

Treasury Management 6 Month Performance Review 2025/26

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Glossary

1. Background

1.1 CIPFA Consultation on the Treasury Management Code of Practice and the Prudential Code of Practice

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy is currently consulting local authorities in respect of potential changes to the Codes. The focus appears to primarily be on the Non-Treasury investment aspects of local authority activity. An update will be provided on material developments and changes after the consultation is completed..

1.2 Treasury management

The council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in low-risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering optimising investment return.

The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning to ensure the council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans, or using longer term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet council's risk or cost objectives.

Accordingly, treasury management is defined as:

“The management of the local council's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”

2. Introduction

This report has been written in accordance with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management (revised 2021).

The primary requirements of the Code are as follows:

1. Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement which sets out the policies and objectives of the council's treasury management activities.
2. Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices which set out the manner in which the council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives.
3. Receipt by the full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement - including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy - for the year ahead, a Mid-year Review Report and an Annual Report, (stewardship report), covering activities during the previous year. Quarterly reports are also required for the periods ending April to June and October to December, these are

included with and follow the same process as the quarterly finance performance reports.

4. Delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and monitoring treasury management policies and practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions.
5. Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of treasury management strategy and policies to a specific named body. For this council, the delegated body is Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Performance and Growth).

This mid-year report has been prepared in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management, and covers the following:

- An economic update for the first half of the 2025/26 financial year;
- A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
- The council's capital expenditure, as set out in the Capital Strategy, and prudential indicators;
- A review of the council's investment portfolio for 2025/26;
- A review of the council's borrowing strategy for 2025/26;
- A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2025/26;
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2025/26.

3. Economics and Interest Rates

3.1 Economics Update

- The first half of 2025/26 saw:
- A 0.3% pick up in GDP for the period April to June 2025. More recently, the economy flatlined in July, with higher taxes for businesses restraining growth.
- The 3month/year-on-year rate of average earnings growth excluding bonuses has fallen from 5.5% to 4.8% in July.
- CPI inflation has ebbed and flowed but finished September at 3.8%, whilst core inflation eased to 3.6%.
- The Bank of England cut interest rates from 4.50% to 4.25% in May, and then to 4% in August.
 - The 10-year gilt yield fluctuated between 4.4% and 4.8%, ending the half year at 4.70%.
- From a GDP perspective, the financial year got off to a bumpy start with the 0.3% month-on-month fall in real GDP in April as front-running of US tariffs in Quarter 1 (when GDP grew 0.7% on the quarter) weighed on activity. Despite the underlying reasons for the drop, it was still the first fall since October 2024 and the largest fall since October 2023. However, the economy surprised to the upside in May and June so that quarterly growth ended up 0.3% quarter-on-quarter. Nonetheless, the 0.0% month-on-month change in real GDP in July will have caused some concern, with the hikes in taxes for businesses that took place in April this year undoubtedly playing a part in restraining growth. The weak overseas environment is also likely to have contributed to the 1.3% month on month fall in manufacturing output in July. That was the second large fall in three months and left the 3month rate at a 20-month low of -1.1%. The 0.1% month on month rise in services output kept its 3monthly rate at 0.4%, supported by stronger output in the health and arts/entertainment sectors. Looking ahead, ongoing speculation about further tax rises in the Autumn Budget on 26 November will remain a drag on GDP growth for a while yet. GDP growth for 2025 is forecast by Capital Economics to be 1.3%.
- For future economic sentiment, the composite Purchasing Manager Index for the UK fell from 53.5 in August to 51.0 in September. The decline was mostly driven by a fall in the services PMI, which declined from 54.2 to 51.9. The manufacturing PMI output balance also fell, from 49.3 to 45.4. That was due to both weak overseas demand (the new exports orders balance fell for the fourth month in a row) and the cyber-attack-induced shutdown at Jaguar Land Rover since 1 September reducing car production across the automotive supply chain. The PMIs suggest tepid growth is the best that can be expected when the Q3 GDP numbers are released.
- For retail sales, the 0.5% month on month rise in volumes in August was the third such rise in a row and was driven by gains in all the major categories except fuel sales, which fell by 2.0% month on month. Sales may have been supported by the warmer-than-usual weather. If sales were just flat in September, then in Q3 sales volumes would be up 0.7% quarter on quarter compared to the 0.2% quarter on quarter gain in Q2.

- With the November Budget getting nearer, the public finances position looks weak. Public net sector borrowing of £18.0bn in August means that after five months of the financial year, borrowing is already £11.4bn higher than the OBR forecast at the Spring Statement in March. The overshoot in the Chancellor's chosen fiscal mandate of the current budget is even greater with a cumulative deficit of £15.3bn. All this was due to both current receipts in August being lower than the OBR forecast (by £1.8bn) and current expenditure being higher (by £1.0bn). Over the first five months of the financial year, current receipts have fallen short by a total of £6.1bn (partly due to lower-than-expected self-assessment income tax) and current expenditure has overshoot by a total of £3.7bn (partly due to social benefits and departmental spending). Furthermore, what very much matters now is the OBR forecasts and their impact on the current budget in 2029/30, which is when the Chancellor's fiscal mandate bites. As a general guide, Capital Economics forecasts a deficit of about £18bn, meaning the Chancellor will have to raise £28bn, mostly through higher taxes, if the chancellor wants to keep the buffer against the rule of £10bn.
- The weakening in the jobs market looked clear in the spring. May's 109,000 month on month fall in the PAYE measure of employment was the largest decline (barring the pandemic) since the data began and the seventh in as many months. The monthly change was revised lower in five of the previous seven months too, with April's 33,000 fall revised down to a 55,000 drop. More recently, however, the monthly change was revised higher in seven of the previous nine months by a total of 22,000. So instead of falling by 165,000 in total since October, payroll employment is now thought to have declined by a smaller 153,000. Even so, payroll employment has still fallen in nine of the ten months since the Chancellor announced the rises in National Insurance Contributions (NICs) for employers and the minimum wage in the October Budget. The number of job vacancies in the three months to August stood at 728,000. Vacancies have now fallen by approximately 47% since its peak in April 2022. All this suggests the labour market continues to loosen, albeit at a declining pace.
- A looser labour market is driving softer wage pressures. The 3 monthly year on year rate of average earnings growth excluding bonuses has fallen from 5.5% in April to 4.8% in July. The rate for the private sector slipped from 5.5% to 4.7%, putting it on track to be in line with the Bank of England's Q3 forecast (4.6% for September).
- CPI inflation fell slightly from 3.5% in April to 3.4% in May, and services inflation dropped from 5.4% to 4.7%, whilst core inflation also softened from 3.8% to 3.5%. More recently, though, inflation pressures have resurfaced, although the recent upward march in CPI inflation did pause for breath in August, with CPI inflation staying at 3.8%. Core inflation eased once more as well, from 3.8% to 3.6%, and services inflation dipped from 5.0% to 4.7%. So, we finish the half year in a similar position to where we started, although with food inflation rising to an 18-month high of 5.1% and households' expectations for inflation standing at a six year high, a further loosening in the labour market and weaker wage growth may be a requisite to UK inflation coming in below 2.0% by 2027.
- An ever-present issue throughout the past six months has been the pressure being exerted on medium and longer dated gilt yields. The yield on the 10-year gilt moved

upwards in the second quarter of 2025, rising from 4.4% in early April to 4.8% in mid-April following wider global bond market volatility stemming from the “Liberation Day” tariff announcement, and then easing back as trade tensions began to de-escalate. By the end of April, the 10-year gilt yield had returned to 4.4%. In May, concerns about stickier inflation and shifting expectations about the path for interest rates led to another rise, with the 10-year gilt yield fluctuating between 4.6% and 4.75% for most of May. Thereafter, as trade tensions continued to ease and markets increasingly began to price in looser monetary policy, the 10-year yield edged lower, and ended Q2 at 4.50%.

