

Council meeting: Monday, 27 February 2023

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of Warwick District Council will be held at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa, on Monday, 27 February 2023 at **6.00pm**.

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members to declare the existence and nature of interests in items on the agenda in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct. Declarations should be disclosed during this item. However, the existence and nature of any interest that subsequently becomes apparent during the course of the meeting must be disclosed immediately. If the interest is not registered, Members must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days.

Members are also reminded of the need to declare predetermination on any matter.

If Members are unsure about whether or not they have an interest, or about its nature, they are strongly advised to seek advice from officers prior to the meeting.

3. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14 December 2022.
(Pages 1 to 12)

4. Communications and Announcements

5. Petitions

6. Notices of Motion

To consider a notice of motion from Councillor Mangat and Councillor Day that reads as follows:

"The vulnerability of elected representatives has been at the forefront of the political sphere in recent years with high profile incidents like the horrific murders of Jo Cox MP and Sir David Amess MP. With local elections coming up this motion is very timely. As Councillors we stand at the heart of local democracy and form a vital link between the council and residents, it's a privilege and responsibility to be elected to public office. Unfortunately, a minority of members of the public think it's acceptable to abuse the local people elected to serve them. What will happen to our democratic process if people are put off standing for election because of the vitriol and threats?

Part of life on all councils for Councillors often means dealing with and making difficult decisions on behalf of our residents. Debating and discussion in local democracy is healthy but abuse and intimidation are unacceptable. Councillors are here to represent their local communities and we want to continue to do that, but we need communities to support us in doing so. We as Councillors also need to set an example by treating each other with respect. Discussing things in a courteous and respectful way is always so much better than causing anger by shouting abuse. I am delighted that the Local Government Association (LGA) initiated the 'Debate Not Hate' campaign, although in 2023 such a campaign should not be needed.

According to the findings set out in the report of the LGA's call for evidence of abuse and intimidation (October 2021) A survey of all councillors in England which took place last year, found that seven in 10 respondents experienced abuse or intimidation in the last 12 months. Only 27 per cent reported to have never had any such experiences.

Anecdotally, the call for evidence found that some councillors were receiving targeted and personalised hate and abuse due to their protected characteristic. In particular, there is a perception that women, ethnic minorities, and LGBT+ Councillors will experience higher volumes of threatening and discriminatory abuse, reflecting a 2020 study of the 2019 UK general election which found that women received more sexist abuse whereas men received more general and political abuse.

Elected by our communities, we as councillors work to engage with and champion the needs of the communities in our decision making. Debate and disagreements are a healthy part of this democratic process and appropriate challenge is vital to hold elected members to account.

However, intimidation, threats and personalised abuse crosses the line into unacceptable behaviour and there is growing evidence that this is happening all too often. Social media has made it easier for this type of abuse to take place. The LGA said this is having a detrimental impact on the wellbeing of local councillors and their families, from their mental health to feelings of safety, with some reporting seeking medical advice for depression, anxiety, and others unable to leave their homes at all or unaccompanied for fear of an incident.

The support available to protect the safety and wellbeing of councillors is limited and inconsistent across the sector and can be uncoordinated between agencies. Some respondents shared examples of little action being taken against perpetrators of abuse, leading to a normalisation and acceptance of abuse by councillors, officers, and police. Increased participation in local democracy is something all councils strive for as broadening the diversity of people standing as candidates and of those engaging with the elected helps councils make better informed decisions for their communities. Healthy debate is the way we work together to achieve better things for our communities
Therefore, this Council resolves to:

1. Endorse the LGA Debate Not Hate campaign and call on all political group leaders to sign a public statement.
2. Support the LGA's proposal for a national working group to produce and implement an action plan that addresses the abuse and intimidation of elected members and candidates and ensures their safety while they fulfil their democratic roles;

3. The Council reaffirms its stance of a zero-tolerance approach (as made in 2019) to the abuse of its councillors and officers, and asks officers to review appropriate policies and promote these to Councillors and Officers;
4. Officers, in liaison with the Chairman of the Council, review the safety and wellbeing of its members in respect of preventing and handling abuse and intimidation and addressing the impacts of abuse on mental health and wellbeing and report back to Overview & Scrutiny Committee on this;
5. Officers work with Warwickshire Police and colleagues across Warwickshire to deliver for Hate Crime Ambassador training for all members to enable them to become hate crime ambassadors by championing awareness and increasing public confidence in reporting in their ward communities."

7. Leader and Portfolio Holders' Statements

8. Questions to the Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holders

9. Setting of the Council Tax 2023/24

To consider:

- (a) the recommendations from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 February 2023 in Minute Number 84 and **(To follow)**
- (b) the report of the Responsible Financial Officer. **(To follow)**

10. Housing Rents and Housing Revenue Account Budget 2023/24

To consider the recommendations from the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9 February 2023 in Minute Number 85. **(To follow)**

11. Cabinet Report

To consider an excerpt from the Cabinet meeting of 9 February 2022. **(To follow)**

13. Overview & Scrutiny Committee

To consider the report from Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7 February 2023. **(To follow)**

14. Audit & Standards Committee

To consider the report from Audit & Standards Committee on 21 February 2022. **(To follow)**

15. Common Seal

To authorise the affixing of the Common Seal of the Council to such deeds and documents as may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.



Chief Executive
Published Friday 17 February 2023

For enquiries about this meeting please contact Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 5HZ

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WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Warwick District Council held at the Town Hall, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa, on Wednesday 14 December 2022, at 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mangat (Chair); Councillors Ashford, Bartlett, Barton, Boad, Cooke, Davison, Day, A Dearing, J Dearing, R Dickson, Evans, Falp, B Gifford, C Gifford, Grey, Hales, Illingworth, Jacques, Kennedy, King, Kohler, Leigh-Hunt, Luckhurst, Margrave, Matecki, Milton, Murphy, Noone, Norris, Quinney, Redford, Rhead, Roberts, Russell, Skinner, Syson, Tracey and Wright.

62. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cullinan, K Dickson, Grainger, Morris and Tangri.

63. **Declarations of Interest**

Minute Number 66 – Notices of Motion

Councillor Hales declared an interest because he was the Vice-Chair of Trustees at Kenilworth School, and had been involved in the new-build project for over 11 years.

Councillors Cooke, Falp, B Gifford, Matecki and Roberts declared an interest because the notice of motion mentioned Warwickshire County Council and they were County Councillors, and Councillors Boad and Redford declared an interest because their spouses were Warwickshire County Councillors.

Councillor R Dickson declared an interest because he was a member of Friends of Abbey Fields Group.

64. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2022 was taken as read and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

65. **Communications & Announcements**

The Chairman informed Council that as it was the last Council meeting of 2022, and a time of celebration and hope for a new year, she felt it was appropriate to offer some reflections.

This was the seventh meeting of Council since she was appointed as Chair and each meeting had had its own significant items of business for consideration, from motions and petitions regarding bio-diversity to those on Planning Policy. In addition, the Council considered recommendations from Cabinet that had seen the submission of the Net Zero Carbon DPD. The Chair was honoured to attend functions and multi-cultural celebrations across the District, including representing the Council at the opening of the Commonwealth Games and visiting the Games site itself in this District.

The Chair reflected on the sad deaths of fellow Councillors, Councillor Heath in 2021 and then Councillor Nicholls in March this year, which led to Councillor

Mangat's role as Chair of the Council. The nation and the Commonwealth also had the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second in September.

With this in mind, the Chair informed Members that she was able to commemorate both Her Majesty the Queen and Councillor Nicholls that week, with the planting of two trees in Hamilton Terrace.

It was coming close to the end of 2022 and as the Chair of this Council, Councillor Mangat was proud and thanked each and every fellow Councillor for their commitment and service to residents, reflected in many meetings in the Chamber, but also behind the scenes.

She then took the opportunity to wish all Councillors, officers and the wider community a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for 2023.

The Chairman informed Council that there was no business under item 5 – Petitions, but there were two additional items to consider in respect of confidential recommendations from Cabinet.

66. **Notices of Motion**

At the start of this item, the Chair permitted two public speakers, George Bell and Isadora McAinsh, to address the Council on the Notice of Motion, as set out in the agenda. The Chair reminded Members of the amendments to the Motion, which were circulated electronically and in paper copy at the meeting.

