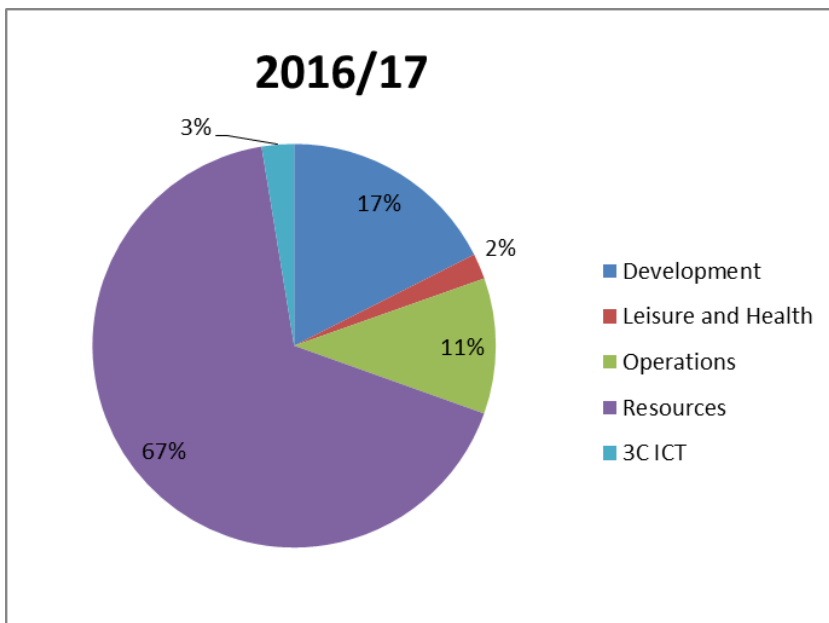
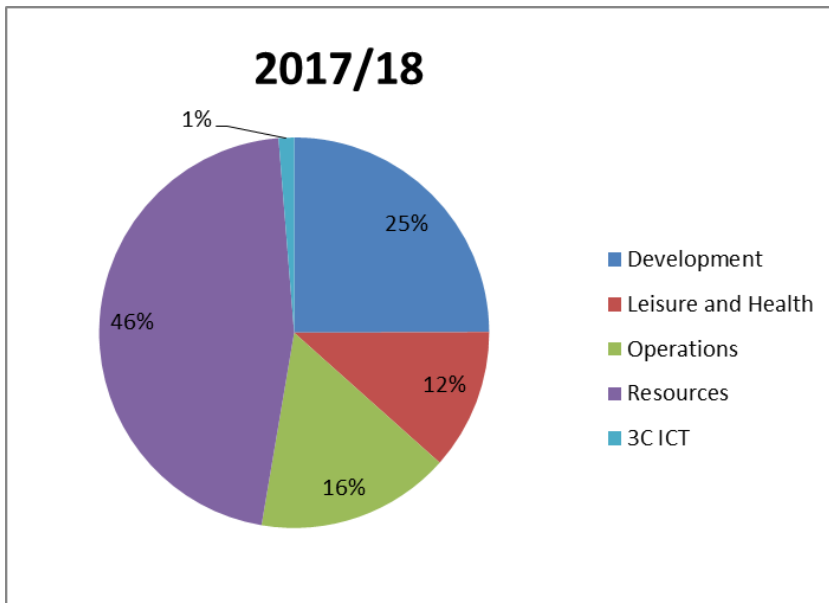
2016/17 £m	Capital Expenditure Assets	2017/18 £m
0.2	Environmental Projects	0.3
1.6	Housing Grants	2.5
1.5	Vehicle Replacement Programme	1.4
0.7	Information & Communication Technology	0.4
0.4	Leisure & Recreation	1.7
0.2	Wheeled Bins	0.2
1.5	Community Infrastructure Levy	0.1
0.0	Industrial Unit Improvements	0.4
0.0	Pathfinder House Improvements	0.2
0.1	Others	0.0
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>(1.2)</b>	Less External Contributions and Capital Grants	<b>(1.7)</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>5.5</b>
	<b>Funded from</b>	
(1.3)	Capital Receipts	(0.7)
(1.5)	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(0.1)
(1.5)	Minimum Revenue Provision	(1.8)
(0.2)	Direct Revenue Funding	(0.4)
(0.5)	Borrowing and Internal Resources	(2.6)
<b>(5.0)</b>		<b>(5.5)</b>

2016/17 £m	Capital Expenditure Loans	2017/18 £m
0.0	Urban&Civic Loan	1.0
2.8	Luminus Loan	0.0
<b>2.8</b>	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>1.0</b>
	<b>Funded from</b>	
0.0	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(1.0)
(2.8)	Borrowing	0
<b>0.0</b>		<b>(1.0)</b>

2016/17 £m	Capital Expenditure Commercial Investment Strategy	2017/18 £m
0.0	Parkway, Fareham	5.7
2.3	Wilbury Way, Hitchin	0.0
6.9	Shawlands Retail Park, Sudbury	0.0
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>5.7</b>
	<b>Funded from</b>	
(9.2)	Direct revenue Funding	(0.7)
0.0	Borrowing	(5.0)
<b>(9.2)</b>		<b>(5.7)</b>

### Capital Expenditure by Service

The pie charts below show the Capital expenditure by Service area for 2017/18.



The capital expenditure for Customer Services and Community Services is negligible so not shown in these graphs.

### Treasury Management

**The main purpose of the Treasury Management Strategy is to;**

- Ensure the Council has sufficient cash to meet its day to day obligations.
- Borrow when necessary to fund capital expenditure, including borrowing in anticipation of need when rates are considered to be low.
- Invest surplus funds in a manner that balances low risk of default by the borrower with a fair rate of interest.



### **The key market Treasury Management issues through 2017/18 influencing the Council's decision-making were;**

- A moderate improvement in the credit rating of financial institutions, although some institutions ratings have been affected by ring-fencing of retail activity from investment activity.
- A continuation of the Bank of England's policy of very low interest rates, with the result that market rates also remain very low. The Council's average investing rate was 0.40%.

### **The Council's response to the key issues in 2017/18 was;**

- Where the Council has surplus funds to primarily make short term investments (the majority on call on a daily basis) in liquidity accounts and money market funds.
- Where possible to take a higher return without sacrificing liquidity.
- When borrowing the Council has used the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB), which offers low fixed rate borrowing over a long period. The interest rate ranges from 2.18% to 3.90%.

## **Looking to the Future**

The public sector as a whole, continues to face the most significant austerity programme in a generation and as a consequence of the Government's ring-fencing of some government departments/services (i.e. NHS, Overseas Aid etc.) this has meant that local government has met a significant share of the austerity programme. Consequently, the Council adopted the "Plan on a Page" strategy which sought to move to a position of financial independence from Central Government. The key tools of this strategy included:

- Zero Based Budgeting across the Council
- Implementation of a Commercial Investment Strategy
- Line by Line Reviews

The Council set a balanced Budget for 2017/18, which included a contribution to reserves of £3.032m, as a result of having carried out a both a ZBB exercise and a line by line review across all services and finding £1.536m savings in 2017/18.

As a result of this, the programme of ZBB, Line by Line reviews and commercial investment will continue into 2018/19 and thereafter.

The second major pillar of the Councils' Plan on a Page is the Commercial Investment Strategy. The Strategy was approved by Council in September 2015 and the Business Plan in December 2015 which approved the use of the Council's resources, both cash reserves and borrowing abilities, to invest in commercial investments in order to generate a return that will further allow the Council to become financially self-sufficient.

Risks relating to Plan on a Page requirements are identified and considered by the relevant Head of Service and Senior Management Team and if necessary included in the Council's Risk Register.

## **The Financial Statements**

The Council's financial statements for 2017/18 have been prepared in accordance with the:

- Standard format for local authority accounts recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for the Statement of Accounts in 2017/18 as

prescribed by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 based on International Financial Reporting Standards.

- Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

The primary financial statements are supported by explanatory notes, including details of the accounting policies adopted by the Council.

### **Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)**

The 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 'useable 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 incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to Council Tax for the year. The Net Increase / Decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movements in the year following those adjustments

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

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

### **Balance Sheet**

The Balance Sheet shows the value at the 31 March of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are useable 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 that may only be used to fund Capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves are unusable and 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 at the line entitled 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

The Balance Sheet position at 2017/18 is £28.628m as shown overleaf (£21.421m 2016/17). The main reasons for this movement of £7.207m are:

- Long Term Assets – Property, Plant and Equipment from additions and revaluations.
- Current Assets – Short Term Debtors increase
- Long Term Liabilities – on Long Term Borrowing and an increase in the Net Pensions Liability.

At this time, the statutory arrangements for funding the Pension deficit mean that the financial position of the Council continues to remain healthy.

	<b>31 March 2018</b>
	<b>£m</b>
Long Term Assets	119.655
Current Assets	24.542
Current Liabilities	(20.202)
Long Term Liabilities	(95.367)
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>28.628</b>
Useable Reserves	35.959
Unusable Reserves	(7.331)
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>28.628</b>

### The Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in “cash” (cash and cash equivalents) of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses “cash” by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

	<b>31 March 2018</b>
	<b>£m</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows from</b>	
- Operating activities	2.553
- Investing activities	(1.395)
- Financing activities	4.488
<b>Net Increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>540</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>	
- At the beginning of the reporting period	1.636
- <b>At the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>2.176</b>

### The Collection Fund Revenue Account

The Collection Fund is a separate account into which are paid amounts raised from local taxation. As well as including amounts collected in respect of Council Tax, it now includes amounts collected from local businesses, which following the introduction of the Local Business Rates scheme, now means that Non-Domestic Rates are distributed subject to predetermined government set formulae. The Fund also accounts for payments due to preceptors.

### The Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA)

In addition to the primary statements, the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA) which is not a primary financial statement but has been included as Note 7 to the Accounts, demonstrates how the annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (Government grants, Council Tax and Business Rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's Services. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

## Technical Information

### International Financial Reporting Standards

The Council has reported its financial position based on the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and this is encapsulated within the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

### Statement of Accounting Policies

The accounting policies applicable to the 2017/18 statement of accounts are, in the main, the same as those that were applied to the 2016/17.

### True and Fair View Override

As required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, paragraph 8.2, it is noted that the Responsible Financial Officer has not had to use the "true and fair view override".

### Changes to the Statement of Accounts

There are no material changes to the Statement of Accounts, although there is now a requirement to publish an Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA) which is included as Note 7 to the Accounts. The EFA and the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) are now reported on a segmental basis.

### Material and Unusual Charges or Credits in the Accounts

There are no material and unusual charges or credits in the accounts.

### Material Events after the Reporting Date

There have not been any material events after the reporting date.

### Material Assets Acquired or Liabilities Incurred

There have been two material assets acquired during the year totalling £6.6m. There have been no material liabilities incurred.

### Changes in Statutory Functions

There were no changes in statutory functions in 2017/18.



**Clive Mason FCPFA**

Head of Resources

31 May 2018

# **Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Huntingdonshire District Council**

**Opinion on the Authority's financial statements**







## 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 Head of Resources;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

### The Head of Resources Responsibilities

The Head of Resources 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 Head of Resources has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the local authority Code.

The Head of Resources has also:

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

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority at 31 March 2018 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2018. ~~These financial statements replace the unaudited financial statements signed by the Head of Resources on 31 May 2018.~~



**Clive Mason FCPFA**  
Head of Resources

31 May 2018

## **Chairman's Approval of the Statement of Accounts**

This is the Annual Financial Report, incorporating the Statement of Accounts with all audit activities completed. The Corporate Governance Committee of Huntingdonshire District Council at its meeting on 26 July 2018 delegated authority to me as Chairman of the Panel to approve the Statement of Accounts.

XX July 2018

**Movement in Reserves Statement**

	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied	TOTAL USEABLE RESERVES	Unusable Reserves	TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES
	£000	£000 Note 10	£000 Note 31	£000	£000 Note 23	£000
<b>Movement in reserves during 2017/18</b>						
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2017 B/F</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>15,310</b>	<b>10,380</b>	<b>28,288</b>	<b>(6,867)</b>	<b>21,421</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) on provision of services	1,867	0	0	1,867	0	1,867
Other comprehensive income and expenditure	0	0	0	0	5,340	5,340
<b>Total comprehensive income and expenditure</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,867</b>	<b>5,340</b>	<b>7,207</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 9)	50	0	6,908	6,958	(6,958)	0
<b>Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to earmarked reserves</b>	<b>1,917</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,908</b>	<b>8,825</b>	<b>(1,618)</b>	<b>7,207</b>
Transfers (from)/to earmarked reserves (Note 10)	(1,857)	703	0	(1,154)	1,154	0
<b>(Decrease)/increase in Year</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>6,908</b>	<b>7,671</b>	<b>(464)</b>	<b>7,207</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2018 C/F</b>	<b>2,658</b>	<b>16,013</b>	<b>17,288</b>	<b>35,959</b>	<b>(7,331)</b>	<b>28,628</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during 2016/17</b>						
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2016 B/F</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>24,010</b>	<b>4,672</b>	<b>31,219</b>	<b>(17,832)</b>	<b>13,387</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) on provision of services	3,565	0	0	3,565	0	3,565
Other comprehensive income and expenditure	0	0	0	0	5,144	5,144
<b>Total comprehensive income and expenditure</b>	<b>3,565</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,565</b>	<b>5,144</b>	<b>8,709</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 9)	(3,002)	0	5,918	2,916	(2,916)	0
<b>Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to earmarked reserves</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,918</b>	<b>6,481</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>8,709</b>
Transfers (from)/to earmarked reserves (Note 10)	(502)	(8,700)	(210)	(9,412)	9,412	0
<b>(Decrease)/increase in Year</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>(8,700)</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>(2,931)</b>	<b>11,640</b>	<b>8,709</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2017 C/F</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>15,310</b>	<b>10,380</b>	<b>28,288</b>	<b>(6,192)</b>	<b>22,096</b>

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

2016/17			2017/18			
Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000		Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000
3,052	(1,012)	2,040	Community	4,113	(1,021)	3,092
39,595	(36,669)	2,926	Customer Services	38,528	(35,900)	2,628
7,156	(4,709)	2,447	ICT Shared Service	7,470	(5,368)	2,102
6,129	(3,439)	2,690	Development	5,904	(3,605)	2,299
7,925	(6,944)	981	Leisure & Health	8,428	(6,751)	1,677
10,256	(4,222)	6,034	Operations	11,682	(4,042)	7,640
4,154	(339)	3,815	Resources	5,193	(249)	4,944
3,354	(673)	2,681	Directors & Corporate	2,764	(711)	2,053
<b>81,621</b>	<b>(58,007)</b>	<b>23,614</b>	<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>84,082</b>	<b>(57,647)</b>	<b>26,435</b>
5,109	0	5,109	Other Operating Expenditure (Note 11)	5,793	0	5,793
5,365	(3,369)	1,996	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Note 12)	4,496	(4,210)	286
1,941	(36,225)	(34,284)	Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income (Note 13)	1,578	(35,959)	(34,381)
<b>94,036</b>	<b>(97,601)</b>	<b>(3,565)</b>	<b>(Surplus) / Deficit on provision of services</b>	<b>95,949</b>	<b>(97,816)</b>	<b>(1,867)</b>
		(6,699)	(Surplus) or deficit in the revaluation of non-current assets			(3,506)
		148	(Surplus) / Deficit on revaluation of available for sale financial assets			(174)
		2,082	Actuarial losses/(gains) on pension assets and liabilities			(1,660)
		<b>(4,469)</b>	<b>Other comprehensive income and expenditure</b>			<b>(5,340)</b>
		<b>(8,034)</b>	<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</b>			<b>(7,207)</b>