- More recently, the yield on the 10-year gilt rose from 4.46% to 4.60% in early July as rolled-back spending cuts and uncertainty over Chancellor Reeves’ future raised fiscal concerns. Although the spike proved short lived, it highlighted the UK’s fragile fiscal position. In an era of high debt, high interest rates and low GDP growth, the markets are now more sensitive to fiscal risks than before the pandemic. During August, long-dated gilts underwent a particularly pronounced sell-off, climbing 22 basis points and reaching a 27-year high of 5.6% by the end of the month. While yields have since eased back, the market sell-off was driven by investor concerns over growing supply-demand imbalances, stemming from unease over the lack of fiscal consolidation and reduced demand from traditional long-dated bond purchasers like pension funds. For 10-year gilts, by late September, inflation, resilient activity data and a hawkish Bank of England have kept yields elevated over 4.70%.
- The FTSE 100 fell sharply following the “Liberation Day” tariff announcement, dropping by more than 10% in the first week of April - from 8,634 on 1 April to 7,702 on 7 April. However, the de-escalation of the trade war coupled with strong corporate earnings led to a rapid rebound starting in late April. As a result, the FTSE 100 closed Q2 at 8,761, around 2% higher than its value at the end of Q1 and more than 7% above its level at the start of 2025. Since then, the FTSE 100 has enjoyed a further 4% rise in July, its strongest monthly gain since January and outperforming the S&P 500. Strong corporate earnings and progress in trade talks (US-EU, UK-India) lifted share prices and the index hit a record 9,321 in mid-August, driven by hopes of peace in Ukraine and dovish signals from Fed Chair Powell. September proved more volatile and the FTSE 100 closed Q3 at 9,350, 7% higher than at the end of Q1 and 14% higher since the start of 2025. Future performance will likely be impacted by the extent to which investors’ global risk appetite remains intact, Fed rate cuts, resilience in the US economy, and AI optimism. A weaker pound will also boost the index as it inflates overseas earnings.

- **MPC meetings: 8 May, 19 June, 7 August, 18 September 2025**
- There were four Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings in the first half of the financial year. In May, the Committee cut Bank Rate from 4.50% to 4.25%, while in June policy was left unchanged. In June's vote, three MPC members (Dhingra, Ramsden and Taylor) voted for an immediate cut to 4.00%, citing loosening labour market conditions. The other six members were more cautious, as they highlighted the need to monitor for "signs of weak demand", "supply-side constraints" and higher "inflation expectations", mainly from rising food prices. By repeating the well-used phrase "gradual and careful", the MPC continued to suggest that rates would be reduced further.
- In August, a further rate cut was implemented. However, a 5-4 split vote for a rate cut to 4% laid bare the different views within the Monetary Policy Committee, with the accompanying commentary noting the decision was "finely balanced" and reiterating that future rate cuts would be undertaken "gradually and carefully". Ultimately, Governor Bailey was the casting vote for a rate cut but with the CPI measure of inflation expected to reach at least 4% later this year, the MPC will be wary of making any further rate cuts until inflation begins its slow downwards trajectory back towards 2%.
- The Bank of England does not anticipate CPI getting to 2% until early 2027, and with wages still rising by just below 5%, it was no surprise that the September meeting saw the MPC vote 7-2 for keeping rates at 4% (Dhingra and Taylor voted for a further 25bps reduction).
- The Bank also took the opportunity to announce that they would only shrink its balance sheet by £70bn over the next 12 months, rather than £100bn. The repetition of the phrase that "a gradual and careful" approach to rate cuts is appropriate suggests the Bank still thinks interest rates will fall further but possibly not until February.

3.2 Interest Rate Forecasts

The PWLB rate forecasts below are based on the Certainty Rate (the standard rate minus 20bps) which has been accessible to most authorities since 1 November 2012.

MUFG Corporate Markets' latest forecast on 11 August sets out a view that short, medium and long-dated interest rates will fall back over the next year or two, although there are upside risks in respect of the heightened inflation and a continuing tight labour market, as well as the size of gilt issuance.

MUFG Corporate Markets Interest Rate View 11.08.25													
	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27	Jun-27	Sep-27	Dec-27	Mar-28	Jun-28	Sep-28
BANK RATE	4.00	4.00	3.75	3.75	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
3 month ave earnings	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30
6 month ave earnings	4.00	3.90	3.70	3.70	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.30	3.30	3.40	3.40	3.40
12 month ave earnings	4.00	3.90	3.70	3.70	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60	3.60
5 yr PWLB	4.80	4.70	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.30	4.30	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.10
10 yr PWLB	5.30	5.20	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.80	4.80	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.70	4.60	4.60
25 yr PWLB	6.10	5.90	5.70	5.70	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.40	5.40	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.20
50 yr PWLB	5.80	5.60	5.40	5.40	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.20	5.20	5.10	5.10	5.00	5.00

4. Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy

The Treasury Management Strategy Statement, (TMSS), for 2025/26 was approved by the Council on 26th February 2025.

- There are no policy changes to the TMSS; the details in this report update the position in the light of the updated economic position and budgetary changes already approved.

5. The Council's Capital Position and Prudential Indicators

This part of the report updates on:

- The council's capital expenditure plans;
- How these plans are being financed;
- The impact of the changes in the capital expenditure plans on the prudential indicators and the underlying need to borrow; and
- Compliance with the limits in place for borrowing activity.

5.1 Prudential Indicator for Capital Expenditure

This table shows the revised estimates for capital expenditure and the changes since the capital programme was agreed at the Budget.

Capital Expenditure by Service	2025/26 Original Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget ⁽¹⁾ £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Chief Digital and Information Officer	660	988	775
Customer Services	0	50	0
Facilities	80	80	699
Environmental Services	4,994	5,584	5,055
Community Services	1,650	1,610	2,150
Parks, Countryside & Climate	2,224	2,556	3,112
Finance	50	161	111
Housing and Regeneration	80	10,439	7,338
Leisure and Health	1,386	1,428	1,854
Planning	2,706	3,202	1,615
Property and Facilities	697	1,590	1,340
Total capital expenditure	14,527	27,687	24,048

⁽¹⁾Includes rephased budgets from 2024/25

5.2 Changes to the Financing of the Capital Programme

The table below draws together the main strategy elements of the capital expenditure plans (above), highlighting the original supported and unsupported elements of the capital programme, and the expected financing arrangements of this capital expenditure. The borrowing element of the table increases the underlying indebtedness of the council by way of the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), although this will be reduced in part by revenue charges for the repayment of debt (the Minimum Revenue Provision). This direct borrowing need may also be supplemented by maturing debt and other treasury requirements.