Councillor Milton then proposed the Motion that had been revised and circulated to all Councillors before the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Kennedy. The Motion read as follows:

"The opening of the new Kenilworth School in September 2023 is a major milestone for the realisation of the district's local plan. As a Council we recognise the need to prioritise active travel, but at the moment other than the immediate surrounds of the school, there is little in the way of infrastructure that will enable students to cycle to the school safely from across the town.

Concerns about the lack of safe cycling provision to the school have been consistently raised by residents, and this was evidenced in the recent petition organised by Pedal to Protect, which gained around two thousand signatures in support of the need for improvements.

However, as yet, there has been little practical action to create safer routes to school, to enable active travel and in so doing, reduce the road traffic that prevents many from cycling or walking to school.

The District Council is not the Highways Authority but is the responsible authority for Abbey Fields, where cycling is currently prohibited due to a bylaw. This currently creates a significant barrier to a continuous cycle route across Kenilworth which would enable students to travel a larger proportion of the route safely.

This Council therefore resolves to take practical action to enable the young people of Kenilworth to cycle to school safely by:

- *Officers working with Warwickshire County Council to request the prioritisation of improvements at key points in the town including (but not limited to) Bridge*

Street, Dalehouse Lane, Warwick Road and Farmer Ward Road to create a network of safe routes.

- *Including students cycling to various schools through Abbey Fields within the remit of the current investigations being carried out as part of the new Abbey Fields Management Plan and Sustainable Transport work which will include relevant consultation with all affected*
- *Bringing recommendations to Cabinet in a timely fashion to allow changes to be put into effect by a target date of September 2023 subject to advice."*

Councillors Illingworth, Murphy, Skinner, Matecki, J Dearing, Day, R Dickson, Hales, Kennedy and Milton also spoke on the Motion.

Resolved that the Motion as follows, be approved:

The opening of the new Kenilworth School in September 2023 is a major milestone for the realisation of the district's local plan. As a Council we recognise the need to prioritise active travel, but at the moment other than the immediate surrounds of the school, there is little in the way of infrastructure that will enable students to cycle to the school safely from across the town.

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- Officers working with Warwickshire County Council to request the prioritisation of improvements at key points in the town including (but not limited to) Bridge Street, Dalehouse Lane, Warwick Road and Farmer Ward Road to create a network of safe routes.
- Including students cycling to various schools through Abbey Fields within the remit of the current investigations being carried out as part of the new Abbey Fields Management Plan and Sustainable Transport work which will include relevant consultation with all affected

- Bringing recommendations to Cabinet in a timely fashion to allow changes to be put into effect by a target date of September 2023 subject to advice.

67. **Leader & Portfolio Holder Statements**

The Portfolio Holder for Climate Change, Councillor Rhead, expressed his best wishes for the festive season and then informed Council that:

- (1) in relation to the potential hydrogen hub, meetings were held to identify the best procurement process to bring forward a potential private investor, which was an ongoing process, as well as identifying potential demand for hydrogen as part of underwriting an investment. Once there was a clearer understanding of those matters, a further report would be submitted to Cabinet setting out the possible best route forward; and
- (2) he had visited HyDEX at Keele University, together with the Programme Director for Climate Change and the Project Officer, to learn more about their work on hydrogen and how this might help this Council's work. The whole campus was completely self-sufficient in energy not just from hydrogen, but also solar and aeolian energy. They had successfully experimented with putting 20% hydrogen in their local gas system and did not have to make any alterations to their boilers. This was done with HSE's approval. Once more details would become available, these would be brought forward to Cabinet in the new year.

The Portfolio Holder for Arts and Economy, Councillor Bartlett, explained that:

- (1) following a successful application for UKSPF funding, it was confirmed that Warwick District Council was allocated £3.48m, to be split as follows: £2.2m towards community and place, £800,000 towards supporting local business, and £0.5m towards people and skills; and
- (2) some of the key projects the UKSPF funding was going to be spent on were: health and wellbeing via the new medical centre in Lillington, North Leamington; the expansion of the CCTV camera capabilities; commencement of improving the physical infrastructure at Brunswick Healthy Living Centre; additional funding towards cycling and active travel routes; and other green initiatives.

The Portfolio Holder for Housing, Councillor Matecki, explained that:

- (1) following investigative works, there were safety concerns about how the buildings at Christine Ledger Square, would respond in the case of a fire. As a result, robust steps were taken to protect tenants and leaseholders, who were being offered alternative temporary accommodation because their safety and protection was paramount. Residents were being supported throughout the process, both practically and financially, to move out of the building as soon as possible. The Housing team was meeting with the residents, as well as the Head of Housing and the Fire and Rescue service, but officers across the Council were engaged with the matter, and Councillor Matecki thanked officers for their commitment and coordinated action in this case; and
- (2) a landlord from Kenilworth had been found guilty of an illegal eviction, and was sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court on 8 December 2022. This showed the Council did not tolerate landlords evicting tenants without

following the legal process. The tenant was awarded £3,600 in compensation for the loss of their deposit, as well as the stress following the eviction.

The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood, Councillor Tracey, provided an update in the absence of Councillor Grainger. He explained that:

- (1) the initial results of the first few months of the 123+ service with BIFA were now available and in line with the Council's expectations, the percentage of total waste to recycling including garden and food waste had increased across the District by 10%, to over 62% in September 2022, and the average level of grey bin waste per household was reduced by over a third to just over 21kg per month for the first two months. The full set of figures was going to be reviewed at the PAB meeting on 20 December, and reported to Members following that; and
- (2) the Warwick District car parks pay machines had their modems upgraded to improve customer experience when paying for parking. Where signals were obstructed by surrounding buildings, internal antenna were added to further enhance the payment process, and the implementation would be followed by a period of monitoring over the Christmas holidays, to ensure performance was as anticipated.

The Portfolio Holder for Transformation, Councillor Tracey:

- (1) congratulated the latest cohort of graduate apprentices who were successfully appointed to permanent roles, and thanked the Human Resources team for their efforts in making the scheme a success;
- (2) together with Councillor Kohler, the Transformation Programme Advisory Board Chair, he had attended a two-day LGA Leadership Essentials digitalisation workshop, and several work streams and opportunities came out of that, which were being discussed with the relevant officers; and
- (3) informed Members that a £100,000 grant had been secured by ICT to improve the Council's cyber security and introduce new protective measures. The Council would work with representatives from the Department of Levelling up, Housing and Communities, benefitting from their expertise and support.

The Portfolio Holder for Resources, Councillor Hales, informed Council that:

- (1) the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme was out for consultation; and
- (2) the PAB would meet the following Thursday to talk through the financial assessment, which seemed to be positive in terms of news coming through from central Government. He thanked Members of the PAB and officers for their commitment and hard work, meeting the week before Christmas.

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Leadership and Leader of the Council, Councillor Day advised Council that:

- (1) he had been in touch with the Leader at Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to pass condolences on behalf of the Council;
- (2) there was an excellent response to the cold weather, offering temporary accommodation to the residents who chose not to take the permanent accommodation offered by the Council, to make sure they were protected

during this time. Furthermore, there was a lot of support offered by the voluntary organisations, community groups and the Town and Parish Councils, with many Warm Hubs in place across the District;

- (3) he had visited the Gurdwara and the Polish centre, where he enjoyed hospitality and was impressed with the sense of community there. He had also visited the Ambulances in Ukraine charity, which had sent 11 or 12 ambulances thanks to the generosity of local residents. There were also several initiatives organised internally by Council officers too;
- (4) with the elections and new municipal year fast approaching, the Council was now at a stage of completing some projects and setting the groundwork for the new Council. With that in mind, he attended the opening of the Fusiliers Museum, which was a great success;
- (5) work was progressing in the Packmores, particularly with the Gap, in bringing forward feasibility work, which Cabinet and LCG would be looking at in due course, working cross-party and with the Town Council in order to build a community centre for the benefit of the residents;
- (6) it was good to see the Liberal Democrat Councillors out in Lillington with the health hub and seeing that work begin after many years;
- (7) he thanked the Chair of the Council for her service, and all Councillors for the work they had done.

68. Questions to the Leader of the Council & Portfolio Holders

Councillor R Dickson asked the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment what action Warwick District Council had taken in order to remind residents and visitors of the dangers of playing on or near the water in the parks, and what action had been taken to review the on-site notices warning of these dangers, following the tragic loss which had taken place in a park in Solihull.