**Balance Sheet**

<b>31 March 2017 £000</b>		<b>Notes</b>	<b>31 March 2018 £000</b>
66,093	Property, Plant and Equipment	14	70,474
65	Heritage Assets		65
30,147	Investment Property	15	35,169
1,042	Intangible Assets	16	911
3,701	Long Term Investments	17	3,886
10,434	Long Term Debtors	17	9,150
<b>111,482</b>	<b>Long Term Assets</b>		<b>119,655</b>
0	Short Term Investments	17	0
106	Inventories	18	110
12,446	Short Term Debtors	19	20,771
3,092	Cash and Cash Equivalents	20	3,661
<b>15,644</b>	<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>24,542</b>
(1,456)	Bank overdraft	20	(1,485)
(414)	Short Term Borrowing	17	(474)
(13,873)	Short Term Creditors	21	(16,653)
(1,362)	Provisions	38	(1,590)
<b>(17,105)</b>	<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(20,202)</b>
(15,694)	Long Term Borrowing	17	(20,439)
(745)	Other Long Term Liabilities	17	(732)
(72,161)	Net Pensions Liability	37	(74,196)
<b>(88,600)</b>	<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>(95,367)</b>
<b>21,421</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>28,628</b>
28,288	Useable Reserves	22	35,959
(6,867)	Unusable Reserves	23	(7,331)
<b>21,421</b>	<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>28,628</b>

I certify that the statement of accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority at 31 March 2018 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2018. ~~These financial statements replace the unaudited financial statements signed by the Head of Resources on 31 May 2018.~~

  
**Clive Mason FCPFA**  
Head of Resources  
31 May 2018



**Cash Flow Statement**

<b>2016/17</b>		<b>2017/18</b>
<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>
3,565	Net Surplus / (Deficit) on the provision of services	1,867
3,135	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements (Note 24)	5,676
(6,679)	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities (Note 24)	(10,096)
<b>21</b>	<b>Net cash flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(2,553)</b>
(10,779)	Investing Activities (Note 25)	(1,395)
9,266	Financing Activities (Note 26)	4,488
<b>(1,492)</b>	<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>540</b>
3,128	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	1,636
<b>1,636</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period (Note 20)</b>	<b>2,176</b>

## Note 1. Accounting Policies

### Accounting Policies in respect of Concepts and Principles

#### ➤ General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2017/18 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2018. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2017/18, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The underlying concepts of the accounts include the:

- Council being a 'going concern' – all operations continuing
- Accrual of income and expenditure – placing items in the year they relate to rather than the year they take place
- Primacy of legislative requirements – legislation overrides standard accounting practice

The accounting statements are prepared with the objective of presenting a true and fair view of the financial position and transactions of the Council.

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

The accounting policies are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that they are appropriate, compliant with accepted accounting practice and relevant to the Council's ongoing business activity.

#### ➤ Government Grants and Contributions (IAS 20)

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 credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement if the conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been met. However, if the conditions require that the grant or contribution is returned where these conditions are not met, it cannot be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors (Receipts in Advance). When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (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 Account. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Account are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied.

The Council receives monies from developers, S106 monies, which are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and transferred to an earmarked fund. The condition for these contributions is that they are returnable 10 years after receipt if they are not used. It is considered that 10 years is too far into the future to be treated as receipts in advance.

### ➤ **Accruals of Income and Expenditure**

Income and expenditure are accounted for in the year to which they relate, not simply when cash payments are made or received, by the creation of debtors and creditors which are recorded in the Balance Sheet. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- 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.
- Where the Council is acting as an agent for another party (e.g. in the collection of NDR and Council tax), income and expenditure are recognised only to the extent that commission is receivable by the Council for the agency services provided or the Council incurs expenses directly on its own behalf in providing the services.

### ➤ **Changes in Accounting Policies, Prior Period Adjustments, Estimates and Errors**

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, or other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively, if material, by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied. For 2017/18, there are no new accounting policies in respect of statutory requirements or to ensure local circumstances are better reflected within the Annual Report.

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.

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

### ➤ **Exceptional Items**

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

### ➤ **Interest Receipts**

Interest receipts credited to the General Fund include all amounts received in respect of balances held and invested externally, except for interest earned on the S106 reserve (one of the earmarked reserves) which is credited to that reserve. Interest receipts are included in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### ➤ **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; they are included in the Balance Sheet as the General Fund Balance, Capital Reserve, Earmarked Reserves or Capital Grants Unapplied.

When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to count against the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. 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.

However, there are other reserves that cannot be used to finance expenditure:

- Capital Adjustment Account – these are capital resources set aside to meet past expenditure.
- Revaluation Reserve – the gains of valuation of assets not yet realised by sales.
- Financial Instruments Adjustment Account – balancing account to allow for differences in statutory requirements and accounting requirements for borrowing and investments.
- Collection Fund Adjustment Account – holds the difference between the income included in the Income and Expenditure Account and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund.
- Pensions Reserve – balancing account to allow the pensions liability to be included in the Balance Sheet.

### ➤ **Value Added Tax**

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.

### ➤ **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 are 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.

#### ➤ **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in three months or less from the investment date and that are readily convertible to cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

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

#### **Accounting Policies in respect of Non-Current Assets**

##### ➤ **Property, Plant and Equipment (IAS 16)**

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the provision 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 associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

There is a de-minimis level of £10,000 however, where the cumulative value of individual assets is greater than £10,000 and they meet the criteria for recognition they will be capitalised.

- **Measurement**

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

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

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

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

- Fair Value: Land and Buildings, Investment Properties
- Depreciated Historic Cost: Vehicles, Plant and Equipment, Infrastructure, Intangibles
- Historic Cost: Community Assets, Assets Under Construction  
Assets Held for Sale

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are revalued regularly to ensure that their carrying value is not materially different from their fair value at the year end, but as a minimum every three years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of an impairment loss previously charged to a Service revenue account. Thus there is no impact on council tax.

Where decreases in value are identified, the revaluation loss is accounted for:

- 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); and
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

- Components

The Council will separately account for components where the cost of the component is significant in relation to the overall total cost of the asset, and the useful economic life of the component is significantly different from the useful economic life of the asset. Individual components with similar useful lives and depreciation methods will be grouped.

For this purpose a significant component cost would be 10% of the overall total cost of the asset but with a de-minimis component threshold of £100,000.

The component accounting is applied only to those assets revalued after 1 April 2012 but given the three year programme all assets have been revalued and the policy now applies to all assets.

The impact is that some components have a useful life of between 15 and 35 years, which in some instances is different to the useful life of the main asset and therefore the depreciation charge varies from that based on the same useful life for the whole asset.

- 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 there 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:

- 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); and
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

- Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

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

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

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

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

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce



the Council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of property, plant and equipment 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.

- Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by allocating the value of the asset over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets where the finite useful life cannot be determined, (i.e. land and Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated as follows:

Asset Type	Depreciation basis	Useful Economic Life
Operational Buildings	Straight-line allocation over the estimated life of the building or component where identified separately	5 years to 45 years
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Straight line allocation over the estimated life of the asset	1 year to 48 years
Infrastructure		3 years to 44 years

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

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

The residual value of the assets is reviewed at least every five years and the depreciation adjusted to match any change in the life of the asset.

#### **Year of depreciation charge**

The depreciation charge will generally commence in the year after the addition of the asset, unless the in-year depreciation charge would have a material impact.

#### ➤ **Depreciation and other Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets**

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding property, plant and equipment 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 (annual charge) of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual provision from revenue, known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by MRP in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction within the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement to reflect the difference between the two.

In respect of General MRP Policy capital assets, MRP will be chargeable in the year following the agreement of any final account. For each financial year, for other capital investments MRP will be charged in the following the completion of the scheme.

The basis for calculating MRP is restricted by legislation and the policy has to be approved by the Council. The Council has adopted the following which clarifies the policy to be applied in differing circumstances:

i. MRP Policy in respect of Loans to Organisations or Loans with Security (as defined within the Treasury Management Strategy)

Where the Council has provided:

- loans to local organisations or businesses, and/or
- loans with security

and these loans are repaid on, at least an annual basis, that the principal repayments received can replace the need to make a minimum revenue provision.

ii. MRP Policy in respect of Debt not relating to Loans to Organisations

MRP for this category will be on an annuity basis. This results in the MRP increasing over the life of the asset to match the fall in the interest cost as the debt is “notionally” repaid. The net result is a consistent charge to the Council’s accounts over the assumed life of the asset.

iii. MRP Policy in respect of the Commercial Investment Strategy

For each capital investment undertaken under the requirements of the Council’s Commercial Investment Strategy, MRP will be made that is equal to the principal repayment for any loan finance supporting the investment. However, from 2017/18 the Council has approved a further MRP Policy for CIS purchases (commercial and housing acquisitions) where the expenditure will be financed by Maturity Loans.

Under this policy MRP would be allocated only if the value of the asset is less than the value of the loan outstanding.

The CIS asset Parkway, Fareham has been purchased under this MRP policy, the value of the property exceeds the value of the loan at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, as shown in the table below.

<b>CIS Property: Parkway Fareham</b>	<b>Values £m</b>
Value of Property as at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	5.425
PWLB Loan Outstanding	5.000
Property value exceeds loan	<b>0.425</b> <b>(8.5%)</b>

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal; receipts from disposals are credited to the same line. Any accumulated revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

### ➤ **Heritage Assets**

Tangible and Intangible Heritage Assets (described in this summary of significant accounting policies as heritage assets).

Heritage Assets are those that are held and maintained by the Council principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. Such assets can have historical, artistic, scientific, geophysical or environmental qualities.

Heritage Assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Authority's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to heritage assets as detailed below.

The Authority's Heritage Assets are accounted for as follows:

- **Cultural**

The Council has identified the Norman Cross and Eagle as a Heritage Asset and this is disclosed in the Balance Sheet, based on insurance valuation, at £65k. It should be noted that there is no phased basis of valuation. This asset is:

- deemed to have an indeterminate life and consequently the Council does not consider it appropriate to charge depreciation.
- static and located at Norman Cross, Cambridgeshire, near to the intersection with the A1.

- **Mayoral Regalia and Art Collection**

The Council has two mayoral chains of office and two paintings; however the total estimated value of these assets, based on insurance valuations, is £33k. As individually these assets are not material, they have not been included in the Balance Sheet.

### ➤ **Intangible Assets**

Expenditure, on an accruals basis, for assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council (e.g. software licences) are capitalised where they

will bring benefit for more than one year. The balance is amortised (charged) to the relevant service revenue account over the economic life of the investment to reflect the pattern of consumption of benefits.

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. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life and debited to the relevant service lines 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 debited to the relevant service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is debited or credited 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.

#### ➤ **Investment Properties**

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

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 arm's-length. Properties are not depreciated and are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are debited/credited 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.

Rental income received in relation to investment properties is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line and results 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 and are 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.

#### ➤ **Leases**

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

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

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

- The Council as Lessee

- Finance leases

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (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. 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 and equipment, applied to write down the lease liability, and
- a finance charge which is debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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.

In practice the Council has two categories of finance leases in primary rental for industrial units and secondary leases for certain items of equipment.

- Operating leases.

Rentals paid under operating leases are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from the use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

- The Council as Lessor

- Finance Leases

Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Council's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal, matched by a lease (long-term) debtor in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor, and
- finance income which is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When the future rentals are received, the element for this capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

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

○ Operating Leases.

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

➤ **Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute**

Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute represents expenditure that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of property, plant and equipment. Items incurred during the year have been written off as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the year. Where it has been determined to meet the cost of the item from existing capital resources or by borrowing, amounts charged are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

**Current Value Measurement (IFRS 13)**

Previously, all assets and liabilities were valued under the principle of “fair value” which was defined as “the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or liability settled between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm’s length transaction”.

Although “fair value” remains as the approach to valuation for a number of assets and liabilities, in respect of Operational Assets IFRS 13 introduces “current value”. This means such assets have to be measured in a way that recognises their “service potential”.

## Accounting Policies in respect of Current Assets

### ➤ Inventories

The Council has a number of inventories but none either individually or in aggregate are material to the accounts. However, the valuation approach in respect of the main inventory types (Fuel and Stock for Sale) is First In First Out.

### ➤ Contingent Assets

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

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

### ➤ 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 a financial settlement and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made. Provisions are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and are measured at the best estimate of the expenditure that is likely to be required. When payments are made they are charged to the provision.

#### • Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises from an event which is too uncertain or the amount of the obligation cannot be reliably estimated. The liability is disclosed as a contingent liability within the notes to the accounts. 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.

## Accounting Policies in respect of Employee Benefits

### ➤ Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits (those that fall due wholly within 12 months of the year-end), such as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees, are recognised as an expense in the year in which employees provide services to the Council.

### ➤ Termination Benefits

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

Termination benefits are charged to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account when the Council can demonstrate that it is committed to either terminating the employment of an officer or has made an offer of voluntary redundancy even if the officer has not left the Council by 31 March.



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

### ➤ **Post-Employment Benefits (Pensions)**

Employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS), administered by Cambridgeshire County Council. This scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees work for the Council.

- The liabilities of the LGPS attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using an appropriate discount rate (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds as identified by the actuary).
- The assets of the Cambridgeshire County Council Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
  - quoted securities – current bid price
  - unquoted securities – professional estimate
  - unitised securities – current bid price
  - property – market value
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into seven components:
  - **current service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – debited 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 on the net defined liability**, i.e. net interest expense for the authority – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment 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 at the beginning of the period taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
  - **the return on plan assets** – excluding amounts charged in net interest on the net defined benefit liability. This is 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 – debited to the Pensions Reserve.

- **contributions paid to the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund** – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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, rather than the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, 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 any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The balance (currently negative) that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact on the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits that 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.

### **Accounting Policies in respect of Financial Instruments**

#### ➤ **Financial Assets**

The main financial assets attributable to the Council are:

- Loans and receivables

Financial assets that are applicable to the Council are loans and receivables which are assets with a fixed or determinable payment but not quoted in an active market (e.g. trade debtors, fixed term investments). Loans and receivables are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. The Council has the following loans and receivables:

- Debtors

Debtors are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts at the year-end, taking into account the nature, value and age of debts and historic losses for similar groups of assets. Bad debts are written off when they are identified.