Capital Financing	2025/26 Original Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Total Capital expenditure	14,527	27,687	24,048
Financed by:			
Capital Grants	5,303	14,242	12,721
Capital Reserves	2,706	3,202	2,140
Capital Receipts	100	100	100
Total financing	8,109	17,544	14,961
Borrowing requirement	6,418	10,143	9,087

Capital is not charged directly to revenue, but there is an effect on revenue of capital expenditure. This is made up of the interest on any loans taken out to finance capital, and

the annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) charge. The MRP charge is based on the cost of each asset divided by the life of the asset, the result is charged to revenue each year. The table below shows the effect on the charge to revenue as a result of changes to the capital programme.

Proportion of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	2025/26 Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Net Revenue Stream	26,464	26,772	25,848
Financing Costs	4,156	3,833	3,833
Proportion of Net Revenue Stream	16%	14%	15%

5.3 Changes to the Prudential Indicators for the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), External Debt and the Operational Boundary

The table below shows the CFR, which is the underlying external need to incur borrowing for a capital purpose. It also shows the expected debt position over the period, which is termed the Operational Boundary.

Prudential Indicator – Capital Financing Requirement

The CFR is forecast to be £1.056m less than current budget (the current budget includes budget rephasings from 2024/25).

Prudential Indicator – the Operational Boundary for external debt

	2025/26 Original Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Prudential Indicator – Capital Financing Requirement			
Capital Financing Requirement⁽¹⁾	82,664	80,138	79,082
Net Movement in CFR	5,940	7,283	6,227⁽⁴⁾
Prudential Indicator – the Operational Boundary for external debt			
Borrowing⁽²⁾	115,000	34,255	34,255
Other long-term liabilities⁽³⁾	544	544	544
Total debt (year-end position)	115,000	34,799	34,799

⁽¹⁾ Opening CFR 2025/26 £72.855m actual used for Current Budget. For the original budget £76.724m.

⁽²⁾ £115m is the limit set in the 2025/26 Treasury Management Strategy.

⁽³⁾ Finance lease for Phoenix Court.

⁽⁴⁾ Borrowing Requirement – MRP = £9.087m - £2.860m = £6.227m

5.4 Limits to Borrowing Activity

The first key control over the treasury activity is a prudential indicator to ensure that over the medium term, net borrowing (borrowings less investments) will only be for a capital purposes. Gross external borrowing should not, except in the short term, exceed the total of CFR in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for 2024/25 and next two financial years. This allows some flexibility for limited early borrowing for future years.

Total Debt	2025/26 Original Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Borrowing ⁽¹⁾	34,255	34,255	34,255
Other long-term liabilities ⁽²⁾	600	544	544
Total debt	34,855	34,799	34,799
CFR (Year end position)	82,664	80,138	79,082

(1) A Salix loan repayment is due in February 2026 of £4k, current balance of borrowing is £34.259m see listing in Appendix A, at year end the balance will be £34.255m.

(2) Finance lease for Phoenix Court.

A further prudential indicator controls the overall level of borrowing. This is the Authorised Limit which represents the limit beyond which borrowing is prohibited and needs to be set and revised by Members. It reflects the level of borrowing which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term. It is the expected maximum borrowing need with some headroom for unexpected movements. This is the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003.

Authorised limit for external debt	2025/26 Original Indicator £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
General Debt and Other long-term liabilities	95,000	10,544	10,544
Service Loans	15,000	0	0
CIS Debt	25,000	24,255	24,255
Total	135,000	34,799	34,799⁽¹⁾

(1) This is the sum of the debt at the year-end (£34.255m) plus long-term liabilities (Phoenix Court lease) of £0.544m. The current debt is £34.259m, the Salix loan of £4k will be paid off in February 2026.

6. Borrowing

The council's forecast capital financing requirement (CFR) for 2025/26 is £79.1m. The CFR denotes the council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. If the CFR is positive the council may borrow from the PWLB or the market (external borrowing), or from internal balances on a temporary basis (internal borrowing). The balance of external and internal borrowing is generally driven by market conditions. The table in 5.4 shows the council has borrowings of £34.8m and has utilised £44.3m of cash flow and balance sheet funds in lieu of borrowing (CFR – external borrowing). This is a prudent and cost-effective approach in

the current economic climate but will require ongoing monitoring if gilt yields remain elevated, particularly at the longer-end of the yield curve (25 to 50 years).

It is anticipated that further borrowing will not be undertaken during this financial year.

Liability Benchmark

The Council is required to estimate and measure the Liability Benchmark (LB) for the forthcoming financial year and the following two financial years, as a minimum. See Appendix B for the Liability Benchmark chart

The Council is currently in an under-borrowed position (external borrowing is less than the CFR, internal borrowing is being used i.e. reserves and working capital to fund capital expenditure), this according to the liability benchmark will continue until the mid 2030s, although as plans evolve the CFR will likely move outwards. The CFR is being gradually reduced by application of the minimum revenue provision (MRP) charge to revenue, although as new expenditure plans are made the CFR line will reduce at a slower rate, and will not in reality reach zero.

The cash available to invest will increase as the MRP builds up in the cash balances. The liability benchmark line (dotted) is the cash available to invest less a liquidity buffer to meet any immediate cashflow needs.

PWLB maturity certainty rates (gilts plus 80bps) year to date to 30 September 2025

Gilt yields and PWLB certainty rates have remained relatively volatile throughout the six months under review, but the general trend has been for medium and longer dated parts of the curve to shift higher whilst the 5-year part of the curve finished September close to where it began in April.

Concerns around the resilience of inflation, elevated wages, households' inflation expectations reaching a six-year high, and the difficult funding choices facing the Chancellor in the upcoming Budget on 26 November dominated market thinking, although international factors emanating from the Trump administration's fiscal, tariff and geo-political policies also played a role.

At the beginning of April, the 1-year certainty rate was the cheapest part of the curve at 4.82% whilst the 25-year rate was relatively expensive at 5.92%. Early September saw the high point for medium and longer-dated rates, although there was a small reduction in rates, comparatively speaking, by the end of the month.