In response, Councillor Falp, on behalf of the Council, expressed her deepest sympathy to the families of those young victims, and to the wider community as well, which was also affected by this tragic incident. She reinforced the messages around the dangers in and around open water, such as rivers, lakes, ponds etc., particularly if the water was frozen, and mentioned specific locations within the District. All residents, but particularly those with young children, were warned not to tread on the frozen surface of the water. In terms of the notices, new ones would be displayed from the day after the meeting, and Councillor Falp offered to send Councillor Dickson an example of these.

Councillor Boad asked the Portfolio Holder for Place, Councillor Cooke, if the Council should pause the work on the South Warwickshire Local Plan, so that it could get further direction on the letter from the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities in respect of development numbers and the implications of the proposals?

In response, Councillor Cooke advised that, whilst he had sympathy for the point raised by Councillor Boad, he would not commit himself to Councillor Boad's suggestion either way, and would prefer to wait for further developments from the Secretary of State. Councillor Cooke offered to take advice from officers and give a more detailed response to Councillor Boad.

Councillor Boad asked the Portfolio Holder for Transformation what the Council was doing to ensure that residents who were contacting the call centre were actually getting a response, following a resident applying several times for a green bin five and one month before the meeting, and still not having had a response.

Councillor Tracy advised that he was not aware of any outstanding applications for additional green bins or food caddies. He asked Councillor Boad to share the individual's details so that officers could look into the situation.

Councillor Boad asked the Leader if he agreed that good cross-party working to get things done was reliant on trust and honesty and what the view of the Leader was in respect of the Conservative leaflet, which stated that the Liberal Democrats and Green Members had voted to increase the council tax by the maximum amount permitted (which was accurate, although that vote was lost), against the hardship fund and the foodbank budget, which was not actually true. The vote was on the combined budget vote, which was on the agreed budget for the Council and included these too.

In response, the Leader explained that he very much wanted to continue the cross-party collaboration, which had been a real feature of this Council. He had spoken to Councillor Boad over the phone recently and explained that it was not Councillor Day's prerogative to set the Conservative Party's elections literature for every ward, and it was the association doing that. Councillor Day's understanding was that it was an amendment from the Labour group which brought forward the hardship fund and foodbank provision. There were matters within the Conservative party which Councillor Day did not have control over.

Councillor Luckhurst asked the Leader for an update on the work done around the potential to use double glazing in listed building in the conservation area.

In response, Councillor Day explained that, especially given the large number of listed buildings in the District, it was important to make these more sustainable and economical for residents. The Conservation officer was working directly with the Programme Director for Climate Change to come up with revisions to planning policy, which would then be taken through the PAB. Councillor Day was encouraging the idea of running a pilot with some residents, to see how that policy might work in action, so that to ensure that it was fit for purpose. This was not just about single or double glazing, but more widely, about wanting to ensure that the heritage buildings could be enhanced by using new technologies and made more sustainable.

Councillor Milton asked the Portfolio Holder for Transformation for an update, given that the incidents of fly-tipping had increased by 50% in August 2022, which coincided with the launch of the 123+ project, with a similar increase in September and October.

Councillor Tracey thanked the vast majority of residents who had embraced the change in the refuse and recycling service and shared a number of positive comments regarding how much easier the new system was. Whilst there was an increase in fly-tipping in Warwick District Council, this was not the case in Stratford-on-Avon District Council. However, Warwick District Council had planned to increase the focus on enforcement action in the new year.

Councillor Roberts asked the Leader what his views were around the implementation of the new Voter ID legislation from the Government, and if, bearing in mind the view of the Chair of the LGA, who had called for the

implementations of the changes to the electoral reform to be postponed as it did not give councils enough time to prepare for these changes, and *"Not doing so could lead to a situation where some results are legally challenged which would be bad for democracy and could undermine the confidence that the public have in the electoral process."* He proceeded to ask the Leader if he was confident that the Council was in a position to bring these reforms forward without impacting the democratic process in May 2023, and if this would involve extra resources and costs to the Council.

Councillor Day directed the question to the Chief Executive, who was also the Returning Officer.

Mr Elliott explained that he did have concerns about the introduction of such major changes so close to scheduled elections. Looking ahead, it was important to acknowledge that the Electoral Services Team and members of the polling station teams wanted people to vote, because that's why we were there for. However, there might be potential instances of electors not being able to vote if they did not comply with the new regulations.

Should electors not hold one of the required forms of photo ID, they would be able to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate from their local authority, either in person, by post or via the ".Gov" portal which would go live on 16 January 2023. Photo ID did not have to be in date to be used, it just needed to bear a likeness to the voter.

Not only did the new Act introduce the requirement for electors to show photo ID at the polling station before a ballot paper was issued to them, it also placed the requirement on the Returning Officer to extend accessibility in polling stations and take all reasonable steps to provide support for those with disabilities.

There would also be administrative changes for absent voting, changes in voting and candidacy arrangements for EU voters and also British citizens living overseas.

DLUHC, Association of Electoral Administrators and Electoral Commission were giving guidance and holding trainings and seminars for the team to be involved with, giving the confidence that the Council would be prepared for all the changes being made, and especially Voter ID.

Following on from Mrs Friar's presentation to Members on 21 November, the Electoral Commission's national "Note to Self" campaign would begin on 8 January 2023. They were providing resource packs so that everyone could use the same concept to carry across the message, including for use by political parties.

The Warwick DC Media Team was preparing a District-wide campaign and leading on County-wide communications, working with the other Local Authorities within Warwickshire.

These additional requirements of course would result in new financial burdens being placed on Warwick District Council, but the Government had committed funding of £25,638 for the current financial year and £52,854 for 23/24 financial year to WDC.

Finally, the Chief Executive thanked Mrs Friar, who was shortly to retire from her role. She had played an enormous role in making the elections in the District safe, secure and credible. She would be missed a great deal, but her successor was due to start very soon, and any queries should be directed to the elections team. The

Council was taking all the steps to make the elections a success, and although it would have been preferable to delay the changes, this was not going to happen and it was important for the Council to be as prepared as it could be.

Councillor Roberts expressed his thanks to Mrs Friar for her excellent service to the Council. He then asked a supplementary question, if the funding issued by the Government would match the costs to the Council, and if Warwick District Council had written to the Government in order to raise concerns about the new legislation being implemented from May 2023.

The Chief Executive explained that, through the membership of various organisations, such as the Association of Electoral Administrators, this Council's view was made clear, in that the scale of change so close to the elections was not ideal. In terms of the costs, at this stage, all the costs were not fully known, but would take a prudent view on how the Council would manage its finances on the elections front, to make the money go as far as possible. However, it was important to acknowledge that with it being the first time implementing the changes, some things might not go to plan, and it would be a learning experience.

Councillor A Dearing asked what the membership was of the master-planning project board established following concerns about the A46 strategic link road, with representatives from Warwick District Council, Coventry City Council and Warwickshire County Council, would jointly develop a masterplan for the area. She then asked the Leader for an update on this project, including timescale and opportunity for public consultation.

In response, Councillor Day explained that the project board was an officer group, it was chaired by Mr Elliot (WDC Chief Executive), the Strategic Directors from the County Council and from the City Council, and a Director from the University of Warwick. The Board had met three times, agreed its terms of reference and had been compiling research, with a next meeting likely to be in February 2023, looking at commissioning further detailed work. From there, a Cabinet report would be brought forward. The public would be involved and engaged with each part of the programme.

Councillor A Dearing asked a supplementary question to the Leader, wanting to find out if there was any opportunity for local town and parish councils to be involved.

Councillor Day clarified that there would be opportunities in the future for Kenilworth Town Council and the Parish Councils to be involved in any consultations in the future, but at this stage, the project was led by officers, bringing together the information before it being assessed by Members.

Councillor Murphy asked the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment if, when going round to display updated notices at the open-water facilities, officers could check that the anti-vandal fencing and life belts were in place, as well as break the ice around the edges at places such as Kingfisher Pools.

In response, Councillor Falp confirmed that officers would check the facilities, but officers would not be breaking the ice for health and safety reasons.

(At 7.30pm, the meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes for a comfort break.)

69. Cabinet Report

The recommendations of the Cabinet on 7 December 2022 were proposed by Councillor Day and seconded by Councillor Hales.

Resolved that the recommendations from the Cabinet of 7 December 2022 be approved.