Debtors falling due after more than one year are classified as long-term debtors, which includes housing improvement loans and housing advances. The charge for these services is to the Housing Services line in the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

- Cash and equivalents

Cash and equivalents comprise cash in hand and current balances with banks and similar institutions, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash. Due to their nature and short-term maturity, the fair values for debtors and cash and equivalents are estimated using their carrying values.

- **Investments**

The Council has both long and short-term investments with various financial institutions. Investments are carried at their amortised cost. The fair value of investments is determined by discounting the future cash flows using a relevant market rate of interest comparable to the rate for the same investment from a comparable institution, available at the Balance Sheet date.

The Council has made loans for home improvement which are interest-free (soft loans). When these soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the Housing Services line in the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is managed by a transfer to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account. It is included in the 'Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulation' line in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

- **Financial Liabilities**

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and initially measured at fair value and 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 has the following liabilities:

- **Creditors**

Creditors are carried at their original invoice amount.

- **Bank overdrafts**

Bank overdrafts comprise amounts owed to banks and similar institutions and are repayable on demand.

Due to their nature and short-term maturity, the fair values for creditors and bank overdrafts are estimated using their carrying values.

- **Short-term borrowing**

Loans of less than 1 year and carried at amortised cost.

- **Long-term loan**

Loans with the Public Works Loans Board are carried at their amortised cost but with the fair value disclosed as a note.

## Note 2. Accounting Standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

At the balance sheet date the following new standards, and amendments to existing standards, have been published but not yet adopted by the Code of Practice of Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, and as a result have not been adopted by the Council.

- **IFRS 9 Financial Instruments**; which introduces changes to the classification and measurement of financial assets, and a new “expected credit loss” model for impairing financial assets.

The Council will adopt IFRS 9 Financial Instruments with effect from 1st April 2018. The main changes include the reclassification of financial assets and the earlier recognition of the impairment of financial assets.

The Council does not expect the reclassification changes to have a material impact upon the financial statements because the majority of its financial assets will retain the same measurement basis. To this end, on 1st April 2018 the Council irrevocably elected to present changes in the fair value of the following equity investments in other comprehensive income as permitted by the IFRS:

- **CCLA Property Fund**; If in the future new funds are added it is expected that these will be added to this election.

The Council does not expect the impairment changes to have a material impact upon the financial statements because the impairment charge will be immaterial for its treasury management assets (e.g. bank deposits and bonds) and it already makes a provision for doubtful debts on its service assets (e.g. trade receivables).

- **IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers including amendments to IFRS 15 Clarifications to IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers**; new requirements for the recognition of revenue, based on a control-based revenue recognition model.
- **Amendments to IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows (Disclosure Initiative)**; may require some additional analysis of Cash Flows from Financing Activities (disclosed at Note 33) in future years.
- **Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes (Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses)**; this applies to deferred tax assets related to debt instruments measured at fair value.

It is anticipated that the above amendments will not have a material impact on the information provided in the statement of accounts.

### **Note 3. 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:

- In light of the current financial environment or continuing austerity across the public sector, the Council has adopted the Zero Based Budgeting (ZBB) methodology to deliver savings and efficiencies, of which £1.1m was achieved in the 2017/18 Budget approved in February 2016. At present further reviews are ongoing, including a Line by Line Budget challenge process and these may impact on service provision. The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS), which was also approved in February 2017, removed the reliance on NHB by 2020/21. The Council has the Plan on a Page Strategy which sets out its financial strategy

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 line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, based on International Financial Reporting Standards, the Council has not charged depreciation on land, investment properties, community assets, assets held for sale and assets under construction. For all these assets, the total value for 2017/18 for Land is £17.743m and Buildings (NBV) is £25.474m (2016/17; Land is £16.217m and Buildings (NBV) is £21.499m).
- The Council has taken professional advice from the Pension Fund's actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, to determine the overall net liability of the fund which is £74.196m for 2017/18; this has increased by £2.035m since 2016/17. However:
  - This does not adversely affect the financial position of the Council as the actuarial valuation is based on a number of assumptions about the future, as shown in Note 38.
  - The revenue impact of the deficit is formally reviewed by the actuary on a triennial basis who determines revised employer contributions for the 3-year period. Further, fluctuations in pension assets and liabilities occur due to movements in market investments.
- The participants in the Council's Non Domestic Rates Collection Fund share the costs of any successful appeals to reduce the rateable value of a property. This includes the cost of any outstanding appeals which may be backdated prior to 1 April 2014.

To estimate the provision for outstanding appeals, the Council has reviewed the outstanding appeals as at 31 March 2018. An estimated provision of £3.976m has been included in the Collection Fund in respect of successful appeals costs. The Council's share of any such Collection Fund costs is 40% or £1.590m of the total provision and this is included in the General Fund balance.

### **Note 4. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because

balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2018 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property	<p>All property is reviewed on a 3 year rolling basis. Where an asset has not been specifically revalued, a table top analytical review has taken place to determine if any material changes in valuation have taken place (Revaluation Review).</p> <p>In addition an annual impairment review is undertaken by the valuer to determine if any of the Council's assets have been impaired.</p>	80% of the council's assets are valued at fair value, so the impact of change in the market is significant. If there was a 1% fall in the market value, it is estimated that the value of the council's property assets would reduce by £0.562m.
Plant and Equipment	Plant and Equipment are valued on an historic cost basis.	There will not be any changes to this valuation due to market conditions because the valuation approach reflects costs at acquisition or similar situations.
Investment Properties	Investment Properties are valued on an annual basis and are valued at fair value.	It is estimated that a 1% fall in market value would reduce the value of the Council's investment properties by £0.352m.
Pensions Liability	<p>Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions, as provided by the actuary, can be measured. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 0.5% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in the pension liability of 10% or £21.409m.</li> <li>• A 1 year increase in life expectancy would increase the Employer's Defined Benefit Obligation by around 3-5%.</li> <li>• A 0.5% increase in the salary increase rate would result in an increase in pension liability of 1% or £2.943m.</li> <li>• A 0.5% increase in the pension increase rate would result in an increase in pension liability of 8% or £18.206m.</li> </ul>

Sundry Debt Arrears	<p>The Bad Debt Provision (BDP), also known as Debtor Impairment, calculation is based on the current aged debt profile, past payment behaviour and past write off activity.</p> <p>At 31 March 2018 the Council has a net debtors balance of £20.771m</p>	<p>Each debt type has an independent BDP rate determined by previous debt activity. If only Sundry Debtor debt is considered, increasing the BDP by 10% would have an additional £119,988 impact on revenue. However, to achieve such an increase in the BDP, the actual debt would have to increase by £545,078.</p>
Sundry Creditors (Housing Benefits)	<p>During the year the Council pays Housing Benefits to local residents who are entitled to receive it; these payments are reimbursed by Central Government subsidy. The Subsidy reimbursement relates to amounts paid on or before 30 March, however, accruals have been made to reflect the period that the payments actually cover.</p> <p>The Housing Benefit payments made by the Council are on one of the two following bases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 4-week in arrears, or</li> <li>ii. 2-weeks in arrears/2-weeks in advance.</li> </ol>	<p>The amount of Housing Benefit in payment at any given time is dependent on the number of claims made at that time, which is itself affected by both local and national economic conditions. Consequently it is difficult to provide a meaningful sensitivity analysis.</p>
Provision for Rateable Value Appeals	<p>Two appeals by non-domestic ratepayers for a reduction in the rateable value of their premises are outstanding. Appeals are determined by Valuation Office and are not within the Council's control. However, expert independent advice has been sought in arriving at an estimated provision.</p>	<p>The provision is based upon the latest list of outstanding rating list proposals provided by the Valuation Office Agency. It is an estimate based on changes in comparable hereditaments, market trends and other valuation issues, including the potential for certain proposals to be withdrawn. The estimate includes appeals and proposals in respect of live and historic Rating List entries. It does not include any allowance or adjustment for the effects of transition or for changes in liability. The estimated provision is made up of the estimated outcome of appeals calculated by a weighted average of the historic outcomes. It should be noted that the impact on the Council of appeals, as well as other NDR, is limited by Safety Net calculation (the calculation of which is limited by regulation).</p> <p>A 10% variation in the estimated provision would be £0.398m for the Collection Fund of which £0.159m which would be attributable to the General Fund.</p>



## **Note 5. Material Items of Income and Expenditure**

The primary purpose of this note is to disclose those material items of income and expenditure that are not part of the ordinary course of business or events of the Council (i.e. extraordinary). During 2017/18 no such items of income or expenditure were incurred (2016/17; nil).

## **Note 6. Events after the Balance Sheet Date**

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Head of Resources on 31 May 2018.

The Annual Financial Report, incorporating the Statement of Accounts, was authorised for issue by the Head of Resources on 31 May 2018.

With regard to 2017/18:

- **Adjusting Events**

The financial statements and notes have not been adjusted for any such material events which took place after the 31 March 2018 as there have not been any.

- **Non-Adjusting Events**

Following the EU Referendum held in June 2016 to end the UK's membership of the European Union (EU), there may be an impact on the Council's investment property valuations if confidence in the wider UK property market falls; and the valuation of the Council's £74.196m defined benefit pension obligations may also be affected. However it is still too early to estimate the quantum of any impact on the financial statements, and there is likely to be significant ongoing uncertainty for the next couple of years while the UK renegotiates its relationships with the EU and other nations. For the purposes of these financial statements, the Referendum is considered a non-adjusting event.

## **Note 7. Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA)**

The objective of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate to council tax payers how the funding available to the authority (i.e. government grants, council tax, business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities 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 directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	2017/18					Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis			Total Adjustments	
		Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note a)	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b)	Other Differences (Note c)		
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Community	1,926	90	1,076	0	1,166	3,092
Customer Services	2,459	51	118	0	169	2,628
ICT Shared Service	1,724	378	0	0	378	2,102
Development	1,058	1,210	34	(3)	1,241	2,299
Leisure & Health	124	1,278	275	0	1,553	1,677
Operations	4,883	2,556	201	0	2,757	7,640
Resources	4,723	164	67	(10)	221	4,944
Directors & Corporate	2,034	6	13	0	19	2,053
<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>18,931</b>	<b>5,733</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>7,504</b>	<b>26,435</b>
Other income and expenditure	(20,848)	(2,155)	1,911	(7,210)	(7,454)	(28,302)
<b>(Surplus) or Deficit</b>	<b>(1,917)</b>	<b>3,578</b>	<b>3,695</b>	<b>(7,223)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>(1,867)</b>
<b>Opening General Fund Balance (Includes Earmarked Reserves)</b>	<b>17,908</b>					
Plus Surplus/(Deficit) on General Fund in Year	1,917					
Less Use of General Fund Balances to Fund Capital Expenditure	(1,154)					
<b>Closing General Fund Balance 31 March</b>	<b>18,671</b>	<b>(see Page 13 of Commentary and Review of 2017/18)</b>				

	2016/17					Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £000
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance £000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis			Total Adjustments £000	
		Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note a) £000	Net change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b) £000	Other Differences (Note c) £000		
Community	1,688	377	(18)	(7)	352	2,040
Customer Services	2,892	88	(39)	(15)	34	2,926
ICT Shared Service	1,968	479	0	0	479	2,447
Development	559	2,151	(9)	(11)	2,131	2,690
Leisure & Health	38	1,056	(102)	(11)	943	981
Operations	4,599	1,865	(428)	(2)	1,435	6,034
Resources	3,443	47	325	0	372	3,815
Directors & Corporate	2,671	15	(4)	(1)	10	2,681
<b>Cost of Services</b>	<b>17,858</b>	<b>6,078</b>	<b>(275)</b>	<b>(47)</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>23,614</b>
Other income and expenditure	(18,421)	(7,935)	2,391	(3,214)	(8,758)	(27,179)
<b>(Surplus) or Deficit</b>	<b>(563)</b>	<b>(1,857)</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>(3,261)</b>	<b>(3,002)</b>	<b>(3,565)</b>
<b>Opening General Fund Balance (Includes Earmarked Reserves)</b>	<b>26,547</b>					
Plus Surplus/(Deficit) on General Fund in Year	563					
Less Use of General Fund Balances to Fund Capital Expenditure	(9,202)					
<b>Closing General Fund Balance 31 March</b>	<b>17,908</b>	<b>(see Page 13 of Commentary and Review of 2017/18)</b>				

## Notes to the EFA

### a Adjustments for Capital Purposes

Adjustments for capital purposes – this column adds in depreciation, impairment, 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 receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

### b Net Change for the Pensions Adjustment

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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### 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 Financing and investment income and expenditure – the other differences column recognises adjustments to the general fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.
- 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.

### d Segmental Income

The table above shows Net Expenditure, the income analysed on a segmental basis is shown overleaf:-

2016/17 £'000	Services	2017/18 £'000
1,012	Community	1,021
36,669	Customer Services	35,900
4,709	ICT Shared Service	5,368
2,330	Development	2,214
6,944	Leisure & Health	6,751
4,222	Operations	4,042
339	Resources	249
673	Director & Corporate	711
<b>56,898</b>	<b>Total income analysed on a segmental basis</b>	<b>56,256</b>

## Note 8. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The authority's expenditure and income is analysed as follows;

2016/17 £000s	Expenditure/Income	2017/18 £000s
	<b>Expenditure</b>	
24,490	Employee benefits expenses	26,466
13,957	Other services expenses	13,640
2,349	Support service recharges	3,651
8,165	Depreciation, amortisation, REFCUS and investment property fair value adjustment	7,845
526	Interest payments	623
2,354	Transfer and Grant Payments	2,464
7,249	Precepts and levies	7,625
34,946	Benefit Payments	33,635
<b>94,036</b>	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>95,949</b>
	<b>Income</b>	
(24,322)	Fees, charges and other service income	(25,743)
(369)	Interest and investment income	(471)
(19,018)	Income from council tax and nondomestic rates	(19,917)
(44,636)	Government grants and contributions	(41,730)
(9,256)	Levies	(9,955)
<b>(97,601)</b>	<b>Total income</b>	<b>(97,816)</b>
<b>(3,565)</b>		<b>(1,867)</b>

## **Note 9. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations**

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement recognised by the Council 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 Council 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 a Council are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the Council 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.