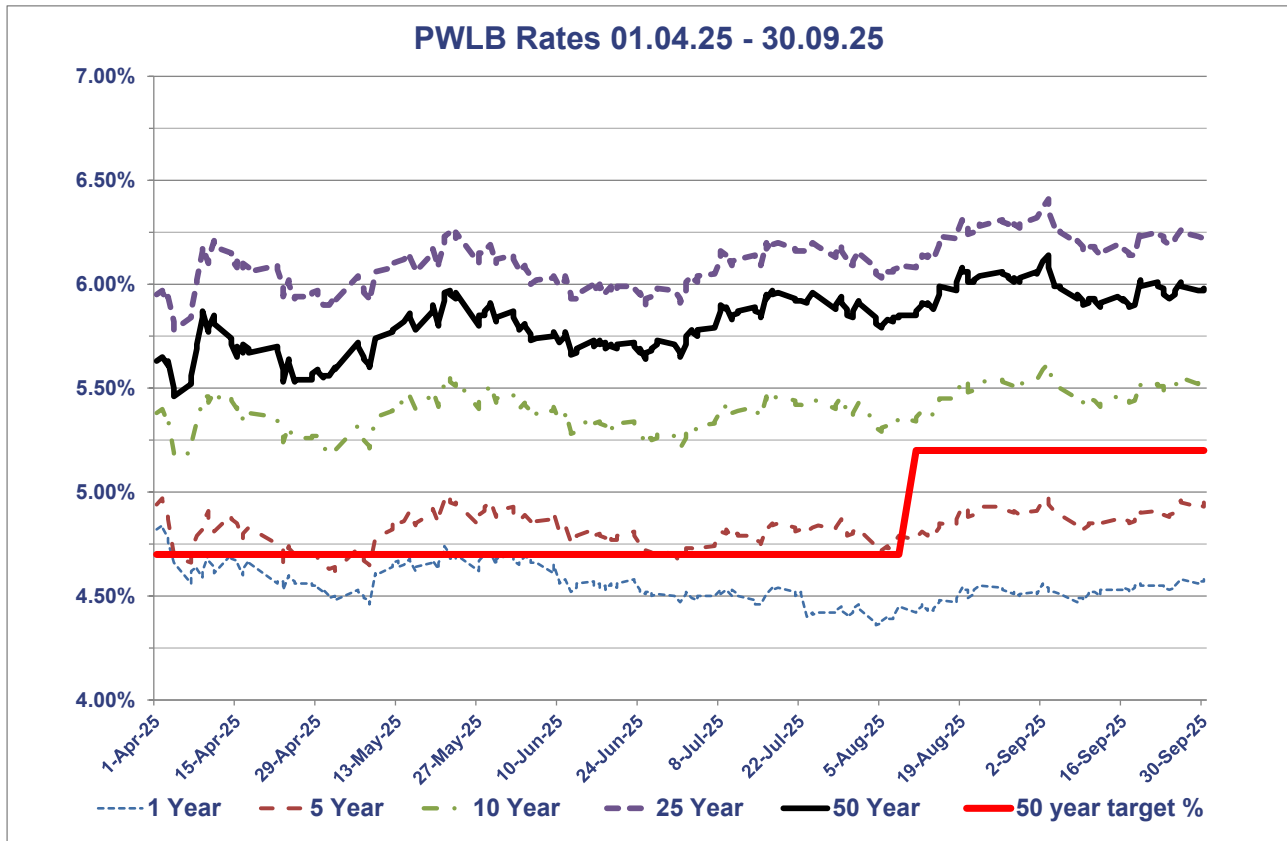
The spread in the 5-year part of the curve (the difference between the lowest and highest rates for the duration) was the smallest at 37 basis points whilst, conversely, the 50-years' part of the curve saw a spread of 68 basis points.

At this juncture, MUFG Corporate Markets still forecasts rates to fall back over the next two to three years as inflation dampens, although there is upside risk to all forecasts at present. The CPI measure of inflation is expected to fall below 2% in early 2027 but hit a peak of 4% or higher later in 2025.

The Bank of England announced in September that it would be favouring the short and medium part of the curve for the foreseeable future when issuing gilts, but market reaction

to the November Budget is likely to be the decisive factor in future gilt market attractiveness to investors and their willingness to buy UK sovereign debt.

PWLB RATES 01.04.25 - 30.09.25



HIGH/LOW/AVERAGE PWLB RATES FOR 01.04.25 – 30.09.25

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	25 Year	50 Year
01/04/2025	4.82%	4.94%	5.38%	5.95%	5.63%
30/09/2025	4.58%	4.95%	5.53%	6.23%	5.98%
Low	4.36%	4.62%	5.17%	5.78%	5.46%
Low date	04/08/2025	02/05/2025	02/05/2025	04/04/2025	04/04/2025
High	4.84%	4.99%	5.62%	6.41%	6.14%
High date	02/04/2025	21/05/2025	03/09/2025	03/09/2025	03/09/2025
Average	4.55%	4.82%	5.40%	6.11%	5.83%
Spread	0.48%	0.37%	0.45%	0.63%	0.68%

- The current PWLB rates are set as margins over gilt yields as follows: -
 - PWLB Standard Rate** is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
 - PWLB Certainty Rate (GF)** is gilt plus 80 basis points (G+80bps)
 - PWLB Local Infrastructure Rate** is gilt plus 60 basis points (G+60bps)
 - PWLB Certainty Rate (HRA)** is gilt plus 40bps (G+40bps)

- The **National Wealth Fund** will lend to local authorities that meet its scheme criteria at a rate currently set at gilt plus 40bps (G+40bps).

7. Debt Rescheduling

Debt repayment and rescheduling opportunities have increased over the course of the past six months and will be considered if giving rise to long-term savings. However, no debt repayments or rescheduling have been undertaken to date in the current financial year.

8. Compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits

It is a statutory duty for the council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. During the half year ended 30 September 2024, the council has operated within the treasury and prudential indicators set out in the council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2025/26, and no difficulties are envisaged for the current or future years in complying with these indicators.

All treasury management operations have also been conducted in full compliance with the council's Treasury Management Strategy and Practices.

See Appendix C for details of the Prudential and Treasury indicators.

9. Annual Investment Strategy

The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2025/26, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by the Council on 26th February 2025. In accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice, it sets out the council's investment priorities as being:

- Security of capital
- Liquidity
- Yield

The council will aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity and with the council's risk appetite. In the current economic climate, it is considered appropriate to keep investments short term to cover cash flow needs, but also to seek out value available in periods up to 12 months with high credit quality financial institutions, using the Link suggested creditworthiness approach, including a minimum sovereign credit rating and Credit Default Swap (CDS) overlay information.

Creditworthiness.

The UK's sovereign rating has proven robust through the first half of 2025/26. The Government is expected to outline in detail its future fiscal proposals in the Budget scheduled for 26 November 2025.

Investment Counterparty criteria

The current investment counterparty criteria selection approved in the TMSS is meeting the requirement of the treasury management function. The portfolio of investments as at 30th September 2025 are listed in Appendix D.

Credit Default Swap prices

It is noted that sentiment in the current economic climate can easily shift, so it remains important to undertake continual monitoring of all aspects of risk and return in the current circumstances. See Appendix D.

Investment balances

The average level of funds available for short-term investment purposes during the first half of the financial year was **£71.6m**. These funds are available in the short-term to medium-term, the level of funds available was mainly dependent on the timing of precept payments, receipt of grants and progress on the capital programme as well as balances on reserves (eg CIL reserve) and balance sheet working capital e.g. debtors and creditors.

Investment Performance

The following indicators are to be reported on as stated within the Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26. See also Appendix C.

- Portfolio risk score; **1.01**
- Average credit rating (security); **AA-**
- Weighted average maturity (Fixed term deposits); **14 days** (as at 30/09/2024)
- Interest rate risk; **£600,733**
- Rate of return; **4.11%**
- Liquidity; **£18.185m**

The council's budgeted investment interest return for 2025/26 is £1.14m, and the current forecast for the year is £2.62m.