70. Membership of Committees

The Chair reminded Members of the revised guidance circulated by the Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer, and for ease, she read these out at the meeting:

1. *To agree that the size of the Employment, Planning and Audit & Standards Committee be increased by 1 to 13 to represent the political proportionality of the Council*
2. *To agree that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Licensing & Regulatory Committee remain at their current size of 12 and 15 respectively*
3. *To replace Councillor Norris on the Audit & Standards Committee with Councillor Leigh-Hunt*
4. *To appoint Councillor Cullinan to the Audit & Standards Committee and remove her as a named substitute from that Committee*
5. *To replace Councillor Norris with Councillor Ashford on the Planning Committee*
6. *To appoint Councillor Skinner to the Planning Committee and remove him as a named substitute from that Committee*
7. *To appoint a Councillor Cullinan to the Employment Committee and remove her as a named substitute from that Committee*
8. *To appoint Councillor Murphy to the Licensing & Regulatory Committee in place of Councillor Norris*
9. *To remove Councillor Norris as a named substitute for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.*
10. *To appoint Councillor Murphy as a named Substitute for the Conservative Group at Overview & Scrutiny Committee*
11. *To appoint Councillor King as a named substitute for Employment Committee and Planning Committee.*

It was proposed by Councillor Mangat, seconded by Councillor Day and

Resolved that

- (1) the size of the Employment, Planning and Audit & Standards Committee be increased by 1 to 13, to represent the political proportionality of the Council;
- (2) the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Licensing & Regulatory Committee remain at their current size of 12 and 15 respectively, be agreed;
- (3) Councillor Norris be replaced on the Audit & Standards Committee by Councillor Leigh-Hunt;
- (4) Councillor Cullinan be appointed to the Audit & Standards Committee, and removed as a named substitute from that Committee;

- (5) Councillor Norris be replaced Councillor Ashford on the Planning Committee;
- (6) Councillor Skinner be appointed to the Planning Committee, and removed s a named substitute from that Committee;
- (7) Councillor Cullinan be appointed to the Employment Committee, and removed as a named substitute from that Committee;
- (8) Councillor Murphy be appointed to the Licensing & Regulatory Committee in place of Councillor Norris;
- (9) Councillor Norris be removed as a named substitute for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee;
- (10) Councillor Murphy be appointed as a named Substitute for the Conservative Group at Overview & Scrutiny Committee; and
- (11) Councillor King be appointed as a named substitute for Employment Committee and Planning Committee.

71. **Public & Press**

The Chair informed Members that she agreed to consider confidential recommendations from Cabinet, and in order to do so proposed that the public and press be excluded.

Resolved that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items by reason of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, as set out below.

72. **Confidential Cabinet Report**

It was proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Hales and

Resolved that confidential recommendations from the Cabinet of 7 December 2022 be approved.

(The meeting resumed in public session.)

73. **Common Seal**

It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Day and

Resolved that the Common Seal of Warwick District Council be affixed to such documents as it may be required for implementing decisions of the Council arrived at this day.

(The meeting ended at 7.49pm)

CHAIR
27 February 2023

Cabinet

Excerpt from the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on Thursday 9 February 2023 in the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 4.00pm.

Present: Councillors Day (Leader), Bartlett, Cooke, Falp, Grainger, Hales, Matecki, Rhead, and Tracey.

Also Present: Councillors: Boad (Liberal Democrat Group Observer), Davison (Green Group Observer), Mangat (Labour Group Observer), and Milton (Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee).

78. **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

79. **Declarations of Interest**

Minute Number 82 – Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Councillor Matecki declared an interest because he was a Warwickshire County Councillor and he left the room whilst this item was discussed.

80. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2022 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Part 1

(Items upon which a decision by the Council was required)

81. **Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council 2023/24**

In accordance with Procedure Rules, Councillor Syson was nominated to be elected as the Chairman and Councillor Margrave was nominated to be elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2023/24.

The Cabinet, therefore

Recommended to Council on 17 May 2023 that

- (1) Councillor Syson be elected as the Chairman of the Council for 2023/24; and
- (2) Councillor Margrave be elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2023/24.

(The Portfolio Holder for this item was Councillor Day)
Forward Plan Reference 1,342

(Councillor Matecki left the room.)

82. **Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

The Cabinet considered a report from Customer and Digital Services asking it to decide whether to increase the maximum reduction payable under the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme from 85% to 100% as a result of the cost of living crisis.

The District Council was responsible for determining its own Council Tax Reduction scheme. The scheme provided a reduction in Council Tax for liable persons who were on a low income. Under the current scheme, all working age claimants had to contribute at least 15% towards their Council Tax.

Since 2013, each local authority had been responsible for determining its own Local Council Tax Reduction scheme to assist residents who were on a low income to meet the costs of their Council Tax liability. Prior to 2013, the scheme was a national scheme with legislation set by Central Government. Prescribed legislation remained in place for low-income pensioners and therefore this proposal only affected working age claimants.

In 2014, the Warwick District Council working age scheme was amended so that the maximum reduction a liable person could receive was 92.5% and this was reduced further in 2015 to 85%. The proposal to increase the maximum reduction a working age claimant could receive was being proposed as a direct response to the current cost of living crisis.

Claimants who received Local Council Tax Reduction were amongst the most vulnerable people across the District, not only because they were on the lowest incomes, but many of them also had other vulnerabilities such as disabilities or caring responsibilities, which restricted their ability to increase their income. The current cost of living crisis was therefore placing these people further into poverty.

The table at section 1.4 in the report showed the minimum contribution a working age liable person who was in receipt of a reduction, currently needed to pay per annum towards their Council Tax and therefore if the proposal was agreed, was the amount a household would save.

In terms of alternative options, the Council could decide to continue to ask residents in receipt of a Reduction to contribute at least 15% towards their Council Tax bill, but the purpose of the change was to assist residents during the cost-of-living crisis and therefore no other option had been recommended.

The Budget Review Group supported the recommendations in the report, in doing so recognising the administration burden for the Council of chasing the demand for any percentage of Council Tax to be paid against the balance of lost income.

The Group encouraged the Cabinet to ensure the message on eligibility would be communicated clearly and simply to all residents and targeted to those who the Council considered might be eligible.

The Group welcomed the assurance from the Portfolio Holder to provide, to District Councillors, a one-page eligibility sheet so they could help direct/filter enquiries.

The Group highlighted that any communication that was to be issued should highlight the process for making a claim, including an in-person option.

The Group requested that all Members should be provided a breakdown of the number of properties within each Council Tax Band to supplement the Table as set out in 1.4 in the report.

In response to a question from Councillor Boad, the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer advised that the reduction would be automatic for those currently in receipt of benefit, and new applicants would be entitled to the enhanced reduction.

Councillors Hales and Tracey praised officers for the work that they put into the report, with it being a further demonstration of the Council's support of the most vulnerable residents during uncertain times. Councillor Tracey noted the comments from the Budget Review Group regarding communication to all residents who were eligible. He then proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that the maximum Local Council Tax Reduction payable be increased from 85% to 100% for working age claimants.

(The Portfolio Holder for this item was Councillor Tracey)
Forward Plan Reference 1,346

(Councillor Matecki re-joined the meeting.)

83. **Council Tax Support Fund**

The Cabinet considered a report from Finance which provided a recommendation on how to administer the Council Tax Support Fund, a new scheme created by the Government, to enable financial support the most vulnerable.

The Government was funding an additional £100million to support the most vulnerable households. The funding would allow Councils to deliver additional support to households already receiving Local Council Tax Reduction (LCTR), whilst also providing the flexibility to determine the local approaches to support the most vulnerable households in their area. Warwick District Council had been allocated £191,494 for this scheme. The guidance stated that an award of up to £25 should be given to any LCTR recipient that had a Council Tax liability to pay, for example - if a customer had a liability of £100 to pay, this would be reduced to £75, whereas if a customer only had £10, this would be reduced to nil.

For the proportion of the allocation that was not used in the above, Councils needed to establish their own local approach to helping vulnerable households with Council Tax bills.

The Government had stated there should be no need for LCTR recipients to make a claim for this support, it should be assessed and automatically applied by the local authority. This should have been in place to be reflected in the 2023/24 Council Tax bills which would be raised and issued in early March.

For Warwick District Council to award the remainder of its allocation to the most vulnerable residents and without creating complicated discretionary schemes or application processes and causing unnecessary additional work, the following two options were proposed. The reason there were two options was because officers were consulting on increasing the LCTR scheme to award up to 100% for several working age claimants. If this decision was agreed by Council on 27 February, the implementation of this increase would heavily reduce the number of claimants that had a Council Tax liability to pay. This would be an addition to the Council's response to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

Option 1 (maximum LCTR for working age claimants did not increase to 100% and stayed at 85%). The Council granted every LCTR recipient with a Council Tax liability to pay an award of up to £25 (dependant on their liability amount).