2017/18

	Useable Reserves			
	General Fund balance £000	Capital receipts reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account:</b>				
<i>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
<i>Expenditure statement:</i>				
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(3,880)	0	0	3,880
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	(275)	0	0	275
Fair value of investment properties	(1,057)	0	0	1,057
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(1,491)	0	0	1,491
Net carrying amount of non-current assets sold	(137)	0	0	137
Revaluation Gains/Losses on non-current assets charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(90)	0	0	90
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	315	0	0	(315)
Income from donated assets credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement	860	0	0	(860)
<i>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Minimum revenue provision for capital funding	1,761	0	0	(1,761)
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>				
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to fund capital expenditure	0	689	0	(689)
Proceeds of sale of non-current assets	416	(416)	0	0
Repayment of loan	0	(273)	0	273
<b>Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:</b>				
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	13	0	0	(13)
<b>Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:</b>				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 37 of Pension Fund)	(8,221)	0	0	8,221
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	4,526	0	0	(4,526)
<b>Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:</b>				
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from Council Tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(764)	0	0	764
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account</b>				
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	7,974	0	(6,908)	(1,066)
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(6,908)</b>	<b>6,958</b>



2016/17

	Useable Reserves			
	General Fund balance	Capital receipts reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Movement in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account:</b> <i>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(3,628)	0	0	3,628
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	(366)	0	0	366
Fair value of investment properties	(1,726)	0	0	1,726
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(2,088)	0	0	2,088
Net carrying amount of non-current assets sold	(306)	0	0	306
Revaluation Gains/Losses on non-current assets charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	0	0	0	0
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	84	0	0	(84)
<i>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Minimum revenue provision for capital funding	1,454	0	0	(1,454)
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>				
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to fund capital expenditure	0	1,252	0	(1,252)
Proceeds of sale of non-current assets	1,036	(1,036)	0	0
Repayment of loan		(217)	0	217
<b>Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:</b>				
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	1	0	0	(1)
<b>Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:</b>				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 37 of Pension Fund)	(6,436)	0	0	6,436
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	4,320	0	0	(4,320)
<b>Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:</b>				
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from Council Tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	3,214	0	0	(3,214)
<b>Adjustments involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account</b>				
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	7,397	0	(5,918)	(1,479)
<b>Adjustment involving the Accumulated Compensated Absences Adjustment Account</b>				
Adjustments in relation to short-term compensated absences	46	0	0	(46)
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>3,002</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(5,918)</b>	<b>2,917</b>

**Note 10. Movements in 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 transferred back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure (either revenue expenditure or direct revenue financing of capital).

	Balance 31.3.16 £000	Transfers in £000	Transfers out £000	Balance 31.3.17 £000	Transfers in £000	Transfers out £000	Balance 31.3.18 £000	Purpose of Reserve
S106 agreements	(1,233)	(446)	602	(1,077)	(393)	85	(1,385)	A
Commutted S106 payments	(1,725)	(5)	407	(1,323)	(4)	94	(1,233)	B
Repairs and renewals funds	(981)	(933)	5	(1,909)	(34)	0	(1,943)	C
Strategic Transformation Reserve	0	(1,250)	213	(1,037)	(277)	606	(708)	D
Collection Fund Reserve	(2,702)	(1,244)	1,985	(1,961)	(600)	1,248	(1,313)	E
Commercial Investment Fund	(12,390)	(794)	9,187	(3,997)	(348)	747	(3,598)	F
Market Towns Investment Fund	0	0	0	0	(500)	0	(500)	G
Budget Surplus Reserve	(805)	0	730	(75)	(2,426)	289	(2,212)	H
Special reserve	(2,325)	(194)	1,219	(1,300)	0	302	(998)	I
Other reserves	(1,849)	(1,104)	322	(2,631)	(396)	904	(2,123)	J
<b>Total</b>	<b>(24,010)</b>	<b>(5,970)</b>	<b>14,670</b>	<b>(15,310)</b>	<b>(4,978)</b>	<b>4,275</b>	<b>(16,013)</b>	

Purpose of Reserve	
A S106 agreements	Contains payments made by developers to meet their planning approval obligation to contribute to the funding of infrastructure and community requirements. As a relevant project is completed it is funded in all or part from this reserve.
B Commuted S106 payments	Represents payments made by developers to meet their planning approval obligation to contribute to the funding of the maintenance of specified assets for a set period of years. As relevant maintenance costs are incurred funding is transferred from the reserve.
C Repairs and renewals funds	Some services contribute an annual sum and the funds are used to pay for one-off repair or renewal items; thereby evening out the spending on large maintenance items.
D Strategic Transformation Reserve	To fund workflow streams associated with initiatives to improve the efficiency of the Council.
E Collection Fund	Excess NDR and Council Tax received from the Collection Fund due to be repaid in future years.
F Commercial Investment Fund	Revenue allocation to meet future investment in commercial investment strategy
G Market Towns Investment Fund	A fund to support the redevelopment of Huntingdonshire Market Towns
H Budget Surplus	Contains "Surplus" funds that exceed 15% maximum threshold for the General Fund Balance
I Special reserve	To support business activity that will achieve future savings.
J Other reserves	This is a summary of other less significant reserves that support ongoing service activity, including Chequers Court Development fund, Local Plan, Anti-Fraud Partnerships, NDR Reliefs, District Council Elections, New Trading Company and New Financial System.

**Note 11. Other Operating Expenditure**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
5,471	Parish Council precepts	5,731
390	Drainage Board Levies	402
(752)	(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	(340)
<b>5,109</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,793</b>

**Note 12. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
526	Interest payable and similar charges	623
2,396	Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	1,898
(369)	Interest receivable	(471)
(492)	Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(1,721)
(65)	Other Investment and Trading Operations	(43)
<b>1,996</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>

**Note 13. Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
(13,335)	Council Tax income	(13,771)
(5,683)	Non Domestic Rates	(6,147)
(7,887)	Non-ringfenced Government grants	(5,003)
(7,295)	Developer Contributions (CIL & S106)	(8,285)
(84)	Capital grants	(315)
0	Donated Assets	(860)
<b>(34,284)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>(34,381)</b>

**Note 14. Property, Plant and Equipment**

Movements in 2017/18	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>						
<b>Gross B'fwd</b>	52,961	19,003	10,063	451	1	82,479
Additions	2,259	2,412	0	0	202	4,873
Revaluation to Revaluation Reserve	1,630	0	0	0	0	1,630
Disposal	0	(1,201)	0	0	0	(1,201)
Transfer within Property, Plant and Equipment	0	0	0	0	(1)	(1)
<b>Gross C'fwd</b>	<b>56,850</b>	<b>20,214</b>	<b>10,063</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>87,780</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
<b>Gross B'fwd</b>	(821)	(11,558)	(4,007)	0	0	(16,386)
Depreciation in Year	(1,646)	(1,809)	(424)	0	0	(3,879)
Depreciation written out to Revaluation Reserve	1,786	0	0	0	0	1,786
Disposal	0	1,173	0	0	0	1,173
<b>Gross C'fwd</b>	<b>(681)</b>	<b>(12,194)</b>	<b>(4,431)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(17,306)</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
<b>At 31 March 2018</b>	<b>56,169</b>	<b>8,020</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>70,474</b>
<b>At 31 March 2017</b>	<b>52,140</b>	<b>7,445</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>66,093</b>

Movements in 2016/17	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>						
<b>Gross B'fwd</b>	48,686	17,766	10,607	451	0	77,510
Additions	173	2,431	0	0	1	2,605
Revaluation to Revaluation Reserve	4,102	0	0	0	0	4,102
Disposal	0	(1,194)	(544)	0	0	(1,738)
<b>Gross C'fwd</b>	<b>52,961</b>	<b>19,003</b>	<b>10,063</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>82,479</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
<b>Gross B'fwd</b>	(1,930)	(10,867)	(4,127)	0	0	(16,924)
Depreciation in Year	(1,488)	(1,715)	(424)	0	0	(3,627)
Depreciation written out to Revaluation Reserve	2,597	0	0	0	0	2,597
Disposal	0	1,024	544	0	0	1,568
<b>Gross C'fwd</b>	<b>(821)</b>	<b>(11,558)</b>	<b>(4,007)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(16,386)</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
<b>At 31 March 2017</b>	<b>52,140</b>	<b>7,445</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>66,093</b>
<b>At 31 March 2016</b>	<b>46,756</b>	<b>6,899</b>	<b>6,480</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60,586</b>

Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2018 the Council was contractually committed to capital works valued at approximately £4.299m (31 March 2017; £4.932m). The schemes are listed in the table below.

<b>Division</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Amount £000</b>
Development	Alconbury Weald	979
	Disabled Facilities Grants	947
	Community Infrastructure Levy	46
Resources	Investment in Trading Company	100
	Loan Facility to Huntingdon Town Council	800
Customer Services	Customer Service Area Improvements	151
Operations	Wheeled Bins	14
	ReFit Project	389
	Vehicle Fleet Replacements	873
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,299</b>

Note;

The Council is committed to spending £0.979m on the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus. This is the balance of the Building Foundations for Growth capital grant funding and is held as Capital Grant Unapplied (Note 31).

Revaluations

- Land and buildings  
These assets are held at current value and were revalued as at 1 April 2016 onwards. The council operates a three year rolling programme of revaluations although where there has been significant capital expenditure on properties a revaluation will take place.

The valuations were carried out externally and independently by Mr MJ Beardall BLE (Hons) MRICS (Member, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) of Barker Storey Matthews. Mr Beardall has relevant experience in valuing these types of property and is a member of the Valuer Registration Scheme, and meets the requirements of the Red Book with regard to qualifications of the valuer, knowledge and skills, and independence and objectivity.

The specific assumptions applied in estimating current values in respect of Land and Buildings by the Council's valuer were as follows:

- The updated valuations have been prepared in accordance with the publication Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation – Professional Standards. With specific reference made to UK Appendix 5 – Valuation of Local Authority Assets.
- The assets have been valued in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, published by CIPFA.

- The current value has been calculated by reference to comparable market evidence, including market evidence from the local geographical area. Adjustments have been made to factor in any unusual or onerous obligations, such as repairing obligations.
- Where market evidence is unavailable due to the nature of the property; a depreciated replacement cost (DRC) method has been used. The DRC approach requires an estimate of the value of the land in its exiting use together with the current gross replacement costs of the building and its external works. Adjustments have been made to reflect the age, condition, economic, functional and environmental obsolescence and other locational factors. The build cost for DRC purposes has been calculated using the Building Cost Information Service quarterly review of building prices and is representative for an instant build approach.
- No adjustments have taken place for changes in value which may have taken place since the valuation date or for prospects of future growth.
- Useful economic life is based on how long the asset will deliver economic benefits for any purpose. This is based on the type of construction, the current age, and the condition of the asset.
- It has been assumed that there are no unusual or especially onerous restrictions, encumbrances or outgoings and that a good title can be shown. Also that the valuation would not be affected, by any matter that would be revealed by a local search.
- Assets falling outside of specific revaluation in the current financial year, have been considered and it is the valuer's belief that no other assets require an impairment review.
- Components have been considered in relation to LAAP 86 Componentisation of Property, Plant and Equipment, and the Council's componentisation policy.
- The properties have been assumed to be in reasonable tenantable condition, with no particular works being required that would prejudice a sale or the current value of the property, the properties have been assumed to be in a good state of repair.
- Building surveys have not been carried out, nor have inaccessible parts of buildings been inspected.
- No investigation has been made to determine whether or not any deleterious or hazardous material has been used in the construction of the properties or has since been incorporated. It has therefore been assumed in valuing the properties that such investigations would not disclose the presence of any such materials.
- We have assumed no contamination to be affecting the properties or neighbouring properties, which would affect our opinion on value.
- The properties are assumed to be in areas not prone to flooding.

Vehicles, Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure assets are valued at historic cost, as at the date of acquisition and subsequent capital enhancement expenditure less depreciation. Community Assets, and Assets Under Construction are valued at historic cost at the date of acquisition and subsequent capital enhancement. Consequently there is no ongoing revaluation review for these assets.

Assets Held For Sale are valued at lower of carrying value and fair value less cost of sale.

Revaluation Profile	Other Land and Buildings £000
Valued at Fair Value as at:	
31 March 2018	39,949
31 March 2017	0
31 March 2016	16,220
<b>Total Cost of Valuation</b>	<b>56,169</b>

## Note 15. Investment Property

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as financing and investment income and expenditure.

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
(2,475)	Rental income from investment property	(3,123)
257	Direct operating expenses arising from investment property	345
<b>(2,218)</b>		<b>(2,778)</b>
1,726	Revaluation Adjustment	1,057
<b>(492)</b>	<b>Net (gain)/loss</b>	<b>(1,721)</b>

The movement in investment properties balances during the year are shown below.

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
<b>22,675</b>	<b>Balance at start of the year</b>	<b>30,147</b>
9,198	Additions in year	6,079
(1,726)	Net gain/(loss) for fair value	(1,057)
<b>30,147</b>	<b>Balance at end of the year</b>	<b>35,169</b>

### Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in the investment properties or the Council's right to receive the income and proceeds of disposal.

### Gains or Losses from changes in Fair Value

Gains or losses from Changes in the fair value of investment property are recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services - Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line.

### Highest and Best Use

In estimating the fair value of the authority's investment properties, the highest and best use of the properties is their current use.



## Valuation Techniques

There has been no change in valuation techniques used during the year for valuing investment properties. The fair value is measured on an annual basis as at 31st March. All valuations are carried out by a qualified valuer from Barker Storey Matthews, in accordance with methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

### Fair Value Hierarchy

In order to increase the consistency and comparability in fair value measurements, the method by which fair values are assessed are separated into three levels. The three levels are based on the inputs to the valuation techniques that are used to measure fair value.

#### Level 1 Inputs

Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date.

#### Level 2 Inputs

Inputs (other than quoted prices within level 1) that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

#### Level 3 Inputs

Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Details of how the Fair Value Hierarchy inputs apply to the Council's Investment Properties are demonstrated in the table below:

Asset Type	2016/17 Fair Value Inputs Level 2 Other significant observable inputs	2017/18 Fair Value Inputs Level 2 Other significant observable inputs
	£000	£000
Retail	10,165	10,575
Office	9,185	12,625
Commercial	10,797	11,969
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,147</b>	<b>35,169</b>

The Council has no Level 1 and 3 Fair Value Inputs.

### Transfers between levels of the Fair value Hierarchy

There were no transfers between levels during the year.

### Valuation Techniques to Determine Level 2 Fair Values

#### Significant Observable Inputs Level 2

The fair value for investment properties is based on the market approach, using current market conditions and sale prices for similar assets in the local authority area. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs are significant.

## Note 16. Intangible Assets

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

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 software are generally 5 years.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. Amortisation of £0.275m was charged to revenue in 2017/18; this was either charged to ICT or then absorbed as an overhead across all the service headings in the Net Expenditure of Services or directly to services.

### Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2018 the Council was committed contractually to capital works of £Nil, (31 March 2017; £109,833).

The movement on intangible asset balances during the year is as follows:

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
	<b>Balance at start of the year:</b>	
3,289	Gross carrying amounts	2,966
(2,223)	Accumulated amortisation	(1,924)
<b>1,066</b>	<b>Net carrying amount at the start of the year</b>	<b>1,042</b>
439	Additions	253
(366)	Amortisation for the period	(275)
(762)	Disposals	(327)
665	Amortisation on Disposal	218
<b>1,042</b>	<b>Net carrying amount at the end of the year</b>	<b>911</b>
2,966	Gross carrying amounts	2,892
(1,924)	Accumulated amortisation	(1,981)
<b>1,042</b>	<b>Net carrying amount at end of the year</b>	<b>911</b>

**Note 17. Financial Instruments**

The financial assets and liabilities included in the Balance Sheet comprise the following categories of financial instruments.

