

2024/25 TREASURY MANAGEMENT, CAPITAL, AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

4. COMMENTS OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY.

- 4.2 The Panel discussed the 2024/25 Treasury Management, Capital, And Investment Strategies at its meeting on 31st January 2024.
- 4.3 Councillor Blackwell commented that the forecasting by the Link Group contained within the report was much appreciated as was the detail surrounding the Council's property investments. Councillor Blackwell also commented that references in the report to interest rates being high, should be taken in the context that in the past these rates would not actually have been seen as high.
- 4.4 Councillor Gleadow enquired whether Treasury training would be made available to Overview and Scrutiny members, following which the Panel were advised that the mechanics for this were being put in place and details would be communicated to the Panel after training providers (potentially Link Group and others) are contacted for their offer, and following this, a discussion at Treasury and Capital Management Group. The training should also be provided to members of the Corporate Governance Committee.
- 4.5 Following an enquiry from Councillor Howell about the management of the properties within the CIS Strategy from outside the district, the Panel were assured that the team managed these long term investments and took into account a variety of risk factors to ensure both best value and protection for the Council.
- 4.6 In response to a question from Councillor Jennings surrounding the increase of values at the Rowley Arts Centre, the Panel heard that this was due to rents returning to more normal levels following the reduction that had been enforced during the COVID period. As rent levels are a key component in calculating the property valuations, the higher rents led to increased property valuations.
- 4.7 Following the discussion, the Panel were informed that their comments would be added to the Cabinet report in order for an informed decision to be made on the report recommendations.