	Number of eligible claimants	Total amount of CT Support payments
Working Age	4,606	£115,150
Pensioners	1,040	£26,000
Total		£141,150

This would leave £50,344, allowing up to £25 to be awarded to every new LCTR recipient, with a Council Tax liability to pay, throughout 2023/24, but as this would allow for over 2,000 claimants, this might leave monies unspent by the end of the year.

Option 2 (maximum CTR for working age claimants did increase to 100%). The Council grants every CTR recipient with a Council Tax liability to pay an award of up to £75 (dependant on their liability amount).

	No. of eligible claimants	Total amount of CT Support payments
Working Age	1,400	£105,000
Pensioners	965	£72,375
Total		£177,375

This would leave £14,119, allowing up to £75 to be awarded to every new CTR recipient, with a Council Tax liability to pay throughout 2023/24, until the funding was exhausted. This would allow for around 188 further claimants to receive the award, but as the new 100% scheme would be in place, it was expected that the number with a Council Tax liability would be substantially reduced.

In terms of alternative options, there was not an alternative to awarding these funds to vulnerable residents, however, the alternative to this proposal would be to award the minimum of £25 to those on LCTR and

create a discretionary scheme with an application and verification process for the remaining funds.

The Budget Review Group supported the recommendations in the report.

Councillor Hales proposed the report as laid out, based on Option 2 as set out above.

Recommended to Council that the Council Tax Support Fund be awarded to those residents in receipt of Local Council Tax Reduction, in support of the decision by Council on revision to that Scheme, based on Option 2 as set out above.

(The Portfolio Holders for this item was Councillors Hales & Tracey)

84. **General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget**

The Cabinet considered a report from Finance which informed Members on the Council's General Fund financial position, bringing together the latest and original Budgets for 2022/23 and 2023/24 respectively, plus the Medium-Term Forecasts until 2026/27. It would be presented to Council alongside a separate report recommending the overall 2023/24 Council Tax Charges for Warwick District Council.

The report presented a balanced budget for 2023/24, which the Council had been able to achieve without having to reduce the services it provided but with a heavy reliance on reserves. The Council continued to use New Homes Bonus and other non-recurrent funding provided as part of the Finance Settlement to support additional activity and replenishing reserve balances, and not to support core revenue spending.

No increase was proposed for Council Tax for 2023/24, which would erode the tax base of the Council into the future.

By law, the Council needed to set a balanced budget before the start of the financial year. As part of this process, it needed to levy a Council Tax from its local taxpayers to contribute to financing General Fund expenditure.

It was prudent to consider the medium-term rather than just the next financial year, taking into account the longer-term implications of decisions in respect of 2023/24. Hence, Members received a five-year Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) detailing the Council's financial plans, Capital Programme and Reserves Schedule.

The Local Government Act 2004, Section 3, stated that the Council had to set an authorised borrowing limit. The CIPFA Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities stated the Council should annually approve Prudential Indicators. These would be included in the Annual Treasury Management Strategy report to Cabinet and Council in March 2023.

The Chief Financial Officer was required to report on the robustness of the estimates made and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. This

statement was made at Appendix 1 to the report.

The report was structured to build up and present a holistic view of the Council's finances for Members to assist them in considering the Budget and Council Tax proposals and associated matters.

The current year revenue budget was last considered by Cabinet in December 2022 at part of the Q2 Budget Review report. At that time, a £482,000 adverse position was forecast for the year, which was to be partly driven by non-ring-fenced Government grants.

Throughout 2022/23, expenditure/income had been reviewed against budgets, with this helping to inform the Budget Process. Part of this process was to review the current year's budgets to ensure that they were up to date and relevant to the needs and requirements of the service areas. Budgets had been reviewed throughout the year on a regular basis, and more formally through the Quarterly Budget Review reports presented to Members in September and December.

The Quarter 2 report presented a deficit position of £482,000 with the breakdown as follows:

2022-23		
Service (General Fund)	Variation Description	Forecast Full Year Variation £'000
Employee Costs	Staffing	£500 F
	Pay Award (funded by Vacancy budget) including member allowances	-
Neighbourhood & Assets	Delays to PPM works	-
	Utility Charges – Electricity	£250 A
	Previous waste contract income	£200 F
	Green Waste Permits	£486 F
Place, Arts & Economy	Arts activity increased	-
	Leisure Concession	£200 A
	Planning Income	-
Housing Services	B&B Accommodation	-
Customer & Digital Services	Benefits subsidy and payments	£396 A
Strategic Leadership	Warwickshire Place Partnership (Health & Wellbeing)	-
	De-Carbonisation Grant	-
	Members Allowance	£40 A
	Contingency Budget	-
	Crewe Lane LLP Interest	£62 A
	Removal of EMR	£500 F
	Budget Savings proposals linked to merger	£512 A
	Budget saving proposal – digital transformation	£208 A
	Budget Savings in-year underspend	£500 A
TOTAL		£482 A

However, there had been one further notable change that had impacted on the financial position for the current year, outlined as part of the

forecast review alongside the budget setting process:

Expenditure Growth / Income Reductions

- Business Rate retention forecast reduced based on latest projections provided locally and through the Business rate pool (all Warwickshire Councils and Coventry were part of the local pool) (+£609k).

As a result of the changes summarised above, a deficit of £1.290m was forecast for 2022/23.

While section 10.10 in the report highlighted the controls and mitigations in place to reduce budgetary risk, it had been clear that significant factors, both locally to the Council and nationally due to the significantly different economic conditions the Council operated in, had led to unexpected and, in recent times, unprecedented financial challenges. Where savings and efficiencies had been made, these had in some instances been negated by increased costs across many services.

It was essential that officers and Members continued to support and deliver further proposals in order to address the financial challenges facing the Council, to ensure that the Council could continue to deliver high levels of service within its ongoing financial baseline.

In preparing the 2023/24 Base Budget, the over-riding principle was to budget for the continuation of services at the existing level. The following adjustments needed to be made to the 2022/23 Original Budget:

- removal of any one-off and temporary items;
- addition of inflation;
- addition of previously agreed Growth items;
- addition of unavoidable Growth items; and
- inclusion of any identified savings.

Core inflation of 4% had been included in the proposed 2023/24 Budget. The exceptions to this were the Waste Contract (subject to annual review in July); the Cleaning contract and the Business Rates.

The following unavoidable growth had been included in the Budget:

- a 4% staffing pay increase had been factored in for 2023/24, subject to pay negotiations (+£709k);
- increase in finance charges, including the interest paid on PWLB borrowing to support approved schemes including the contribution to the establishment of the Materials Recycling Facility in Coventry, and the purchase of vehicles as part of the new waste collection service (+£543k), and an increase to the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) allocation (+£384k); and
- increased cost of utilities due to the rise in wholesale prices, as outlined in the Q2 budget report in December (+£530k).

As part of agreeing the 2022/23 Budget last year, a series of Budget savings were included. These had continued to be monitored throughout the year and reported to Members as necessary.

The 2023/24 budget showed a deficit of £3.624m. The key drivers of the 2023/24 forecast deficit, compared to when the MTFS was last presented to Members in the December 2022 Q2 Budget report, included:

- freeze to Council Tax (previously set at a £5 increase for 2023/24);
- recruitment, Retention and Remuneration recommendation; and
- increase in contingency provision for inflation, major contracts and ad- hoc developments in-year.

Offset by:

- increase to vacancy factor following Recruitment, Retention and Remuneration review; and
- business rates increase due to delay in baseline reset.

To present a balanced budget, it was proposed to use the Business Rates Retention Volatility Reserve.

Appendix 2b to the report included details of the breakdown of the Budget over the Council's individual services.

The Chancellor announced the 2022 Autumn Statement on 17 November, which was followed by the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on 19 December.

The recent announcements and provisional settlement were once again a holding position, designed to offer some stability based on a uniform roll-over of the core elements of the settlement. However, this was the second year in succession that the Government had only provided local authorities with a single-year settlement. The hoped-for multi-year settlement had again not been forthcoming, which continued to make financial planning very difficult for local authorities. The settlement was due to be confirmed by the Government in February 2023, ahead of local authorities confirming their budgets for 2023/24.