Approved limits

The approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the period ended 30 September 2025.

Proportionality of Investments

The Council is dependent on investment activity to achieve a balanced revenue budget. The table below shows the extent to which the expenditure planned to meet the service delivery objectives of the Council is dependent on achieving the expected net investment income from investments, and how this has changed since the budget was set.

Proportionality of Investments	2025/26 Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Gross Service Expenditure	84,349	84,793	90,837
Net Investment income	3,620	3,600	2,854
Proportion	4%	4%	3%

Approved limits

Officers can confirm that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the half year ended 30 September 2025.

10. Other Treasury Issues

1. IFRS 9 Fair Value of Assets Statutory Override

Following the consultation undertaken by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) on IFRS 9, the Government has extended the statutory override for local authorities to reverse out (to an unusable reserve) all unrealised fair value movements resulting from pooled investment funds until 1st April 2029. This only applies to existing pooled fund investments not to new investments. This mechanism applies to the CCLA Property Fund in which the council has £4m invested.

2. Changes in risk appetite

The 2021 CIPFA Codes and guidance notes place importance on risk management. Where an council changes its risk appetite e.g., for moving surplus cash into or out of certain types of investment funds or other types of investment instruments. During this half year the council has maintained its use of the Debt Management Officer (DMADF) and Money Market Funds as been its strategy over the last few years.

3. Sovereign limits

The Council has determined that it will only use approved counterparties from the UK, and from countries with a **minimum sovereign credit rating of AA- from fitch or equivalent (investing in the UK will continue even if the UK's credit rating falls below AA-)**. The list of countries that qualify using this credit criteria as at the date of this report are shown in Appendix E. This list will be added to, or deducted from, by officers should ratings change in accordance with this policy.

11. Commercial Investment Strategy Indicators

Commercial Investment Indicators	2025/26 Original Forecast	2025/26 Current Forecast	2026/27 Forecast
Interest Cover Ratio	1.7	1.7	1.7
Loan to Value Ratio	104.9%	104.9%	104.9%
Gross Rent Multiplier	14.0	12.9	14.0

Interest cover ratio (income/interest) is used to measure how readily a business can pay the interest due on loans. The reduction from Original Forecast to Current Forecast is due to vacant units at Fareham and Rowley. Loan to value is the value of the loan to the value of the property. If the percentage is over 100% that means the value of loan is more than the value of the property. Gross rent multiplier is the value of a property compared to its annual rental income, the lower the ratio the higher the yield.

Net income from Commercial and Service Investments	2025/26 Budget £000s	2025/26 Current Budget £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Net income ⁽¹⁾	3,620	3,600	2,854
Net revenue stream	26,464	26,772	25,848
Proportion of net revenue stream	14%	13%	11%

⁽¹⁾ This is the total of CCLA Property Fund, Loans to Organisations and Commercial Estates.
Forecast - £160k+£150k+£2,544k = £2,854k

The summary property listing is below, with valuations as at 31st March 2025. See Appendix F for the full detail.

Commercial Investment Property (Summary)	31/03/2024 Value £000s	Gain/(Loss) Addition £000s	31/03/2025 Value⁽¹⁾ £000s
Legacy Properties;			
Huntingdon	21,592	367	21,959
St Ives	1,444	79	1,523
St Neots	7,278	49	7,327
	30,314	495	30,809
CIS Properties			
2 Stonehill	2,276	0	2,276
80 Wilbury Way	1,908	0	1,908
Shawlands Retail Park	5,783	(232)	5,551
1400 & 1500 Parkway	4,037	0	4,037
Rowley Arts Centre, St Neots	6,543	(644)	5,899
Little End Road, St Neots	3,288	1,977	5,265
Tri-link, Wakefield	14,686	1,264	15,950
Alms Close	1,449	57	1,506
	39,970	2,422	42,392
Total	70,284	2,917	73,201

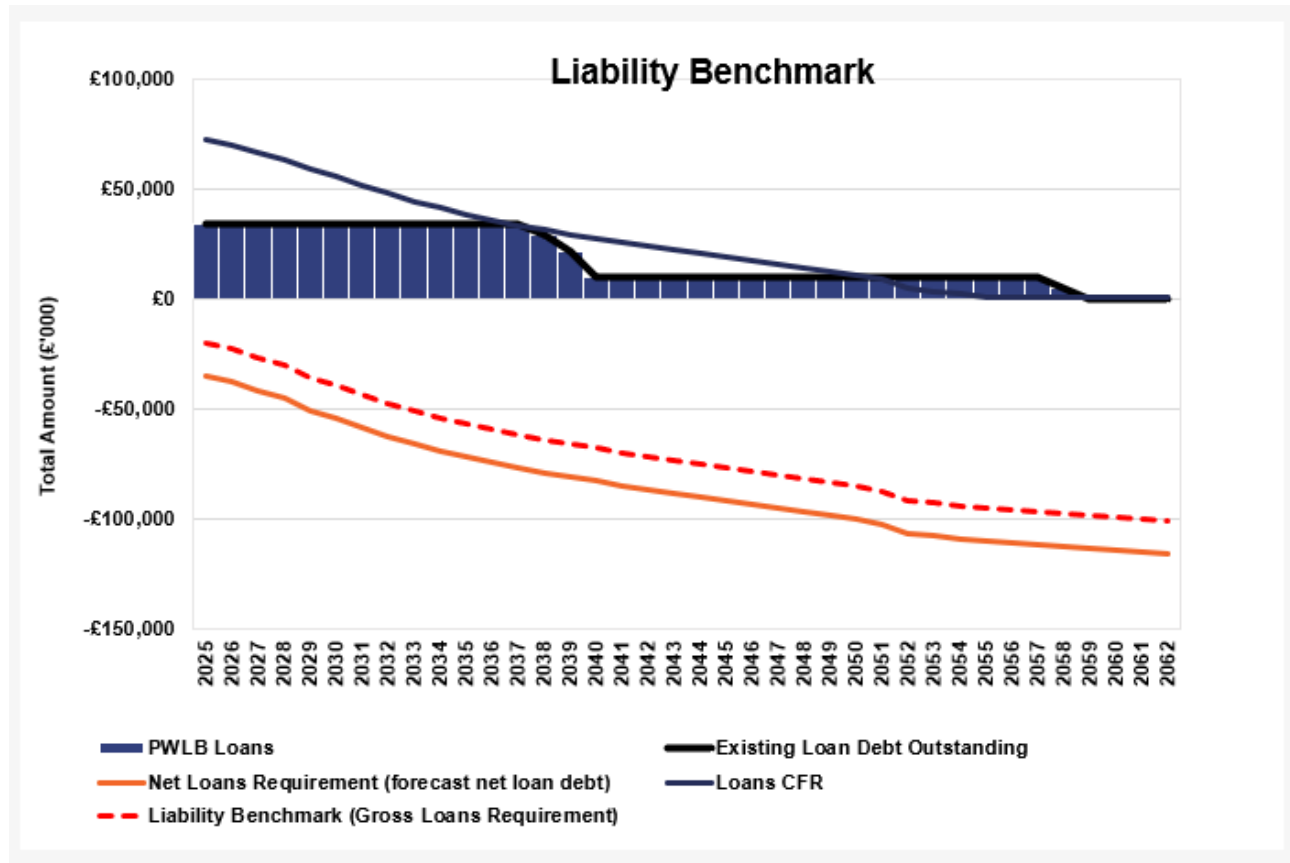
⁽¹⁾The valuations are still subject to review and audit