Long-term			Current	
2016/17	2017/18		2016/17	2017/18
£000	£000		£000	£000
		<b>Investments and Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		
3,701	3,886	Available for Sale financial assets	0	0
<b>3,701</b>	<b>3,886</b>	<b>Total investments and Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Debtors</b>		
10,434	9,945	Loans and receivables	9,378	16,197
<b>10,434</b>	<b>9,945</b>	<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>9,378</b>	<b>16,197</b>
<b>14,135</b>	<b>13,831</b>	<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>	<b>9,378</b>	<b>16,197</b>
		<b>Borrowings</b>		
(15,694)	(20,439)	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(414)	(474)
<b>(15,694)</b>	<b>(20,439)</b>	<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b>(414)</b>	<b>(474)</b>
		<b>Other Long-Term Liabilities</b>		
(745)	(732)	Financial liabilities at fair value through Profit and Loss	0	0
<b>(745)</b>	<b>(732)</b>	<b>Total Other Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
		<b>Creditors</b>		
0	0	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(6,471)	(6,501)
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Total creditors</b>	<b>(6,471)</b>	<b>(6,501)</b>
<b>(16,439)</b>	<b>(21,171)</b>	<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>(6,885)</b>	<b>(6,975)</b>

**Gains and losses on income and expense**

<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			<b>Financial Assets</b>	
<b>(Liabilities measured at amortised cost)</b>			<b>(Loans and Receivables)</b>	
<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>		<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
526	623	Interest expenses	0	0
0	0	Interest income	(369)	(471)
<b>526</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>Net gain/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>(369)</b>	<b>(471)</b>

**Fair value of assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost**

Financial assets classified as available for sale are carried in the Balance Sheet at fair value taken from the market price. In January 2016 and February 2017 the Council invested in the CCLA Property Fund. Pooled funds such as these are classed as an available for sale asset as it is in the form of shares which are actively traded and have a market price.

Financial liabilities and financial assets classified as loans and receivables are recorded on the Balance Sheet at their amortised cost. Their fair value has been assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using spreadsheets provided by our advisors, Arlingclose Ltd or by using the following assumptions:

- An estimated interest rate based on 10 year PWLB rates with a range of 2.19% to 5.15%, depending on the relevant year, has been used to calculate the fair value of private sector housing improvement loans
- No early repayment or impairment is recognised.
- Where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months the carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.
- The fair value of debtors is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

IFRS 13 introduces a three level hierarchy for the inputs into a fair value calculation:

- Level 1 - quoted prices in active markets for identical
- Level 2 - 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

<b>2016/17</b>			<b>2017/18</b>	
<b>Carrying amount</b>	<b>Fair value</b>		<b>Carrying amount</b>	<b>Fair value</b>
<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
		<b>Liabilities</b>		
(23,324)	(28,130)	Financial liabilities	(28,146)	(32,618)
		<b>Assets</b>		
23,513	24,057	Loans and receivables	30,028	30,373

	Fair Value Level	Balance Sheet 31.3.2017 £000	Fair Value 31.3.2017 £000	Balance Sheet 31.3.2018 £000	Fair Value 31.3.2018 £000
<b>Financial Liabilities held at amortised cost:</b>					
Long term loans from PWLB	2	(15,694)	(21,225)	(20,439)	(25,635)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>(15,694)</b>	<b>(21,225)</b>	<b>(20,439)</b>	<b>(25,635)</b>
Liabilities for which fair value is not disclosed		(7,630)		(7,707)	
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>(23,324)</b>	<b>(21,225)</b>	<b>(28,146)</b>	<b>(25,635)</b>
Short term creditors		(6,471)	(6,471)	(6,501)	(6,501)
Short term borrowing		(414)	(434)	(474)	(483)
<b>TOTAL SHORT TERM FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>(6,885)</b>	<b>(6,905)</b>	<b>(6,975)</b>	<b>(6,984)</b>
Long term borrowing		(15,694)		(20,439)	
Other long term liabilities		(745)		(732)	
<b>TOTAL LONG TERM FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>(16,439)</b>		<b>(21,171)</b>	
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>(23,324)</b>	<b>(28,130)</b>	<b>(28,146)</b>	<b>(32,619)</b>

	Fair Value Level	Balance Sheet 31.3.2017 £000	Fair Value 31.3.2017 £000	Balance Sheet 31.3.2018 £000	Fair Value 31.3.2018 £000
<b>Financial assets held at fair value:</b>					
Property Fund	1	3,701	3,701	3,886	3,886
<b>Financial assets held at amortised cost:</b>					
Long term loans to local organisations	2	5,103	5,647	5,012	5,357
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8,804</b>	<b>9,348</b>	<b>8,898</b>	<b>9,243</b>
Assets for which fair value is not disclosed		14,709		20,336	
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<b>23,513</b>		<b>29,234</b>	
Short term debtors		9,378		16,197	
<b>TOTAL SHORT TERM FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<b>9,378</b>		<b>16,197</b>	
Long term debtors		10,434		9,945	
Long term investments		3,701		3,886	
<b>TOTAL LONG TERM FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<b>14,135</b>		<b>13,831</b>	
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<b>23,513</b>		<b>30,028</b>	

The Financial Liabilities are shown below:

Financial Instrument	2016/17 Carrying amount £000	2017/18 Carrying amount £000	Details (includes loan reference number)
<b>Long Term</b>			
PWLB (3.91%)	(5,000)	(5,000)	495152 3.91% 19/12/2008 to 19/12/2057
PWLB (3.90%)	(5,000)	(5,000)	495153 3.90% 19/12/2008 to 19/12/2058
PWLB (2.24%)	(865)	(715)	502463 2.24% 07/09/2013 to 07/08/2023
PWLB (3.28%)	(721)	(706)	504487 3.28% 25/11/2015 to 25/11/2046
PWLB (3.10%)	(960)	(939)	504598 3.10% 19/01/2016 to 19/01/2047
PWLB (2.91%)	(479)	(469)	504810 2.91% 21/03/2016 to 21/03/2047
PWLB (3.10%)	(388)	(380)	504922 3.10% 29/04/2016 to 29/04/2047
PWLB (2.92%)	(315)	(308)	504993 2.92% 02/06/2016 to 02/06/2047
PWLB (2.31%)	(628)	(613)	505255 2.31% 29/07/2016 to 29/07/2047
PWLB (2.18%)	(483)	(471)	505372 2.18% 23/09/2016 to 23/09/2047
PWLB (2.67%)	(855)	(838)	505649 2.67% 06/01/2017 to 06/01/2048
PWLB (2.78%)	0	(5,000)	506436 2.78% 02/10/2017 to 02/10/2037
	<b>(15,694)</b>	<b>(20,439)</b>	
<b>Short Term</b>			
PWLB (2.24%)	(148)	(152)	502463
PWLB (3.28%)	(15)	(16)	504487
PWLB (3.10%)	(20)	(21)	504598
PWLB (2.91%)	(10)	(11)	504810
PWLB (3.10%)	(8)	(9)	504922
PWLB (2.92%)	(7)	(7)	504993
PWLB (2.31%)	(15)	(16)	502255
PWLB (2.18%)	(12)	(12)	505372
PWLB (2.67%)	(20)	(19)	505649
Salix Loan	(14)	0	
Accrued interest	(145)	(211)	
	<b>(414)</b>	<b>(474)</b>	
<b>Creditors</b>	<b>(6,471)</b>	<b>(6,501)</b>	
	<b>(22,579)</b>	<b>(27,414)</b>	

The fair value of the liabilities is higher than the carrying amount because the portfolio of loans includes fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is lower than the current rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date.

The net fair value of financial assets is higher than the carrying amount because the portfolio includes investments where the interest rate receivable is higher than the rates available for similar investments at the balance sheet date.

Short term debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value.

**Note 18. Inventories**

The main items in 'other inventories' are refuse sacks £0.027m, car park tickets £0.003m and uniforms £0.009m (2016/17; refuse sacks £0.026m, printing stock £0.002m, uniforms £0.011m).

	Leisure Centres		Diesel		Other		Total	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>106</b>
Purchases	0	0	485	586	0	0	485	586
Recognised as an expense in the year	0	0	(499)	(547)	0	0	(499)	(547)
Stock Adjustment	8	(11)	13	(25)	9	1	30	(35)
<b>Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>110</b>

**Note 19. Debtors**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
2,103	Central Government bodies - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and Community and Local Government	2,649
4,490	Other Local Authorities	3,714
7,632	Other entities and individuals	15,980
6	NHS	268
(1,785)	Bad debt provision (Impairment of loans and receivables)	(1,840)
<b>12,446</b>		<b>20,771</b>

**Note 20. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
10	Cash held by the Council	9
3,082	Bank balances	3,652
<b>3,092</b>	<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>3,661</b>
(1,456)	Less Bank overdraft	(1,485)
<b>1,636</b>	<b>Net Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>2,176</b>



**Note 21. Creditors**

2016/17 £000	2016/17 Restated £000		2017/18 £000
4,280	4,280	Central Government bodies - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and Community and Local Government	6,324
2,244	2,244	Other Local Authorities	1,877
293	293	NHS	327
	63	Public Corporation	168
7,056	6,993	Other entities and individuals	7,957
<b>13,873</b>	<b>13,873</b>		<b>16,653</b>

**Note 22. Useable Reserves**

Movements in the Council's useable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

**Note 23. Unusable Reserves**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
(44,302)	Capital Adjustment Account	(43,452)
(20,646)	Revaluation Reserve	(23,644)
226	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	213
330	Available for Sale Reserve	156
72,161	Pensions Reserve	74,196
(902)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(138)
<b>6,867</b>	<b>Total Unusable Reserves</b>	<b>7,331</b>

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 Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment and Investment Properties before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains and losses. Note 7 provides the details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2016/17		Capital Adjustment Account	2017/18	
£000	£000		£000	£000
	(38,596)	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>		<b>(44,302)</b>
		<b>Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>		
3,628		Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	3,880	
0		Impairment losses on property, plant & equipment	90	
366		Amortisation of intangible assets	275	
2,088		Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statue	1,491	
306		Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	137	
(355)		Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(508)	
		<b>Capital financing applied in the year:</b>		
(1,252)		Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(689)	
(49)		Use of S106 earmarked reserves	0	
(84)		Application of Grants to finance capital expenditure	(315)	
(1,480)		Application of grants to capital financing from the capital grants unapplied account	(1,066)	
(1,454)		Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the general fund (MRP)	(1,761)	
217		Repayment of long term debtors	273	
(9,363)		Capital expenditure charged to General Fund	(1,154)	
		<b>Investment Property Fair Values</b>		
1,726		Movement in the market value of investment properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,057	
0		Movement in Donated Assets Account credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(860)	
	<b>(5,706)</b>	<b>Total Movements</b>		<b>850</b>
	<b>(44,302)</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>		<b>(43,452)</b>

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. It is identified at individual asset level. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost. If no surplus remains on a particular asset's account any further impairment must be charged to the surplus/deficit on the provision of services within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

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

2016/17 £000	Revaluation Reserve	2017/18 £000
(14,302)	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	(20,646)
(7,579)	Upward revaluation of assets	(4,556)
880	Downward revaluation or impairment of assets not charged to the surplus/deficit on the provision of services	1,050
<b>(6,699)</b>	<b>(Surplus) or deficit in the revaluation of non-current assets</b>	<b>(3,506)</b>
355	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation - written off to Capital Adjustment Account	508
<b>(20,646)</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(23,644)</b>

Other adjustments for assets disposed of or transferred - written off to Capital Adjustments Account

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the differences between accounting for the fair value of loans given to individuals and organisations, and the actual income credited to the General Fund.

2016/17 £000	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	2017/18 £000
227	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	226
(1)	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(13)
<b>226</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>213</b>

Available for Sale Reserve

Available for sale assets are carried at their fair value. Movements in fair value are posted to a revaluation reserve (the Available for Sale Financial Instruments Reserve) and taken to the Surplus or Deficit on the Revaluation of Available for Sale Financial Assets line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2016/17 £000	Available for Sale Reserve	2017/18 £000
182	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	330
0	<b>Upward revaluation of investments</b>	(174)
148	Downward revaluation of investments not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	0
<b>330</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>156</b>

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 pay 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. Further information is found in Note 37 in respect of Defined Benefit Pension Scheme.

2016/17 £000	Pensions Reserve	2017/18 £000
67,963	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	72,161
2,082	Actuarial (gains) or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	(1,660)
6,436	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	8,221
(4,320)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(4,526)
<b>72,161</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>74,196</b>

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account identifies the element of the Collection Fund balance that is due to this Council. It is included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it relates to 2017/18 and previous years although it is only actually transferred from the Collection Fund in line with regulations.

2016/17 £000	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	2017/18 £000
2,312	<b>Balance at 1 April</b>	(902)
(3,214)	Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax and non-domestic income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	764
(902)	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	(138)

#### Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account

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

Changes to the Councils annual leave and flexible working scheme, removing the automatic carry forward of untaken annual leave and restricting flexitime credits to 14.8 hours, has reduced the likely calculated cost of this type of adjustment to a minimal level. Therefore nothing has been included in the 2017/18 accounts for Accumulating Compensated Absences.

## **Note 24. Operating Activities**

The interest items of the cash flows for operating activities are as follows:

2016/17 £000	Interest Items	2017/18 £000
239	Interest Received	623
(526)	Interest Paid	(498)

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

2016/17 £000	Non-Cash Items	2017/18 £000
3,628	Depreciation	3,880
0	Impairment and downward valuations	90
366	Amortisation	275
(781)	Increase/ (decrease) in impairment for bad debts	55
(2,086)	Increase/ (decrease) in creditors	1,460
(3,152)	Increase/ (decrease) in debtors	(4,312)
(16)	Increase/ (decrease) in inventories	(4)
2,116	Movement in pension liability	3,695
752	Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	137
2,308	Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	400
<b>3,135</b>		<b>5,676</b>

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

2016/17 £000	Investing and Financing Items	2017/18 £000
(1,035)	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(403)
(5,644)	Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	(9,693)
<b>(6,679)</b>		<b>(10,096)</b>

## Note 25. Investing Activities

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
(11,812)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(9,316)
(6,045)	Other payments for investing activities	(2,573)
1,036	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	403
53,800	Purchases of short and long term investments	36,400
(54,684)	Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	(36,400)
6,926	Other receipts from investing activities	10,091
<b>(10,779)</b>	<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>	<b>(1,395)</b>

**Note 26. Financing Activities**

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
6,738	Other Receipts from Financing Activities	(272)
8,817	Cash Receipts from short/long term borrowing	14,000
(6,289)	Cash Payments to Short/Long term borrowing	(9,240)
<b>9,266</b>	<b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>	<b>4,488</b>

**Note 27. Trading Operations and Shared Services**

From a local authority context, a trading operation is one where a Council is trading and taking operational risks and could, if the economic environment so dictated, expose the Council to a financial loss on the service provided. These are the full costs including central support charges.