The Council tax principles of the Finance Settlement were set out in section 1.6 of the report.

The multiplier used to calculate Business Rates income would be frozen for 2023/24. However, the Government would compensate Councils fully for the loss of income resulting from this decision at CPI of 10.1%.

The Services Grant introduced in 2022/23 would be retained in 2023/24, but reduced to account for the reversal of the increase to National Insurance Contributions from November 2022. £133,900 has been awarded.

For some years, the future of New Homes Bonus (NHB) had been subject to review, adding to uncertainty to its continuation. However, as part of the stability, this had included NHB allocations for 2023/24 of £1.078m. There were no legacy payments attached to these new allocations.

In addition, to bridge the gap and to ensure that all Councils saw a minimum 3% increase in their core spending power (before taking into consideration any local decisions on Council Tax), a further one-off Funding Guarantee allocation of £1.846m would be received.

The Council would continue to use NHB and now the Funding Guarantee to fund one-off items, or to support reserves. This was in view of the uncertainty over future allocations, so it had been prudent not to use this funding to support core revenue expenditure, with this revenue only factored into the Medium-Term Financial Strategy once it had been agreed for each year. The proposal for their use was outlined in section 1.11 in the report and Appendix 10 to the report.

Funding reforms and changes in funding distribution, including the Fair Funding Review and Business Rates baseline reset, would not be implemented until after the General Election, and therefore 2025/26 at the earliest.

Under the current Business Rate Retention scheme, 50% of rates collected were retained within local government, with a series of tariffs and top-ups to redistribute the revenue between local authorities to reflect the individual needs of authorities, and to distribute revenue to non-billing authorities. For some years, the Government had been planning a move to a 75% scheme to give local authorities more incentive to encourage local businesses on the basis that the local Councils would get to retain a greater proportion of the tax revenue.

The other planned change to the Business Rate Retention system was for there to be a "Re-set" of the Baselines. Under the system, each authority had a Baseline, and got to retain a proportion of the additional tax revenues above this. Authorities such as Warwick had benefitted from this since the scheme began and operated well above Baseline. If there was a re-set to the Baseline, this would reduce the business rates that the Council retained substantially. For the fourth consecutive year, the re-set had been delayed, with it now expected to be from 2025/26 at the earliest, with this year being the first following the next expected General Election. Therefore, any delay in changing the baselines was seen to be of benefit to the Council. However, the MTFS did account for a steep decrease in the Council's forecast Business Rate income from 2025/26, where it was expected that District Councils would be impacted the most from any change.

The Business Rate Retention scheme was very complex, with many components and parameters which drove the funding, and the timing of that funding, that Councils received. The Council's Business Rate Retention projections were based on figures provided by Local Government Futures, a specialist consultancy that many local authorities subscribed to. This information was supplemented with local knowledge from being part of a Business Rates Pool with other Councils across Coventry and Warwickshire.

Given the large fluctuations in the business rates, and the difficulty in projecting the revenue, it was important that the Council continued to retain a "Volatility Reserve". Any increased business rate income received in the year was allocated to the reserve, whilst any shortfall should have

been funded from the reserve. The balance on the reserve had been subject to review, and it was proposed that a maximum balance of £10m should be retained in anticipation of the adverse changes expected from 2025/26.

As part of the Finance Settlement, the Government had confirmed that for District Councils, their element of Council Tax could increase by the higher of 2.99% or £5 for 2023/24. As 2.99% was higher than £5 for this Council, this was the maximum increase in Council Tax for 2023/24, that was allowed for. Any increase above this level would be required to be ratified by a local referendum.

Increasing the Council Tax by the maximum would protect the Council's tax base and maximise Council Tax revenue. If the Council agreed a lesser increase than 2.99% (or no increase), this would erode the tax revenue of Warwick District Council from 2023/24 in perpetuity. A 2.99% increase would generate an additional £305,000 in 2023/24. If Council Tax was not increased, the Council's revenue income for all future years would be suppressed by at least this amount. With the Council having to find further revenue savings in future years, the savings to be found would be that much greater. If savings in service provision were not found, it would be necessary to make reductions in services to enable the Council to be able to agree a balanced Budget in future years.

The Tax Base for 2023/24 had now been agreed at 57,670 Band D dwellings, representing an increase of 670 from what had been allowed for within the Council's 2022/23 Medium Term Financial Strategy. The increase reflected the number of new properties across the District now coming forward, while also taking into consideration the impact on the changes to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (as covered within the LCTRS report which came alongside this report on the Cabinet agenda – Minute Number 82).

The 2022/23 estimated Council Tax balance in respect of Council Tax income for the current year had recently been reviewed. This gave a total estimated surplus balance of £201,500 as of 31 March 2023 (including the final year of the 2020/21 deficit that was spread over three years). This balance had to be shared with the major preceptors in 2023/24, with Warwick District Council's element being £19,000. This surplus balance again reflected the additional growth in properties across the District during the current year, and how the current year estimated tax base of 12 months ago had been exceeded. Estimating the tax base was invariably very difficult, and frequently resulted in a deficit or surplus balance which would need to be financed subsequently.

The Medium-Term Financial Strategy included Council Tax increases for future years of 2.99% per annum from 2024/25. Any departure from this would need to increase the savings which needed to be agreed.

Notwithstanding the financial implications detailed above, given the cost-of-living pressures that local residents were experiencing and the comparatively healthy position of Council reserves, the recommendation within the report was for the District Council's element of Council Tax for 2023/24 to remain at the 2022/23 levels (which were also set at 2021/22

levels). On this basis, the 2023/24 Council Tax for each band would be as follows:

	£
Band A	117.91
Band B	137.56
Band C	157.21
Band D	176.86
Band E	216.16
Band F	255.46
Band G	294.77
Band H	353.72

Members needed to bear in mind their fiduciary duty to the Council taxpayers of Warwick District Council. Members had a duty to seek to ensure that the Council acted lawfully. They were under an obligation to produce a balanced budget and must not knowingly budget for a deficit. Members must not have come to a decision that no reasonable authority could come to, balancing the nature, quality and level of services that they considered should be provided, against the costs of providing such services.

For some years, the future of New Homes Bonus (NHB) had been subject to review, adding to uncertainty to its continuation.

It was expected that NHB payments would end in 2022/23. However, due to the 'holding' nature of the Finance Settlement, NHB allocations had once again been included, with £1.078m to be received in 2023/24. There were no legacy payments attached to these new allocations.

In addition, to bridge the gap and to ensure that all Councils saw a minimum 3% increase in their core spending power (before taking into consideration any local decisions on Council Tax), a further one-off funding guarantee allocation of £1.846m would be received.

The Council would continue to use NHB and now the Funding Guarantee to fund one-off items, or to support reserves. This was in view of the uncertainty over future allocations, so it had been prudent not to use this funding to support core revenue expenditure, with this revenue only factored into the Medium-Term Financial Strategy once it had been agreed for each year. The proposal for their use was outlined in section 1.11 in the report and Appendix 10 to the report.

The MTFS was last formally reported to Members in December as part of the Q2 Budget report, with the profile for future years being as follows:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Deficit-Savings Req(+)/Surplus (-) future years	1,290	3,528	4,334	2,476	1,525	1,501
Change on previous year		2,238	806	-1,858	-951	-24

Once the changes outlined for 2022/23 and 2023/24 through the Budget Setting process had been incorporated into the Strategy, the position of the MTFS was as follows.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Deficit-Savings Req(+)/Surplus(-) future years	482	2,558	3,012	2,688	2,545
Change on previous year	0	2,076	454	-324	-143

Section 1.11.3 in the report proposed how the deficit would be covered through the use of reserves. The below table showed the MTFS once this had been actioned:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Deficit-Savings Req(+)/Surplus (-) future years	0	0	4,334	2,476	1,525	1,501
Change on previous year		0	4,434	-1,858	-951	-24

New initiatives would need to be agreed over the next year to enable savings or additional income to be generated so as to remove the forecast £4.334m deficit in 2024/25. By using the Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve (BRRVR) over the last few years, the Council had given itself some time to get new initiatives in place. However, it now needed to develop strategies above those already agreed for balancing its budget over the medium to long term to create a sustainable platform to deliver services. This was covered in greater detail within the separate Organisational Change report on the same agenda – Minute Number 90.