APPENDIX A: Borrowing Schedule

Counterparty	Type	Amount £	Rate %	Start Date	Maturity Date
PWLB	Maturity	5,000,000	3.91	19/12/2008	19/12/2057
PWLB	Maturity	5,000,000	3.90	19/12/2008	19/12/2058
PWLB	Maturity	5,000,000	2.78	02/10/2017	02/10/2037
PWLB	Maturity	7,291,685	2.49	11/03/2019	11/03/2039
PWLB	Maturity	11,963,000	2.18	26/06/2019	26/06/2039
Salix	Repayment	4,387	0.00	17/02/2021	17/02/2026
		34,259,072			

APPENDIX B: CFR, Liability Benchmark and Borrowing

The Council is required to estimate and measure the Liability Benchmark (LB) for the forthcoming financial year and the following two financial years, as a minimum.



There are four components to the LB: -

1. **Existing loan debt outstanding:** the Council's existing loans that are still outstanding in future years.
2. **Loans CFR:** this is calculated in accordance with the loans CFR definition in the Prudential Code and projected into the future based on approved prudential borrowing and planned MRP. This includes only current borrowing not future unplanned borrowing.
3. **Net loans requirement:** this will show the Council's gross loan debt less treasury management investments at the last financial year-end, projected into the future and based on its approved prudential borrowing, planned MRP and any other major cash flows forecast.
4. **Liability benchmark** (or gross loans requirement): this equals net loans requirement plus short-term liquidity allowance. In practice this is the amount required to pay the regular precept payments.

The Council is currently in an under-borrowed position (external borrowing is less than the CFR, internal borrowing is being used i.e. reserves and working capital to fund capital expenditure), this according to the liability benchmark will continue until the mid 2030s, although as plans evolve the CFR will likely move outwards. The CFR is being gradually reduced by application of the minimum

revenue provision (MRP) charge to revenue, although as new expenditure plans are made the CFR line will reduce at a slower rate, and will not in reality reach zero.

The cash available to invest will increase as the MRP builds up in the cash balances. The liability benchmark line (dotted) is the cash available to invest less a liquidity buffer to meet any immediate cashflow needs

APPENDIX C: Prudential and Treasury Indicators

Treasury Indicators	2025/26 Limit £'000	30.09.25 Actual £'000
Authorised limit for external debt	135,000	34,259
Operational boundary for external debt	115,000	34,259
Gross external debt		34,259
Investments		87,637
Net investment		53,378
Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing - upper and lower limits		
Under 12 months	0%/80%	0.1%
12 months to 2 years	0%/80%	0.0%
2 years to 5 years	0%/80%	0.0%
5 years to 10 years	0%/100%	0.0%
10 years to 20 years	0%/100%	70.7%
20 years to 30 years	0%/100%	0.0%
30 years to 40 years	0%/100%	29.2%
40 years to 50 years	0%/100%	0.0%
Upper limit for principal sums invested over 365 days		
Year 1	10,000	4,000
Year 2	9,000	4,000
Year 3	8,000	4,000
Minimum Total Cash Available (3 month rolling – July to September)⁽¹⁾	15,000	18,185

Interest Rate Risk (Impact of 1% rise/fall)	600	601
Average Credit Rating⁽²⁾ of investments⁽³⁾	A-	AA-
Portfolio Average Risk⁽⁴⁾		1.01

⁽¹⁾ Simple average on month end balances

⁽²⁾ Credit ratings (Fitch, investment grade) are in descending order AAA, AA+, AA, AA-, A+, A, A-, BBB+, BBB, BBB-.

⁽³⁾ Includes MMFs, DMO and Banks

⁽⁴⁾ Score is on scale 1 to 7, with 7 the highest risk, this is calculated by Link from a return made monthly
30/09/2023 = 1.03, 31/03/2024 = 1.02, 30/06/2024 = 1.01

Prudential Indicators	2025/26 Budget £'000	2025/26 Forecast £'000
Capital expenditure		
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	82,664	79,082
Annual change in CFR	5,940	6,227
In year borrowing requirement	0	0
Proportion of financing costs to net revenue stream	16%	15%

APPENDIX D: Investment Portfolio

Investments held as of 30 September 2024 compared to the 2024/25 counterparty list:

Counterparty	2025/26 Limit £m	30/09/2025 Actual £m
Deposit Accounts		
Natwest Business Reserve Account	4.00	0.20
Barclays Interest Bearing Account	4.00	.0001
Debt Management Office (DMO)	Unlimited	63.10
Money Market Funds		
Aberdeen Liquidity Fund	5.00	2.700
BlackRock Institutional sterling liquidity Fund	5.00	2.685
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	5.00	2.300
Federated Short Term Prime Fund	5.00	2.825
HSBC Global Liquidity Funds ESG	5.00	2.650
Insight Liquidity Fund	5.00	1.200
Invesco Liquidity Fund	5.00	2.790
Legal & General Sterling Liquidity Fund	5.00	1.200
Property Fund		
CCLA Property Fund	5.00	4.000
Total Investments		85.650

Counterparty	Balance 01/04/2025 £m	Movement £m	Balance 30/09/2025 £m	Weighted Average Rate ⁽¹⁾ %	Weighted Average Maturity (Days) ⁽¹⁾
Banks	0.333	(0.130)	0.203	2.50	1
Debt Mgt Office	47.750	15.350	63.100	3.98	14
Money Market Funds	17.030	1.320	18.350	4.06	1
Property Fund	4.000	0.000	4.000 ⁽⁵⁾	4.59 ⁽³⁾	>365
Total Investments	69.113	16.54	85.653⁽²⁾	4.02	
Loans	1.986	(0.002)	1.984	7.92	1,108
Total	71.099	16.538	87.637⁽⁴⁾	4.11	

⁽¹⁾At month end

⁽²⁾This is a net movement, invested was £408.778m and repaid £323.125m.

⁽³⁾Dividend yield on net asset value.