2016/17 £000	Trading Operations included in the Net Cost of Service	2017/18 £000
	<b>Car Parks</b>	
	The Council collects car parking income from both its own off-street car parks and from the on-street car parking operations that it operates, as an agent, for the Highways Authority. The income is generated from a mix of parking fees and excess parking charges. The Council operates 22 chargeable off-street car parks across the district and 3 on-street car parking areas in Huntingdon, St.Ives, and St Neots.	
(2,422)	Gross Income	(2,495)
1,517	Gross Expenditure	1,266
<b>(905)</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>(1,229)</b>
	<b>Leisure Services</b>	
	The Council operates 5 leisure centres across the district, under the name One Leisure; namely Huntingdon, St. Ives, St Neots, Sawtry and Ramsey. The facilities provided vary across the district but include amongst others; Swimming Pools, Sports Halls, Astro-Turf, Athletics Track, Gymnasium, Spa facilities and Ten-Pin Bowling.	
(6,782)	Gross Income	(6,604)
8,790	Gross Expenditure	7,946
<b>2,008</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>1,342</b>
<b>1,103</b>	<b>Net (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Operations included in Net Cost of Service</b>	<b>113</b>

2016/17 £000	Trading Operations included in the Investment Income and Expenditure	2017/18 £000
<b>Markets</b>		
The Council operates 3 stall markets in the towns of Huntingdon, Ramsey and St. Ives. In addition to the general market days Huntingdon has a separate farmers market and St Ives a bank holiday market.		
(150)	Gross Income	(147)
120	Gross Expenditure	132
<b>(30)</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>(15)</b>
<b>Printing</b>		
The Council operates a Document Processing Centre that produces a range of documents for both internal and external customers. All external work is undertaken on a marginal cost basis (i.e. excluding recharges) and on this basis external work has made a contribution to the net cost of the service. However, statutory reporting requires full cost.		
(68)	Gross Income	(57)
59	Gross Expenditure	47
<b>(9)</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>(10)</b>
<b>Grounds Maintenance</b>		
The Council's in-house Grounds Maintenance Team provides a wide range of services, primarily in respect of green spaces. However, the service also provides some services for external organisations, namely Luminus Housing Association and Cambridgeshire County Council.		
(150)	Gross Income	(225)
186	Gross Expenditure	235
<b>36</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Commercial Waste</b>		
The Council operates a waste collection service that is available to all businesses across the district. As this is a non-statutory service it is a chargeable activity.		
(157)	Gross Income	(187)
95	Gross Expenditure	159
<b>(62)</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>(28)</b>
<b>(65)</b>	<b>Trading Operations included in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure</b>	<b>(43)</b>
<b>1,038</b>	<b>Net (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Operations</b>	<b>70</b>
The above figures include non-cash adjustments; including IAS19 pensions and depreciation.		



**Note 28. Members' Allowances**

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

2016/17		2017/18	
£000		£000	
391	Allowances	377	
12	Expenses	12	
<b>403</b>		<b>389</b>	

**Note 29. Officers' Remuneration**

The number of employees whose remuneration in the year was £50,000 or more is shown in the table below. It includes pay, redundancy payments and other employee benefits but not employer's pension contributions.

2016/17	£		£	2017/18
4	50,000	but less than	55,000	7
1	55,000	but less than	60,000	0
4	60,000	but less than	65,000	4
0	65,000	but less than	70,000	2
1	70,000	but less than	75,000	1
0	75,000	but less than	80,000	1
1	80,000	but less than	85,000	1
1	130,000	but less than	135,000	1
<b>12</b>				<b>17</b>

Included in the banding table above are those senior officers who are separately disclosed in the following remuneration of senior employees table.

**Remuneration of Senior Employees**

The remuneration of Senior Employees is shown in the table below.

2017/18	Salary including allowances	Election Fees	Total remuneration including allowances and fees	Employer pension contributions	Remuneration including pension contributions
Post holder	£	£	£	£	£
Managing Director (1)	132,300	435	<b>132,735</b>	22,741	<b>155,476</b>
Corporate Director (Delivery)	84,322	0	<b>84,322</b>	14,471	<b>98,793</b>
Corporate Director (Services) (2)	57,011	0	<b>57,011</b>	9,863	<b>66,874</b>
Head of Resources (S151 Officer)	67,597	0	<b>67,597</b>	11,630	<b>79,227</b>

2016/17 Post holder	Salary including allowances £	Election Fees (1) £	Total remuneration including allowances and fees £	Employer pension contributions £	Remuneration including pension contributions £
Managing Director	127,536	6,336	<b>133,872</b>	22,473	<b>156,345</b>
Corporate Director (Services) (3)	23,596	988	<b>24,584</b>	4,348	<b>28,932</b>
Corporate Director (Delivery)	80,858	1,033	<b>81,891</b>	14,293	<b>96,184</b>
Head of Resources (S151 Officer)	69,357	1,331	<b>70,688</b>	12,302	<b>82,990</b>

**Key:**

Note 1: The election fees do not include fees for County, Parliamentary and Mayoral elections paid for by third parties

Note 2: The starting date of the Corporate Director (Services) was 10 July 2017.

Note 3: The Corporate Director (Services) left on the 25 July 2016.

**Note 30. External Audit Costs**

These figures show the amounts included in the accounts which include any adjustments made for previous years.

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
62	External audit	54
23	Grant claim certification	18
0	PSAA rebate	(8)
<b>85</b>		<b>64</b>

**Note 31. Grant Income**

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
	<b>Credited to taxation and non-specific Grant income</b>	
2,107	Revenue support grant	1,182
4,975	New Homes Bonus	3,656
889	Other Non Ringfenced Grants	165
0	Capital Grants	315
0	Donated Assets	860
<b>7,971</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,178</b>
	<b>Credited to Services</b>	
34,021	Rent allowances	32,670
597	Benefits administration	558
0	Improvement Grants	1,391
2,046	Other	933
<b>36,664</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>35,552</b>

The Council has received some grants that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies to be returned. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

2016/17 £000	Grants Receipts in Advance	2017/18 £000
	<b>Government grants</b>	
52	Mortgage Rescue Scheme	52
61	Preventing Repossessions	61
<b>113</b>		<b>113</b>

The Council has received some grants that have no conditions attached; they have been recognised as income but are held in the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account pending their use to fund the relevant Capital Scheme. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

2016/17 £000	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	2017/18 £000
0	Government grant for housing	0
1,985	Building Foundations for Growth	980
8,395	Community Infrastructure Levy	16,308
<b>10,380</b>		<b>17,288</b>

## Note 32. Related Parties

The Council must disclose in the accounts any material transactions with related parties. Related parties are 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.

Central Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council, it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides a significant amount 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.

Grants received from Government departments are set out in Note 31 on "Grant Income".

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2017/18 is shown in Note 28. Some Council members are also:

1. elected members of other Councils, including the County Council, Parish and Town Councils.
2. nominated representatives of Huntingdonshire District Council on various organisations, including the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

The Council has a significant operational relationship with Cambridgeshire County Council. The Council is the administering authority for the Council's Pension Fund, and many of the Council's services work with County Council services on a day-to-day basis e.g. the Council is the statutory waste collection authority whereas the County Council is the statutory waste disposal authority but each of the Councils has to pay the other in respect of certain types of waste. For 2017/18, the Council has paid:

- £6.045m to Cambridgeshire County Council (£2.411m for services and £3.634m for pension payments), and
- received £1.124m from the County Council.

(7.635m paid to and £1.312m received from the County Council; 2016/17)

The Council also has shared services arrangements with Cambridge City Council (CCC) and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) for ICT, Building Control, Legal and CCTV services:

Payments to / (from)	CCC £000	SCDC £000
ICT Services	(3,043)	(1,452)
Legal Services	206	
Building Control	257	
CCTV	(307)	

The Home Improvement Agency is a shared service between the Council and Cambridge City Council and South Cambs District Council; the agency is managed by Cambridge City Council. The Council's grant applicants contribute to the costs of the agency, for 2017/18 the contribution was £0.326m (2016/17, £0.186m), which represents 15% (2016/17, 12%) of the Disabled Facilities Grant that the agency manages on behalf of the Council. For 2017/18, the partners to the agency agreed that the agency could retain any surplus generated to invest in the future of the agency, for the Council this equated to £0.111m.

In respect of 2017/18:

- All 52 members who served the Council returned a Related Party Transaction disclosure form.
- All officers returned a Related Party Transaction disclosure form.

Following a comprehensive review of relevant statutory and voluntary disclosures and other 'ad-hoc' information sources, the following councillors and officers (as either an individual or family interest) have disclosed a related party; this is shown below:

Councillor	Organisation	Relationship with Organisation	Payments from Organisations 2017/18 £	Payments made by the Council 2017/18 £	Interest
Ablewhite	St Ives Town Cricket Club	President	0	1,250	Grant
Brown	Magpas	Chief Executive	0	1,500	Community Chest Grant
Criswell	Hunts Forum of Voluntary Sector Organisations		0	62,300	Voluntary Grant
Chapman & Hayward	Friends of Paxton Pits		22,642	0	Contribution towards assorted fixtures, fittings and equipment purchases
Reeve	LGA	Deputy Chairman	0	107,053	Transformation Consultants £93,060, Training £1,780, Corporate Subs £10,920, Conference £300, Professional subscriptions £480, legal fees £513
Reeve	COPE (Cambridgeshire Older Peoples Enterprises)		0	600	Grant
Brown	HDC Ventures	Director	0	0	Appointed 25.9.17
Conboy	HDC Ventures	Director	0	0	Appointed 25.9.17
Mead	Partners in Planning and Architecture	Director	3,600	0	Planning services
<b>Officer</b>					
Lancaster	HDC Ventures	Director	0	0	Appointed on 11.7.17
Morley	HDC Ventures	Director	0	0	Appointed on 25.9.17

With regard to these organisations, the Council has either procured goods or services or provided funding that has supported them in providing their core services. The items disclosed are in the normal course of business and are at arm's length.

### Note 33. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below, (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the Council, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR); a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed.

A net increase in the CFR reflects the Council's need to borrow to finance capital expenditure. The borrowing will be repaid from an annual revenue charge (Minimum Revenue Provision) which reflects the use of the assets over their useful lives.

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
<b>35,391</b>	<b>Opening Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>38,791</b>
	<b>Capital Investment</b>	
2,605	Property, Plant and Equipment	3,811
439	Intangible Assets	253
3,198	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	2,882
2,750	Repayable Advances	1,005
9,198	Investment Property	6,079
0	Assets Under Construction	202
0	Lease Liability Adjustment	0
<b>18,190</b>		<b>14,232</b>
(1,252)	Capital Receipts	(689)
(1,193)	Grants and Other Contributions	(1,706)
0	Use of Earmarked Reserves	(407)
(1,479)	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve – Community Infrastructure Levy	(61)
0	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve – Other	(1,005)
(9,187)	Direct Revenue Financing – Commercial Investment Strategy	(747)
(176)	Direct Revenue Financing – Other	0
(1,454)	Minimum Revenue Provision	(1,761)
(49)	S106 Reserve	0
<b>(14,790)</b>		<b>(6,376)</b>
<b>38,791</b>	<b>Closing Capital Finance Requirement</b>	<b>46,647</b>
<b>3,400</b>	<b>Increase/(Decrease) in Underlying Need to Borrow</b>	<b>7,856</b>

## Note 34. Leases

### Council as Lessee

#### Finance Leases

The Council has acquired some industrial units under finance leases. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as investment property in the Balance Sheet at the following amounts. The value of the investment property as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 is £2.059m (31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 £1.990m)

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

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
<i>Finance lease liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments)</i>		
545	Non-current	544
2,910	Finance costs payable in future years	2,872
<b>3,455</b>	<b>Minimum lease payments</b>	<b>3,416</b>

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

	Minimum lease payments		Finance lease payments	
	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000	2016/17 £000	2017/18 £000
Not later than 1 year	39	39	0	0
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	156	156	0	0
Later than 5 years	3,260	3,221	545	544
	<b>3,455</b>	<b>3,416</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>544</b>

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2017/18 £0.081m contingent rents were payable by the Council (2016/17; £0.081m).

### Operating Leases

The Council has a number of operating leases for land which vary from 3 years to 125 years. The operating lease payments made in the year, are in the following tables.

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

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
28	Not later than 1 year	22
53	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	40
<b>81</b>		<b>62</b>

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

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
44	Minimum lease payments	31

### Service Concessions

The Council does not have any contracts that include service concessions.

**Council as Lessor****Finance leases**

The Council has no finance leases as lessor.

**Operating Leases**

The Council leases out property under operating leases for economic development purposes to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses

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

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
2,538	Not later than 1 year	2,861
7,941	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	7,782
17,298	Later than 5 years	16,582
<b>27,777</b>		<b>27,225</b>

The lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the Balance Sheet date, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

**Note 35. Impairment Losses**

During 2017/18 the Council has recognised impairments to Property, Plant and Equipment of £1.140m (2016/17; £0.880m).

**Note 36. Termination Benefits and Exit Packages****Compulsory Redundancy:**

In respect of:

- 2017/18, the Council approved the compulsory redundancy of 4 employees
- 2016/17, the Council approved the compulsory redundancy of 10 employees

**Other departures (Including Voluntary Redundancy):**

In respect of:

- 2017/18, 0 voluntary redundancies were approved.  
In addition a further 1 employee left the council in 2017/18 with a Compromise agreement.
- 2016/17, 2 voluntary redundancies were approved.  
In addition a further 3 employees left the council in 2016/17 with a Compromise agreement and pension enhancement package.

All costs in respect of Termination benefits and exit packages have been debited to the year in which the decision was made. The following table shows the banding of employee terminations and the total cost to the Council per band.



	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages agreed		Total cost of packages	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
							£000	£000
£0 to less than £20,000	8	1	4	1	12	2	90	23
£20,000 to less than £40,000	1	1	1	0	2	1	54	21
£40,000 to less than £60,000	1	0	0	0	1	0	42	0
£60,000 to less than £80,000	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	140
	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>184</b>

## Note 37. 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 and this needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

Employees of Huntingdonshire District Council may participate in the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund, part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The fund is administered as a defined benefit final salary scheme by Cambridgeshire County Council in accordance with LGPS Regulations 1997, as amended.

### Valuation of Pension Fund

The contribution rate is determined by the Fund's actuary based on triennial valuations. The last valuation took place as at 31 March 2016.

To avoid the impact of potential reductions in the workforce the actuary proposed that a fixed percentage of 17.3% be applied for 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20.

This should be used to provide for future service liabilities, together with a lump sum contribution to reduce the existing deficit related to past service.