The Council had already started realising ways to improve returns from its investments, in particular through the Local Housing Company, which would also have social benefits as well as economic to both the District and the Council. This would be discussed in greater detail as part of the updated Treasury Management Strategy, which would be presented to Cabinet in March 2023.

Members had previously agreed that £1.5m should be the minimum level for the core General Fund Balance. This balance supported the Council for future unforeseen demands upon its resources. In order to consider a reasonable level of general reserves, a risk assessment had been completed and attached at Appendix 4 to the report. This showed the requirement for maintaining this minimum balance to mitigate against the risks that had been identified, where other funding was not available.

The unallocated General Fund Balance was currently forecast to be £2.651m, this being above the minimum level of £1.5m. The use of this excess balance was considered in section 1.11 in the report.

The Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve (BRRVR) had been used over the duration of the MTFS to help smooth the savings needed to be secured, with the shortfall being across the period 2022/23 to 2023/24. Due to increases in the balance on this reserve, additional non-recurrent activity had also been outlined to be supported using this funding. Business rates were discussed in section 1.5 of the report, including the expected changes to Business Rate Retention which had been delayed over the last few years. With the result of the expected changes in mind, the balance of this reserve should not be allowed to go below a level of £10m.

Delegated authority was requested to enable drawdown from the Equipment Renewal Reserve within the agreed schedule (Appendix 7 to the report). Any further requests or requests above the agreed schedule would require Member approval.

The full reserve projections were included within Appendix 5 to the report, alongside an explanation for each reserve. Some of the reserves would have additional commitments not reflected in the schedule, which would reduce the projected balances. It was also noted that some reserves were potentially over-committed, which would either require further funds being allocated in a future year, or a reduction in funded activity.

In accordance with the Council's Code of Financial Practice, all new and future capital schemes needed to be in line with the Council's corporate priorities, including its capital strategy. A report supported by the necessary Business Case would be prepared for review and approval by Cabinet, identifying the means of funding and, where appropriate, demonstrating an options appraisal exercise had been carried out. Should there be any additional revenue costs arising from schemes, the proposed means of financing such would also need to be included in the Report and Business Plan.

The Capital Programme had been updated throughout the year as new and amended projects had been approved. Appendix 9 to the report,

consisting of five parts, detailed both the General Fund and Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Capital programmes, along with their associated funding. Appendix 8 to the report detailed the variations to the capital programme as new schemes had been approved and projects had been updated.

Within the MTFs, no funding had been allowed for Rural and Urban Initiatives from 2023/24 as part of the savings agreed in December 2020. While the scheme would continue in 2023/24, to be funded using the New Homes Bonus and Funding Guarantee, if the scheme was to continue beyond 2023/24, additional funding would need to be found as part of future budget setting proposals.

Slippage and savings on existing schemes were also detailed within Appendix 8 to the report.

The HIP and associated funding were included within Appendices 9 parts 2 and 4 to the report. Additional borrowing was the primary source of funding for new construction and acquisition projects. The HIP would be reviewed further as part of the HRA Business Plan report in March.

Appendix 9 to the report, Part 5, showed the General Fund unallocated capital resources. These totalled £2.179m in 2022/23. The Capital Investment Reserve represented the largest share of this at just under £1.5m, for which the Council had agreed the minimum balance should be £1m. Whilst the Council did hold other reserves to fund capital projects, it should have been noted that these were limited and had been reserved for specific purposes. In addition to the resources shown here, "Any Purposes Capital Receipts" were projected to total £9.444m as of 31 March 2023.

The Council did have some balances and funding which it was able to use to fund specific projects and service demands. The sums available could be used to fund 'one-off' items only. Any initiatives that would result in a recurring cost to the Council needed to be accommodated within the revenue budget.

In terms of the General Fund Deficit 2023/23, for the current year, the Council was forecasting a deficit of £1.290m for the various reasons outlined. Conversely, 2023/24 was presenting a significant deficit of £3.528m. It was proposed that funding from the Business Rates Retention Volatility Reserve was used to cover the 2023/24 deficit.

The Council's policy was for the General Fund Reserve Balance to be maintained at a minimum level of £1.5m. As of 31 March 2022, the unallocated balance was £2.651m. It was proposed that £1m of this balance would be allocated to support the proposals outlined in section 1.11.6 in the report.

The Service Transformation Reserve was to be used to support one-off costs associated with the Office Relocation project. As of 31 March 2022, the unallocated balance was £1.4m.

As outlined in section 1.7 of the report, the Council would receive £2.924m in 2023/24 as part of the Local Finance Settlement, made up of

New Homes Bonus (£1.078m) and a Funding Guarantee payment (£1.846m).

The table below outlined how the New Homes Bonus, Funding Guarantee and reserves identified at levels above agreed minimum balances were to be used to support one-off activity, with the full programme to 2026/27 outlined in Appendix 10 to the report.

Activity	New 22/23 £'000	Award 23/24 £'000
Lord Leyster Hospital – underwriting of HLF award match funding		40
St Mary's tower		50
Barford Youth and Community Centre		250
Packmores Community Centre plus land		25
Womens Cycle Tour		30
Kings Coronation		25
Demolition of Covent Garden MSCP		1,000
Abbey Fields Cycle Track		160
Office relocation One-off costs	98	307
Play areas disabled improvements		100
Voluntary/Community Sector Commissioning		249
Rural and Capital Initiatives Grants		100
Community Forums		35
Trees for the Future planting programme		400
Community Projects Reserve top-up		500
ICT Reserve top-up		1000
Corporate Asset Reserve top-up		2,500
Total	98	6,771
Funded by		
New Homes Bonus 23/24		1,078
Funding Guarantee 23/24		1,846
Services Transformation Reserve	98	347
Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve		2,500
General fund Reserve		1,000

* Indicates further funding would need to be allocated for future years as part of 2024/25 Budget process.

As of 31 March 2022, the Council held £8.444m in useable Right to Buy Capital Receipts. This balance was projected to increase by £1m in 2022/23 to give an anticipated balance as of 31 March 2023 of £9.444m. 7.897m of this balance had been agreed to be used towards a number of projects, with £7.441m of this to be used towards the Kenilworth Leisure Centre projects at Abbey Fields and Castle Farm.

The proposed PPM budget would enable the Council to proactively maintain all existing corporate assets (i.e., all assets owned by the Council other than its Housing Revenue Account homes, shops, garages and land) in a suitable condition unless or until any future decisions were made in

respect of individual assets through a Corporate Asset Management Strategy.

The proposed budget allocation for 2023/24 was based on a review of the current PPM data by officers within the Assets Team, in consultation with building managers from other services which held or operated specific assets. The Proposed Corporate Property & Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) Programme works 2022/23 was set out at Appendix 11 to the report.

For 2023/24, the total PPM budget was £4.228m. This would be funded using £413,000 from the Annual Revenue PPM budget and a £3,814,600 drawdown from the Corporate Assets Reserve. This was expected to leave a £258,800 balance as of 31 March 2024. The schedule also outlined expected allocations across the period of the MTFS, and the necessary funding requirements, including how further funding of £149,000 would be required in 2024/25 to deliver the full programme of works. Further detail on the PPM schedule and funding was set out in Appendix 11 to the report.

The Returning Officer was now required to provide a pension scheme for all persons employed to work on elections to join if from their earnings on elections they met either (a) the threshold of £10,000 per annum or (b) wished to join but earned over £6,240. From experience of election fees, only a minimal number of people automatically entitled (but who could still opt out) would be less than five and those meeting the threshold of (b) and wishing to join would be very low. From knowledge and experience from other authorities, it was likely that less than five people would opt to be in the scheme. This would set the costs involved but at present it was anticipated it would be met within existing budgets, based on low take up.

The Cabinet was aware that normally, the Returning Officer had over 700 employees to work at elections, however, it was anticipated less than 10 of these would qualify or wish to take up the pension unless there were multiple elections within the same year. The greater burden to the Council would be officer time handling initial questions about what this meant for the employee.

The Council's Code of procurement Practice required a competitive process for all contract-spend above £25,000. It was not clear on the total costs for this scheme as it would depend on the uptake, but as the category of spend was for a Government Employee Pension Schemes (CPV 75320000) which fell under the Light Touch Regime within the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR2015), with a threshold of £663,540, the Council could award a contract without undertaking a formal competition should evaluation of the market suggest an economically advantageous suitable supplier as long as the Council's the decision making process was fair, open and transparent. As such, it was lawful for the Council to choose to direct award this contract, although an exemption from the Council's own Code of Procurement Practice was still required.