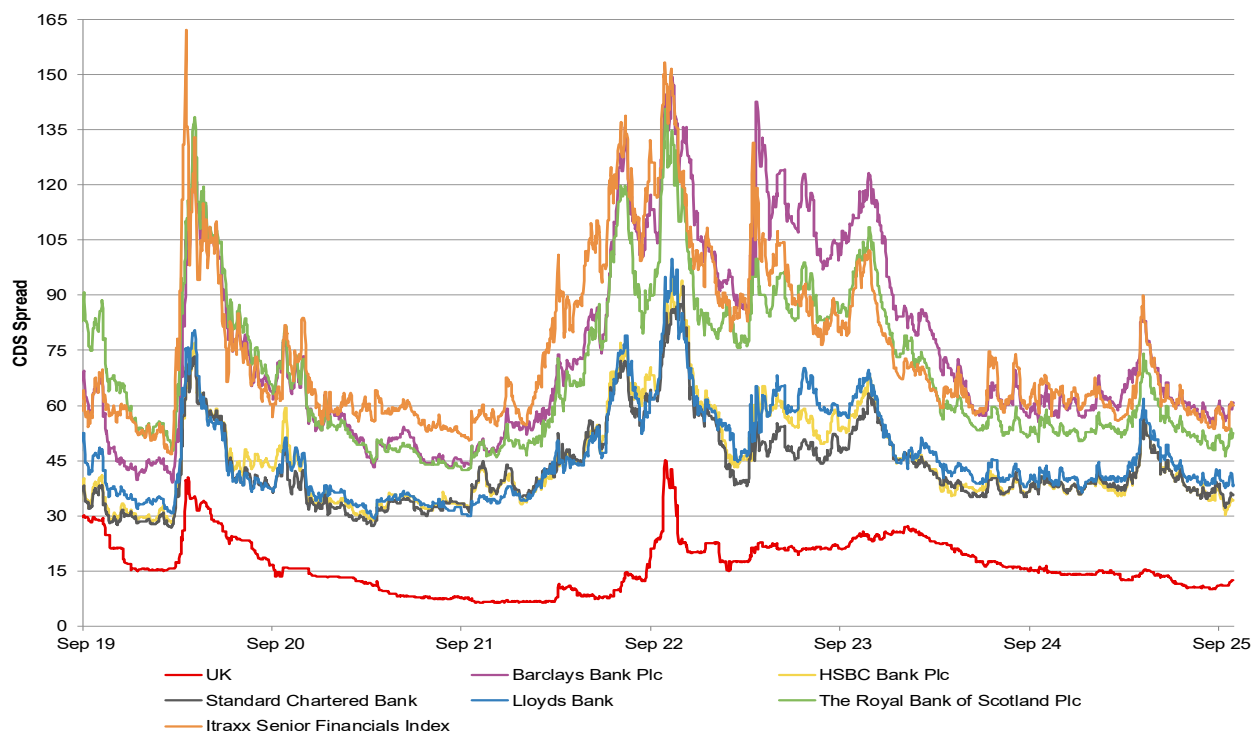
⁽⁴⁾The total investment balance at the end of Q1 was £74.904m

⁽⁵⁾The Net Asset Valuation as at 30/09/2025 is £3.659m

UK Banks 5 Year Senior Debt Credit Default Swaps (CDS) Spreads as of 30 September 2025

The cost of insuring against default low in historic terms, this cover is available to large financial institutions only. The chart below shows the cost in basis points of ensuring against the prospect of default on 5 year “paper” issued by major UK banks v the ITRAXX Senior Financials Index.

The price paid for CDS swaps by institutions is an indicator of risk within that institution, and so it is often used as in addition to credit rating to assess counterparty risk.



APPENDIX E: Approved Countries for Investments as of 30 September 2025

The UK will remain on the list of approved countries even if its credit rating drops below AA-.

Based on lowest available rating

AAA

- Australia
- Denmark
- Germany
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Singapore
- Sweden
- Switzerland

AA+

- Canada
- U.S.A.

AA

- Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- Finland
- Qatar

AA-

- U.K.

A+

- Belgium
- France

Appendix F: Commercial Estates Property Listing

Commercial Investment Property	31/03/2023 Value £000s	Gain/(Loss) Additions £000s	31/03/2024 Value £000s	Gain/(Loss) Additions £000s	31/03/2025 Value £000s
Legacy Properties;					
Huntingdon					
Cinema and Shops	540	12	552	(5)	547
Oak Drive Shops	977	134	1,111	(52)	1,059
Mayfield Road Shops	750	(8)	742	(62)	680
Pub Site Sapley Square	193	0	193	0	193
Oak Tree Health Centre	11,786	0	11,786	0	11,786
Clifton Road Industrial Units	1,825	0	1,825	(79)	1,746
Alms Close Industrial Units	1,453	102	1,555	86	1,641
Land Clifton Road	144	0	144	0	144
Land St Peters Road	2,930	0	2,930	0	2,930
Land Redwongs Way	380	5	385	0	385
Phoenix Court Units	621	(252)	369	479	848
	21,599	(7)	21,592	367	21,959
St Ives					
Library Row Shops	532	29	561	0	561
Enterprise Centre	883	0	883	79	962
	1,415	29	1,444	79	1,523
St Neots					
Queens Gardens Shops	430	78	508	17	525
Naseby Gardens Shops	273	0	273	0	273
Leys Road Shops	117	9	126	0	126
Cambridge Street Shops	140	(8)	132	0	132
Cambridge Street Warehouse and Yard	719	0	719	0	719
Levellers Lane Industrial Units	5,220	(115)	5,105	32	5,137
Caravan Site Rush Meadows	257	0	257	0	257
Café Riverside Park	158	0	158	0	158
	7,314	(36)	7,278	49	7,327
Total	30,328	(14)	30,314	495	30,809
CIS Properties					
2 Stonehill, Huntingdon	2,481	(205)	2,276	0	2,276
80 Wilbury Way, Hitchin	1,873	35	1,908	0	1,908
Shawlands Retail Park, Sudbury	6,055	(273)	5,783	(232)	5,551
1400 & 1500 Parkway, Fareham	4,037	0	4,037	0	4,037
Rowley Arts Centre, St Neots	6,641	(98)	6,543	(644)	5,899
Little End Road, St Neots	3,321	(33)	3,288	1,977	5,265
Tri-link, Wakefield	14,748	(62)	14,686	1,264	15,950
Alms Close, Huntingdon	1,447	2	1,449	57	1,506
	40,603	(634)	39,970	2,422	42,392
Total	70,931	(648)	70,284	2,917	73,201

GLOSSARY

Bail in Risk

Bail in risk arises from the failure of a bank. Bondholders or investors in the bank would be expected to suffer losses on their investments, as opposed to the bank being bailed out by government.

Bank Equity Buffer

The mandatory capital that financial institutions are required to hold, in order to provide a cushion against financial downturns, to ensure the institution can continue to meet its liquidity requirements.

Bank Rate

The official interest rate of the Bank of England, this rate is charged by the bank on loans to commercial banks.

Bank Stress Tests

Tests carried out by the European Central Bank on 51 banks across the EU. The tests put banks under a number of scenarios and analyse how the bank's capital holds up under each of the scenarios. The scenarios include a sharp rise in bond yields, a low growth environment, rising debt, and adverse action in the unregulated financial sector.

Basis Point

1/100th of 1% i.e. 0.01%. 10 basis points is 0.1%.

Bonds

A bond is a form of loan, the holder of the bond is entitled to a fixed rate of interest (coupon) at fixed intervals. The bond has a fixed life and can be traded.

Call Account

A bank account that offers a rate of return and the funds are available to withdraw on a daily basis.

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

The CFR is a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically but has yet to be financed; by for example capital receipts or grants funding. The current CFR balance is therefore financed by external borrowing, and internal borrowing (i.e. use of working capital on the balance sheet – creditors, cash etc).

Capital Receipts

Funds received when an asset is sold. This can be used to fund new capital expenditure.

Certificate of Deposit

Evidence of a deposit with a financial institution repayable on a fixed date. They are negotiable instruments, and have a secondary market, and can be sold before maturity.