The lump sums proposed were:

2017/18	£1.584m
2018/19	£1.584m
2019/20	£1.584m

As a consequence of the triennial valuation, the asset value in the intervening period is an estimate calculated by the actuary using a model. Any differences between the estimate and actual figures are adjusted at the next full valuation.

### Transactions Relating to Post-Employment Benefits

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. The Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, at a level calculated to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets. However, the charge the Council is required to make against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment 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:

2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
	<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure Statement</b>	
	Cost of Services:	
3,715	Current Service Cost	6,256
325	Past Service Cost	67
	<b>Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:</b>	
6,259	Net interest expense	5,549
(3,863)	Expected Return on Scheme Assets	(3,651)
<b>6,436</b>	<b>Total post-employment benefit charged to the deficit on the provision of services</b>	<b>8,221</b>
	<b>Other post-employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>	
	Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:	
26,309	Return on plan assets (Excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	(2,422)
1,722	Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	0
(29,841)	Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	4,107
403	Other experience	(25)
(1,407)		1,660
<b>5,029</b>	<b>Total post-employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	<b>9,881</b>
	<b>Movement in Reserves Statement</b>	
(6,436)	Reversal of net charges made to the surplus/deficit on the provision of services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(8,221)
	Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year:	
4,123	Employer's contributions payable to the scheme	4,331
197	Retirement benefits payable to pensioners*	195
<b>(2,116)</b>	<b>Total Movement in Reserves Statement</b>	<b>(3,695)</b>

The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the 31 March 2018 is a loss of £53.70m, and to the 31 March 2017 is a loss of £55.36m.

#### Assets and Liabilities in relation to Post-employment Benefits

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities in respect of Huntingdonshire District Council:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£000		£000
<b>179,200</b>	<b>Opening balance as at 1 April</b>	<b>212,691</b>
3,715	Current Service Cost	6,256
6,259	Interest Cost	5,549
921	Contributions by scheme participants	1,020
	<b>Remeasurement (gains) and losses:</b>	
(1,722)	Actuarial losses/ (gains) from changed in demographic assumptions	0
29,841	Actuarial losses / (gains) from changes in financial assumptions	(4,107)
(403)	Other	25
325	Past service costs/ (gains)	67
(5,248)	Benefits paid	(5,367)
(197)	Estimated unfunded benefits paid *	(195)
<b>212,691</b>	<b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>	<b>215,939</b>
* The unfunded benefits are those relating to the early retirement of scheme members where the Council makes an additional contribution to the Pension Fund		

Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme assets in respect of Huntingdonshire District Council:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£000		£000
<b>111,237</b>	<b>Opening fair value of scheme assets balance as at 1 April</b>	<b>140,530</b>
3,863	Interest Income	3,651
	<b>Remeasurement gain/(loss)</b>	
25,634	The return on plan assets (Excluding amount included in net interest expense)	(2,422)
4,123	Contributions by the employer	4,331
921	Contributions by employees into the scheme	1,020
197	Contributions for unfunded (Discretionary benefits)benefits*	195
(5,248)	Benefits paid	(5,367)
(197)	Unfunded (Discretionary benefits) benefits paid*	(195)
<b>140,530</b>	<b>Closing Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>141,743</b>

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets.

The actual return on scheme assets in the year was £1.23m (2016/17; £30.17m).

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

2013/14 £000	2014/15 £000	2015/16 £000	2016/17 £000		2017/18 £000
(162,360)	(192,333)	(179,200)	(212,691)	Fair value of assets	(215,939)
100,896	112,249	111,237	140,530	<b>Deficit in the scheme</b>	141,743
<b>(61,464)</b>	<b>(80,084)</b>	<b>(67,963)</b>	<b>(72,161)</b>		<b>(74,196)</b>

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long run to pay post-employment benefits. The total liability of £(215.94m) has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the Balance Sheet, resulting in a negative overall balance of £(74.20m).

However, the statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy:

- The deficit on the local government scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the scheme and actuary.
- Finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when the pensions are actually paid.

The Council expects to contribute £4.22m into Cambridgeshire County Council's Local Government Pension Fund in the year to 31 March 2019. With regard to discretionary benefits, there were no such awards in 2017/18 (2016/17; Nil).

Impact of the 31 March 2016 Formal Actuarial Valuation

Formal actuarial valuations are carried out every three years where assets and liabilities are calculated on a detailed basis and these were concluded as at 31 March 2016.

Basis for Estimating Liabilities and Assets

Liabilities, for the purposes of IAS19, 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, longevity etc. The liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP, the independent firm of actuaries to the County Council Pension Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2016. The results of this valuation were projected forward using approximate methods.

The main assumptions used by the actuary are as shown overleaf.

2016/17	County Fund – Main Assumptions	2017/18
2.7%	Rate of increase in salaries	2.7%
2.4%	Rate of increase in pensions	2.4%
2.6%	Rate of discounting scheme liabilities	2.7%
	<i>Mortality assumptions:</i>	
	Longevity at 65 for current pensioners	
22.4 years	Men	22.4 years
24.4 years	Women	24.4 years
	Longevity at 65 for future pensioners	
24.0 years	Men	24.0 years
26.3 years	Women	26.3 years

#### Local Government Pension Scheme Assets Comprised:

Pension fund assets consist of the following categories, by value of the total assets held:

31 March 2017 £000		31 March 2018 £000
4,015	Cash and cash equivalents	3,926
0	<b>Other</b>	0
<b>4,015</b>		<b>3,926</b>
	<b>Equity instruments by industry type:</b>	
3,772	Consumer	3,870
2,444	Manufacturing	2,614
3,244	Energy and utilities	2,970
5,695	Financial institutions	6,465
1,492	Health and care	1,461
620	Information technology	754
0	Other	0
<b>17,267</b>	<b>Sub-total equity</b>	<b>18,135</b>
	<b>Debt Securities</b>	
3,787	UK Government	3,506
<b>3,787</b>	<b>Sub total debt securities</b>	<b>3,506</b>
	<b>Private equity:</b>	
12,225	All not in active markets	12,477
<b>12,225</b>	<b>Sub-total private equity</b>	<b>12,477</b>
	<b>Other investment funds:</b>	
14,824	Bonds	13,825
79,073	Equity	80,357
9,339	Other	9,518
<b>103,236</b>	<b>Sub-total other investment funds</b>	<b>103,700</b>
<b>140,530</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>141,743</b>

#### History of Experience Gains and Losses

The actuarial gains identified as movements on the Pensions Reserve in 2017/18 can be analysed into the following categories, measured as a percentage of assets or liabilities at 31 March 2018.

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17		2017/18
%	%	%	%		%
2.92	2.62	6.88	(3.83)	Differences between expected and actual return on assets	(18.56)
0.51	0.95	1.01	0.19	Experience gains/ losses on liabilities	(0.01)

Sensitivity analysis:

Increase in assumption 31 March 2017 £000	Impact on the defined benefit obligation in the scheme	Increase in assumption 31 March 2018 £000
3-5%	Longevity (increase or decrease in 1 year)	3-5%
2,963	Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.5%)	2,943
17,323	Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.5%)	18,206
(20,567)	Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.5%)	(21,409)

Further information

Further information may be found in the Cambridgeshire County Pension Fund Annual Report, available from the Director of Resources, Cambridgeshire County Council, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP.

**Note 38. Provisions, Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

	Short Term Provisions			Tree Claim	Total
	Enterprise Zone Retained NDR	NDR Appeals Provision	Local Land Charges		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Balance at 1 April 2016</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>2,157</b>	<b>40</b>	30	<b>2,306</b>
Movement during 2016/17	0	(874)	(40)	(30)	(944)
<b>Balance at 31 March 2017</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,362</b>
Amounts used in 2017/18	(79)	(853)	0	0	<b>(932)</b>
Amounts charged to services 2017/18	0	1,160	0	0	<b>1,160</b>
<b>Balance at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,590</b>

**Provision****Short Term Provision**

Where an obligating event is expected to occur within the next 12 months.

**1. Enterprise Zone Retained NDR**

The Council retains the Non Domestic Rates (NDR) income arising from increases in the rateable value of premises within the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Zone. However, there is a requirement to apply this retention to the Enterprise Zone as no formal request to draw down this retention had been made by the Local Enterprise Partnership as at 31 March 2015, a provision for this liability has been recognised. Settled during FY 2017-18.

**2. NDR Appeals Provision**

As a consequence of the Government initiative in the localisation of Non-Domestic Rates (NDR), the Government transferred the risk of appeals against Rateable Values to local authorities. Following a review which included taking external expert advice a provision for appeals outstanding was estimated to be £3.976m; of which £1.590m would have to be met by the Council, and £2.386m by other Collection Fund participants.

**3. Local Land Charges**

A group of Property Search Companies have sought to claim refunds on Land Charges from Local Authorities. The claim was settled during 2016/17 and the balance of the provision returned to the service.

**4. Tree Claim**

This relates to the cost of underpinning and associated fees and expenses incurred by Co-Operative Insurance in relation to works carried out at Oak Lodge, Warboys Road, Old Hurst, PE28 3AA, that they claim are as a result of damage caused by a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order. This claim was settled during 2016/17.

**Contingent Liabilities**

The councils Contingent Liabilities cover various on-going litigations and these are detailed below. The total expected value of these liabilities is £7.276m (2016/17; £6.728m)

2016/17 Estimated value of contingent liability £000	Details of Contingent Liability	2017/18 Estimated value of contingent liability £000
3,450	<p><b><u>Environmental Related:</u></b></p> <p><b>Contaminated Land</b></p> <p>The Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part IIA makes the Council liable for the costs of remediation of contaminated land where no other responsible person can be identified. The Council is in discussion with Cambridgeshire County Council over the planning position of a site owned by a company which is currently treating the leachate from a possible orphan site. If the planning application made to the County Council is approved, this will reduce the probability of abandonment and the likelihood of the Council becoming liable will reduce considerably.</p>	3,300

	<p>However, at this time there is a possibility that the Council could be liable if the site is abandoned. Current estimates are that the cost of leachate treatment would cost £150,000 per annum for 22 years (originally 30 years).</p>	
<b>3,450</b>	<b>Total for Environmental Related</b>	<b>3,300</b>
	<b><u>Housing Related:</u></b>	
915	<p><b>Disabled Facilities Grants</b> The Council has agreed to pay disabled facilities grants; however, as yet the schemes have not yet started. The expense will only be incurred if the householders carry out the home alterations.</p>	947
<b>915</b>	<b>Total for Housing Related</b>	<b>947</b>
	<b>NHS Hospital Trust</b>	
1,720	<p>At this time a claim has been made against the Council by NHS Hospital Trusts in respect of mandatory NDR relief. However, via the Local Government Association, the Council along with many other Local Authorities is challenging this claim.</p>	1,994
<b>1,720</b>	<b>Total for Customer Services Related</b>	<b>1,994</b>
	<b><u>Corporate Related:</u></b>	
494	<p><b>Municipal Mutual Insurance Liquidation</b> Some years ago, the Council was insured by Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI); unfortunately whilst the Council was insured by MMI they went into liquidation. Following the collapse of MMI, a Scheme of Arrangement was made that allowed MMI to 'run-off' the business and deal with outstanding claims. Due to increasing numbers of liability claims that MMI continued to receive, MMI pursued the matter of their continuing liability through the Courts. The Supreme Court gave judgement in March 2012. This clarified MMI's position in respect of future claims and led ultimately to increasing liabilities for MMI. The Scheme of Arrangement was enforced in January 2014. A Levy has been charged against the Council, totalling £192,047, which represents 25% of the total claims paid by MMI, on behalf of the Council since 1993 (£0.818m), less a protected liability sum of £50k as agreed by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.</p>	576



20	<p><b>Assets of Community Value</b> As at 31 March 2018, the Council has listed 33 sites owned by private individuals or companies as Assets of Community Value, as required by the Localism Act 2011. The Assets of Community Value scheme includes provisions for owners to claim compensation for loss and expense incurred through the asset being listed or previously listed. All claims must be considered and decisions may be subject to a review and an independent appeal. The Council is liable for all compensation payments awarded up to a maximum of £20,000 in each financial year, unless the limit is removed by the Government.</p>	20
129	<p><b>Apprenticeship Grant for Employers</b> Under the governments S.31 devolvement powers the above grant (£1.487m) was awarded to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and paid directly to Peterborough Regional College; however the Council is the accountable body. The amounts shown are the uncommitted funds as at the 31 March for which the Council could be liable for if the grant conditions are not met.</p>	439
<b>643</b>	<b>Total for Corporate Related</b>	<b>1,035</b>
<b>6,728</b>	<b>Total Contingent Liabilities</b>	<b>7,276</b>

The above litigations are prudent estimates of the potential cost to the council. It is not possible, due to considerations of legal privilege to either provide further information or to give an assessment of the likelihood of success of any of the litigations.

### **Note 39. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments**

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council.
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments.
- Market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise as a result of changes in measures such as interest rates.

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by the treasury management team with due regard to the Annual Treasury Management Strategy approved by the Council.

#### Credit risk

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

In relation to investments the Council has adopted CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services, has an agreed Treasury Management Strategy which addresses risk, and has set treasury management indicators to control key financial instrument risks in accordance with CIPFA's Prudential Code.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks and building societies of £29.790m (2016/17; £29.077m) cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. The risk of not being able to recover the principal sums applies to all of the Council's deposits but there was no evidence as at 31 March 2018 that this was likely to occur and there are no investments that as at 31 March 2018 were with institutions that had failed.

In relation to the sums owed by the Council's customers and contractual debtors, the Council makes prudent financial provision for bad debts based on an assessment of the risks for each type of debt and the age of those debts whilst maintaining a robust approach to the collection of debts. The older the debt, the greater is the provision for bad debts. The bad debt provision has taken into account the current economic climate and the increased likelihood of debtors not being able to settle their debts.

The following analysis summarises the Council's potential maximum exposure to credit risk on receivables, based on historical experience of default and uncollectability. It relates to the sundry debtors element of the total debtors, including debts of individuals, entities and housing benefit claimants.

	Amount at 31 March 2018	Historical experience of default	Historical experience of default adjusted for market conditions	Impairment allowance 31 March 2018	Impairment allowance 31 March 2017
	£000	%	%	£000	£000
Sundry debtors	3,371	3.77%	3.77%	1,497	1,486

The Council does not generally allow credit for customers. The past due, but not impaired amount can be analysed by age as follows:

31/03/17 £000		31/03/18 £000
222	Less than three months	690
118	Three to six months	242
483	Six months to one year	351
2,124	More than one year	2,088
<b>2,947</b>		<b>3,371</b>

#### Liquidity risk

The Council maintains a cash flow projection that assists in ensuring that cash is available as needed. If unexpected movement happens the Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets, and if necessary from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), although the Council does not generally use the PWLB for short-term cash-flow deficits. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities of more than one year are shown below as at 31 March 2018.