Collar (Money Market Fund)

The fund "collar" forms part of the valuation mechanism for the fund. LVNAV funds allow investors to purchase and redeem shares at a constant NAV calculated to 2 decimal places, i.e. £1.00. This is achieved by the fund using amortised cost for valuation purposes, subject to the variation against the marked-to-market NAV being no greater than

20 basis points (0.2%). (This compares to current Prime CNAV funds which round to 50 basis points, or 0.5%, of the NAV.)

Constant Net Asset Value (CNAV)

Constant Net Asset Value refers to funds which use amortised cost accounting to value all of their assets. They aim to maintain a Net Asset Value (NAV), or value of a share of the fund at £1 and calculate their price to 2 decimal places.

Counterparty

Another organisation with which the Council has entered into a financial transaction with, for example, invested with or borrowed from. There will be an exposure of risk with a counterparty.

Credit Default Swaps (CDS)

A financial agreement that the seller of the CDS will compensate the buyer in the event of a loan default. The seller insures the buyer against a loan defaulting.

Credit Ratings

A credit rating is the evaluation of a credit risk of a debtor and predicting their ability to pay back the debt. The rating represents an evaluation of a credit rating agency of the qualitative and quantitative information, this result in a score, denoted usually by the letters A to D and including +/-.

DMADF

The Debt Management Account Deposit Facility. This is run by the UK's Debt Management Office and provides investors with the ability to invest with UK central government.

ECB

The European Central Bank, one of the institutions that makes up the EU. Its main function is to maintain price stability across the Eurozone.

ESG

Environmental, society, and governance investing, makes reference to a set of standards for an organisation's behaviour, which can be used by a socially aware investor to make investment decisions. Environmental factors include how an organisation safeguards the environment, social criteria look at how the organisation manages its relationships with the community, employees, suppliers, and customers, and governance deals with leadership, internal controls and audits.

Federal Reserve (Fed)

The central bank of the United States.

FOMC (Federal Open Market Committee)

The committee within the US Federal Reserve that makes decisions about interest rates, and the US money supply.

Forward Deal

The act of agreeing today to deposit/loan funds for an agreed time limit at an agreed date and rate.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product)

The total value of all final goods and services produced and sold in a year by a country.

Gilts

Bonds issued by the Government in Sterling.

Link Group

The council's treasury advisors, who took over from Arlingclose in March 2023. Now called MUFG Corporate Markets.

Liquidity

The degree to which an asset can be bought or sold quickly.

LVNAV Money Market Fund

Low volatility net asset value. The fund will have at least 10% of its assets maturing on a daily basis and at least 30% of assets maturing on a weekly basis.

MiFID

Markets in Financial Instruments Directive, is a regulation that increases the transparency across the EU's financial markets and standardises the regulatory disclosures required. In force since 2008.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

An amount set aside annually from revenue to repay external debt.

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)

A committee of the Bank of England that meets to decide on the UK interest rate.

Monetary Policy

A policy adopted by government to affect monetary and financial conditions in the economy.

Money Market Funds

An open-ended mutual fund that invests in short-term debt securities. A deposit will earn a rate of interest, whilst maintaining the net asset value of the investment. Deposits are generally available for withdrawal on the day.

MUFG Corporate Markets

The council's treasury advisors, were called Link Group.

Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR)

An independent public sector body that provides independent forecasts.

Passive Investor

An investor that does not usually or frequently buy individual stocks, and does not individually pick investments to beat the market. Holdings are usually long term. This contrasts with an active investor.

Prudential Code

The CIPFA code of practice which ensures local authorities spending plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)

The PWLB is an agency of the Treasury, it lends to public bodies at fixed rates for periods up to 50 years. Interest rates are determined by gilt yields.

Purchasing Managers Index

Economic indicators derived from monthly surveys of private sector companies.

REFCUS

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute. Expenditure which would normally be considered revenue expenditure, but has been statutorily defined as capital expenditure, including the giving of a loan, grant or other financial assistance to any person, whether for use by that person or by a third party, towards expenditure which would, if incurred by the authority, be capital expenditure. Or expenditure incurred on the acquisition, production or construction of assets for use by, or disposal to, a person other than the local authority which would be capital expenditure if those assets were acquired, produced or constructed for use by the local authority.

Reserves

The accumulation of past revenue surpluses and contributions, which can be used to meet future expenditure. The reserves can be general reserves, or earmarked for a specific purpose.

Security, Liquidity, Yield (SLY)

The factors taken into account when investing and are prioritised in the order.

SONIA

Sterling overnight index average interest rate. On each London business day, SONIA is measured as the trimmed mean, rounded to four decimal places, of interest rates paid on eligible sterling denominated deposit transactions.

Transactional Banking

Use of a bank for day-to-day banking requirement, e.g. provision of current accounts, deposit accounts and on-line banking.

UN Principles for Responsible Banking

Are a unique framework for ensuring that signatory banks' strategy and practice align with the vision society has set out for its future in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement.

The framework consists of 6 Principles designed to bring purpose, vision and ambition to sustainable finance. They were created in 2019 through a partnership between founding

banks and the United Nations. Signatory banks commit to embedding these 6 principles across all business areas, at the strategic, portfolio and transactional levels.

- Principle 1: Alignment, align business strategy with individual's goals as expressed in the sustainable development goals, the Paris Climate Agreement and national and regional frameworks.
- Principle 2: Impact and Target Setting, increase positive impacts and reduce negative impacts on, and managing the risks to people and environment.
- Principle 3: Clients and Customers, work with clients and customers to encourage sustainable practices and enable economic activities that create shared prosperity.
- Principle 4: Stakeholders, engage with stakeholders to achieve society's goals.
- Principle 5: Governance and Culture, implement the commitment to these principles through effective governance.
- Principle 6: Transparency and Accountability, periodic review of the implementation of these principles, and be transparent about and accountable for the positive and negative impacts, and the contribution to society's goals.

•

A 3-step process guides signatories through implementing their commitment:

1. Impact Analysis: identifying the most significant impacts of products and services on the societies, economies and environments that the bank operates in.
2. Target Setting: setting and achieving measurable targets in a banks' areas of most significant impact.
3. Reporting: publicly report on progress on implementing the Principles, being transparent about impacts and contributions.

UN Principles for Responsible Investments

The 6 principles for responsible investments offer possible actions for incorporating ESG issues into investment practice.

The principles that the signatories sign up to are;

- **Principle 1:** We will incorporate ESG issues into investment analysis and decision-making processes.
- **Principle 2:** We will be active owners and incorporate ESG issues into our ownership policies and practices.
- **Principle 3:** We will seek appropriate disclosure on ESG issues by the entities in which we invest.
- **Principle 4:** We will promote acceptance and implementation of the Principles within the investment industry.
- **Principle 5:** We will work together to enhance our effectiveness in implementing the Principles.
- **Principle 6:** We will each report on our activities and progress towards implementing the Principles.

The Principles for Responsible Investment were developed by an international group of institutional investors reflecting the increasing relevance of environmental, social and corporate governance issues to investment practices. The process was convened by the United Nations Secretary-General.