Financial Year	£000s
2023/24	866
2037/38	5,000
2046/47	2,161
2047/48	2,670
2057/58	5,000
2058/59	5,000
	<b>20,697</b>

31/03/17		31/03/18	
£000		£000	
414	Less than one year	474	
15,694	More than one year	20,439	
<b>16,108</b>		<b>20,913</b>	

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

#### Market risk – interest rate risk

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

- Borrowing at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise.
- Borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of liabilities borrowings will fall.
- Investment at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services will rise.
- Investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

However the impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services is reduced because the Council does not generally borrow or invest at variable rates. Borrowings are not carried at fair value, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

The Council manages interest rate risk by not having any borrowings in variable rate loans. At times of falling interest rates and where economic circumstances make it favourable, consideration would be given to repaying fixed rate loans early to limit exposure to losses.

The treasury management team assesses the interest rate exposure that feeds into the setting of the annual budget and it is used to update the Budget at least quarterly during the year.

If in 2017/18 interest rates on all of its investments and borrowings had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

	£000
Increase in interest payable on borrowings of less than 1 year	0
Increase in interest receivable on investments of less than 1 year	128CR
Impact on the surplus on the Provision of Services	128CR
Increase in the fair value of fixed rate investments	0
Impact on Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings	4,262
(No impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement)	

The impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the movements being reversed.

#### Price risk

At 31 March 2018 the Council had £4 million invested in the Local Authorities Property Fund which is a professionally managed diversified property portfolio.

This investment is classified as 'available for sale', meaning that all movements in price will impact on gains and losses recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

A gain of £174k in respect of the Local Authorities Property Fund has been recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure in 2017/18. This reflects general movements in the value of the shares, and the spread between the 'offer' price at which the shares were purchased and the 'bid' price that any purchaser would pay for them.

A general shift of 5% in the general price of shares (positive or negative) would have resulted in a gain or loss of £184k being recognised in the Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure for 2017-18.

#### Foreign Exchange Risk

The Council does not hold foreign currencies and consequently has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

**Collection Fund**

<b>Non-Domestic Rates</b>	<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>Non-Domestic Rates</b>	<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2016/17</b>		<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
			<b>INCOME</b>			
0	97,148	97,148	Council Tax Payers	0	100,097	100,097
59,791	0	59,791	Business Rates	57,289	0	57,289
(30)	0	(30)	Transitional Relief	(1,779)	0	(1,779)
<b>59,761</b>	<b>97,148</b>	<b>156,909</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>55,510</b>	<b>100,097</b>	<b>155,607</b>
			<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
			<b>Contributions Prior Year</b>			
			<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>			
(4,524)	0	(4,524)	Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government	1,892	0	1,892
(3,619)	50	(3,569)	Huntingdonshire District Council	1,514	53	1,567
(814)	271	(543)	Cambridgeshire County Council	341	276	617
0	43	43	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner	0	44	44
(90)	15	(75)	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	38	16	54
<b>(9,047)</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>(8,668)</b>		<b>3,785</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>4,174</b>
			<b>Precepts Demands and Shares</b>			
29,983	0	29,983	Ministry for Housing Communities & Local Government	25,914	0	25,914
24,406	7,905	32,311	Huntingdonshire District Council	21,092	8,165	29,257
0	5,471	5,471	Parish Councils	0	5,731	5,731
5,439	69,278	74,717	Cambridgeshire County Council	4,701	71,558	76,259
0	10,871	10,871	Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner	0	11,225	11,225
604	3,889	4,493	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	522	4,014	4,536
<b>60,432</b>	<b>97,414</b>	<b>157,846</b>		<b>52,229</b>	<b>100,693</b>	<b>152,922</b>
			<b>Charges to the Collection Fund</b>			
(189)	(177)	(366)	Write Off Uncollectable Debts	(116)	(133)	(249)
175	202	377	Change in Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	147	324	471
(2,187)	0	(2,187)	Changes in Provision for Appeals	769	0	769
222	0	222	Cost of Collection	217	0	217
874	0	874	Renewable Energy Retentions	881	0	881
<b>(1,105)</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>(1,080)</b>		<b>1,898</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>2,089</b>
<b>50,280</b>	<b>97,818</b>	<b>148,098</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>57,912</b>	<b>101,273</b>	<b>159,185</b>
			<b>Movement in Fund Balance</b>			
(9,481)	670	(8,811)	( Surplus)/Deficit For Year	2,402	1,176	3,578
6,490	(836)	5,654	(Surplus)/Deficit Brought Forward 1 April	(2,991)	(166)	(3,157)
<b>(2,991)</b>	<b>(166)</b>	<b>(3,157)</b>	<b>(Surplus)/Deficit Carried Forward 31 March</b>	<b>(589)</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>421</b>

## Notes to the Collection Fund

### 1. Purpose of Fund

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for the Council as a billing authority to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates.

Until it is distributed, the tax collected is held in a statutory Collection Fund which is separate from the General Fund of the Council. The accounts are however, consolidated into the Council's accounts. They have been prepared on an accruals basis.

Parish and Town Council precepts are transferred to the General Fund before being paid to the Parish or Town Council. Interest is not payable / chargeable to the Collection Fund on cash flow variations between it and the General Fund.

There is no requirement for a separate Collection Fund Balance Sheet. The assets and liabilities of the Collection Fund at the end of the year are apportioned between Huntingdonshire District Council and the major preceptors in proportion to their demand on the fund for the year. The major preceptors' share of the assets and liabilities of the Collection Fund are shown as a debtor in Huntingdonshire District Council's accounts. Huntingdonshire District Council's share of the assets and liabilities are held in the Collection Fund Adjustment Account reserve.

### 2. Council Tax

Tax base at 31 March 2018				
Tax band	Properties	Exemptions & discounts	Band D multiplier	Band D equivalent
A	11,859	(2,114)	6/9	6,497
B	20,242	(2,391)	7/9	13,884
C	17,903	(1,719)	8/9	14,386
D	11,831	(889)	9/9	10,942
E	9,012	(626)	11/9	10,250
F	3,750	(256)	13/9	5,047
G	1,778	(119)	15/9	2,765
H	163	(31)	18/9	264
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,538</b>	<b>(8,145)</b>		<b>64,035</b>

Council tax charge per band D property for 2017/18 £1,675.13

Council tax charge per band D property for 2016/17 £1,641.14

### **3. Non Domestic Rates (NDR)**

The uniform Business Rate set by the Government for 2017/18 was 47.9p (2016/17 49.7p).

Total rateable value at 31 March 2018 £146.19m.

Total rateable value at 31 March 2017 £142.51m.

### **4. Non Domestic Rates Appeals**

The provision is based upon the latest list of outstanding rating list proposals provided by the Valuation Office Agency. It is an estimate based on changes in comparable hereditaments, market trends and other valuation issues, including the potential for certain proposals to be withdrawn. The estimate includes appeals and proposals in respect of live and historic Rating List entries. It does not include any allowance or adjustment for the effects of transition or for changes in liability. The estimated provision is made up of the estimated outcome of appeals calculated by a weighted average of the historic outcomes. It should be noted that the impact on the Council of appeals, as well as other NDR, is limited by Safety Net calculation (the calculation of which is limited by regulation).

A 10% variation in the estimated provision would be £0.398m for the Collection Fund of which £0.159m would be attributable to the General Fund.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Accrual**

The recognition of income and expenditure as it is earned or incurred, rather than as cash is received or paid.

**Actuarial Assumptions**

These are predictions made for factors that will affect the financial condition of the pension scheme.

**Amortisation**

The gradual write off of initial costs of assets.

**Asset**

An item having value to the Council in monetary terms.

**Balance**

Unallocated reserves held to resource unpredictable expenditure demands.

**Business Improvement District**

A levy on local business to provide funding to develop the immediate area covered by the levy. The levy is agreed by majority vote.

**Capital Charges**

Charges made to service department revenue accounts, comprising depreciation (where appropriate) based on the value of the asset employed.

**Capital Expenditure**

Expenditure on the acquisition of non-current assets which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure on non-current assets.

**Capital Financing Charges**

The annual cost of depreciation, leasing charges and other costs of funding capital expenditure.

**Capital Adjustment Account**

The account which reflects the extent to which the District Council's resources have been applied to finance capital expenditure and to meet future debt redemption or other credit liabilities.

**Capital Receipts**

Income received from selling non-current assets.

**Carrying amount**

The value of an asset or liability in the Balance Sheet.

**CIPFA**

This is the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy which is an institute that represents accounting in the Public Sector.

**Collection Fund**

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



**Community Infrastructure Levy**

An amount payable by developers (commercial and domestic) in respect of new buildings created within the District. The Levy must be used to provide infrastructure; decisions on which are taken by District and Parish Councils.

**Contingent Liabilities**

These are amounts that the Council may be, but is not definitely, liable for.

**Council Tax**

A tax paid by residents of the District that is based on the value of the property lived in and is paid to the Council and spent on local services.

**Creditors**

These are people or organisations which the Council owes money to for goods or services which have not been paid for by the end of the financial year.

**Current Assets**

These are assets that are held for a short period of time, for example cash in the bank, inventories and debtors.

**Debtors**

Sums of money owed to the District Council but not received by the end of the financial year.

**Depreciation**

The amount an asset has dropped in value is the amount it has been judged to have depreciated. Accountants use depreciation to demonstrate how much of the property, plant and equipment value has been used and therefore lowered during a financial year, for example because of wear and tear.

**Earmarked Reserves**

Money set aside for a specific purpose.

**Exceptional Item**

A material item in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that falls within the ordinary activities of the Council but which needs to be disclosed separately by virtue of their size to give a fair presentation of the accounts.

**Fair value**

The amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in arm's length transaction.

**Finance Lease**

A lease is a financial agreement to pay for an asset, for example a vehicle, in regular instalments. A finance lease transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of an item of property, plant and equipment to a lessee.

**Impairment**

A reduction in the value of property, plant and equipment to below its carrying amount on the Balance Sheet.

**Impairment of debts**

This recognises that the real value of debt is less than the book value.

**Intangible Assets**

A non-physical item which provides future economic benefits. This Council's intangible assets comprise computer software licences.

**Liabilities**

Amounts due to individuals or organisations which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Current liabilities are usually payable within one year of the Balance Sheet date.

**Liquid Resources**

Current asset investments held as readily disposable stores of value, either readily convertible into cash, or traded in an active market.

**Local Enterprise Partnership**

A Government initiative to boost economic growth within defined and agreed geographical areas. Funding to enable this growth is derived from the Non Domestic Rates collected for that area and channelled into the “partnership” to fund schemes.

**Minimum Revenue Provision**

The minimum amount that must be charged to the revenue account each year to provide for the repayment of monies borrowed by the Council.

**Non Domestic Rates**

Rates which are levied on business properties. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013, as a consequence of The Local Government Finance Act 2012, a local Non Domestic Rating regime was introduced that included the business rates retention scheme. See also **Tariff** and **Safety Net**.

**Operating Leases**

A lease is a financial agreement to pay for an asset, for example a vehicle, in regular instalments. An operating lease is where the ownership of the non-current asset remains with the lessor.

**Precept**

A payment to the Council's General fund, or another local council, from the Council's Collection Fund.

**Prior Year Adjustments**

These are material adjustments applicable to previous years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

**Property, Plant and Equipment**

Non-current assets that give benefit to the District Council and the services it provides for more than one year.

**Provisions**

Monies set aside for liabilities or losses which are likely to be incurred but where the exact amounts or dates on which they will arrive are uncertain.

**Reclassification**

Where comparative (prior year) figures are reclassified into new categories of income or expenditure, and the change has not been the result of a material error or accounting policy but the amount is “material” then this is a reclassification.

**Responsible Financial Officer**

The designated post within the Council, as determined by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which holds the statutory S.151 responsibility (Local Government Act 1972). This responsibility is in respect of ensuring the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. This post was formerly known as Chief Financial Officer.

**Restated**

Where there has been a material error in the accounts or a new accounting policy has been applied, then the comparative (prior year) figures have to be “restated” as if the correction or policy had been in place as at the end of the previous financial year.

**Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute**

Spending on items normally classed as revenue but which are defined by statute as capital e.g. improvement grants.

**Revaluation Reserve**

The account that reflects the amount by which the value of the Council’s assets has been revised following revaluation or disposal.

**Revenue Expenditure**

Spending on day-to-day items, including salaries and wages, premises costs and supplies and services.

**Revenue Support Grant**

A grant from Central Government towards the cost of providing services.

**Safety Net**

The scheme for localising Non Domestic Rates (NDR) includes a safety net provision. Where the actual NDR after Tariff is less than 92.5% of the funding baseline, Central Government makes a safety net payment to the Council equal to the difference between the actual NDR and the funding baseline.

**Section 106**

Under planning regulations developers can be requested to make contributions to on and off-site facilities required as a result of their development.

**Tariff**

The scheme for localising Non Domestic Rates (NDR) includes baselines for both the amount of NDR the Council receives and the amount of Council funding from NDR. The Council pays Central Government a Tariff equal to the difference between the two baselines.

**True and Fair View Override**

As required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, paragraph 8.2, the Responsible Financial Officer is required to certify that the statement of accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council. However, as a consequence of IFRS, this has introduced the principle of the “true and fair view override”. This means, where the Responsible Financial Officer considers that to give a true and fair view would actually require the Council to provide misleading information i.e. to provide an actual outturn figure would actually show to the reader an unexpected financial position, the Responsible Financial Officer is permitted to provide alternative figures providing such divergence from the “true and fair view” is appropriately acknowledged in the notes to the accounts.

**Zero Based Budgeting**

A budgeting methodology where the starting point is zero and the budget is based on service need and anticipated demand for that year.

**ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>CFR</b>	Capital Financing Requirement
<b>CIES</b>	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
<b>CIL</b>	Community Infrastructure Levy
<b>CIPFA</b>	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
<b>CPFA</b>	Chartered Public Finance Accountant
<b>DRC</b>	Depreciated replacement cost
<b>EFA</b>	Expenditure and Funding Analysis
<b>FTE</b>	Full Time Equivalent
<b>IAS</b>	International Accounting Standards
<b>IFRIC</b>	International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee
<b>IFRS</b>	International Financial Reporting Standards
<b>LEP</b>	Local Enterprise Partnership
<b>LGPS</b>	Local Government Pension Scheme
<b>LLPG</b>	Local Land and Property Gazetteer (UK)
<b>MHCLG</b>	Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government
<b>MRP</b>	Minimum Revenue Provision
<b>MTFS</b>	Medium Term Financial Strategy
<b>NBV</b>	Net Book Value
<b>NDR</b>	Non Domestic Rates
<b>NHB</b>	New Homes Bonus
<b>NNDR</b>	National Non Domestic Rates (Business Rates)
<b>PWLB</b>	Public Works Loans Board

<b>RICS</b>	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
<b>RSG</b>	Revenue Support Grant
<b>S106</b>	Section 106
<b>SOLACE</b>	Society of Local Authority Chief Executives
<b>ZBB</b>	Zero Based Budgeting