As part of the quarterly budget reports to Members, it had been reported that the Council was facing recruitment and retention challenges within most service areas, with high levels of staff turnover followed by difficulties in attracting applicants with the required skills. This was putting pressure on some service areas, running the risk of impacting on service

delivery, as well as the health and wellbeing of those staff managing the workload expected to be covered by a larger establishment.

It was stated that the challenges faced were subject to review, and that work was ongoing on how this was to be tackled going forward.

As part of this review, remuneration had been considered in more detail, including a comprehensive benchmarking exercise. Officers had considered options and the budgetary impact on the Council, as well as striving to be equitable and fair to all.

For 2023/24, outside of the national pay negotiations, it was proposed to increase all staff salaries by one increment. For 2024/25, outside of the national pay negotiations, it was proposed to increase all staff salaries by one further increment. This local remuneration initiative would not impact on the national inflationary rises which would be applied following national negotiations.

Further measures were subject to review during 2023/24 to provide targeted support to service areas facing specific staffing challenges. However, the current proposal aimed to address the ongoing erosion of salaries in local government, and specific to WDC, help address where the organisation sat following benchmarking work taking place.

It was expected that this package could be funded in 2023/24 through savings made because of the under-establishment of services. However, with the proposals expected to mitigate and reduce the levels of vacancy within the organisation going forward, this would need to be funded as part of the baseline 2024/25 budget position.

In the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill as introduced in the House of Commons on 11 May 2022, there was a section relating to Council Tax and changes in the way that Local Authorities (LAs) could apply the Long-Term Empty Property Premium and the opportunity to introduce a premium for furnished second homes. These would come into force from 01/04/2024.

The first change which should have been confirmed and added to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 later in 2023, allowing LAs to amend how they charged the empty property premium. Currently at Warwick District Council, this was applied at an additional 100% for properties empty over two years, 200% for those empty over five years and 300% for those empty over 10 years. The proposal in this bill was to allow LAs to charge the additional 100% after a property had been empty for one year instead of two; the other bands did not change.

The second change was that LAs would be able to charge up to an additional 100% premium on all furnished second homes in the District. These were essentially homes not occupied but kept furnished as 'second homes' by their owners, not rented out, just used by the owners as holiday homes etc.

The recommendation was that Warwick District Council would adopt these new measures, which would come into force from 1 April 2024. This was factored into the updated MTFS and was expected to increase the Council

tax received by Warwick District Council as the collecting authority by a forecast £1.31m, which would be distributed amongst the preceptors in the normal way. If implemented, this would equate to a forecast £156,000 per annum from the 2024/25 financial year.

In terms of alternative options, Council did not have an alternative to setting a Budget for the forthcoming year. Members could, however, decide to amend the way in which the budget was broken down or not to amend the current year's Budget. However, the proposed latest 2022/23 and 2023/24 budgets sought to reflect the decisions made by Members and make appropriate recommendations. Any changes to the proposed budgets would need to be fully considered to ensure all implications (financial or otherwise) were addressed. If any Member was considering suggesting changes to the proposed Budget, these proposals should be discussed (in confidence) with the Head of Finance beforehand, to ensure all implications were considered, including funding. If appropriate, alternate Budget papers could be prepared for consideration by Council.

As discussed in section 1.6 in the report, the Council did have the ability to increase its share of Council Tax by up to £5 at Band D for 2022/23. This level of increase had been included in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy from 2023/24. If the Council was to increase Council Tax by £5 in 2023/24, this would generate an additional £305k, which would help to protect the Council's future revenue base. Given the significant level of new savings to be found in future years (in addition to the previously agreed savings, many of which had yet to materialise), this potential additional income from a Council Tax increase would significantly contribute to making the Council's finances more resilient on a recurring basis into the future.

By taking the decision to freeze Council tax for a second year in succession, around £3m would be lost from the core spending power of the Council in only the five years that the MTFS covered. Given the MTFS position presented in section 1.8.2 in the report, the Council, while still likely to have needed to use reserves over the period 2022/23-2024/25, the amount of reserve funding required to balance the budget would have been significantly reduced. The MTFS were there to have been no freezes in the last two years was presented below.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Deficit-Savings Req(+)/Surplus (-) future years	1,008	2,926	3,702	1,824	853	823
Change to recommended position based on tax freeze	-282	-602	-632	-652	-672	-678

The Budget Review Group did not take a formal view on supporting or not the budget proposals.

The Group raised a number of points that the Cabinet and Council should take into consideration when finalising the budget and Council Tax setting for the 2023/24 financial year:

- The Council only had sufficient reserves for about two years (23/24 and 24/25) to sustain projected deficit of £3.5million.
- The change management strategy, from 24/25 onwards, was a key with proposing a positive budget effect of £1.5million recurring reducing the demand on Council reserves.
- Not increasing Council tax had a net adverse effect on the budget of just under £300,000 per annum for the Council.
- Assumptions were made in the budgeting on a lower anticipated number of new homes and inflation based on OBR, Government and advisors.
- Budget assumed no government funding in 24/25 but the Chancellor had indicated (with no detail or figures) this would not be the case.
- CEAP reserve of £500k per annum had not been increased to allow for inflation and would be used to fund £70k work on Biodiversity (as set on Cabinet agenda).
- There were no further news on the business rate retention reset proposal.

The Group noted that:

- Further details of the proposed £160k for Abbey Fields Cycle route would be shared with all Councillors.
- There was an error on the totalling in Appendix 5b and a revised one would be circulated to all Councillors.
- Officers would share the split of right to buy receipts between the one to one budget and any purpose capital budget.
Officers would share with all Councillors the assumptions & calculations that lead to the MTFS forecasts.

The Leader advised that there was no intention of making staff redundant, or reducing or cutting services in the budget. The proposals were reflective of a change in employment environment, with a number of positions that were not filled and the impact of technology and moving headquarters. He also reassured Members that the Council did not want staff to feel uncertain about their employment.

Councillor Hales congratulated the Head of Finance and his team for their hard work in producing the budget. In response to a question from Councillor Mangat regarding including a provision within the budget towards Foodbanks, he was happy with the suggestion and would discuss with the Head of Finance with this regard. He then proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that

- (1) the proposed changes to the 2022/23 budget as detailed in section 1.2 in the report, be approved, and the projected deficit for the year of £1.290m, be funded using Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserves;

- (2) the proposed 2023/24 revenue budget as detailed in section 1.3 in the report, be approved, and the shortfall on the year of £3.528m is supported using Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserves;
- (3) the Council Tax charges for Warwick District Council for 2023/24 before the addition of Parish/Town Councils, Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner precepts, for each band with no increase from 2022/23 (also frozen from 2021/22) as follows, be approved:

	£
Band A	117.91
Band B	137.56
Band C	157.21
Band D	176.86
Band E	216.16
Band F	255.46
Band G	294.77
Band H	353.72

- (4) the reserve projections and allocations to and from the individual reserves as detailed in Section 1.9 in the report, including the ICT Replacement, Equipment Renewal and Pre-Planned Maintenance (PPM) Schedules, be approved;
- (5) drawdown from the Equipment Renewal Reserve is delegated to the Head of Finance, in consultation with the relevant Head of Service and in line with the schedule agreed within the report (as per recommendation 4 above), be approved;
- (6) the General Fund Capital and Housing Investment Programmes as detailed in Appendices 9 parts 1 and 2 to the report, together with the funding of both programmes as detailed in Appendices 9 parts 3 and 4 to the report and the changes described in the tables in section 1.10 in the report and Appendix 8 to the report, be approved;

- (7) the allocation of project funding discussed in Section 1.11 in the report and summarised in Appendix 10 to the report, be approved;
- (8) the allocation of £4.228m for the 2023/24 Corporate Property Repair and Planned & Preventative Maintenance (PPM) Programmes to fund the list of proposed works set out in Appendix 11, and the drawdown of funding from the Corporate Asset Reserve of up to £3,815m to support the programme, as discussed in section 1.12 in the report, be approved; and
- (9) the introduction of empty property and furnished second homes premium charges relating to Council tax, with effect from 1 April 2024, be approved.

Resolved that

- (1) the impact on the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) due to changes detailed within the report, and how these changes are expected to be accommodated and how further organisational change needs to be enacted before the Council agrees its 2024/25 Budget, be noted;
- (2) an exemption to the Code of Procurement Practice to enable direct award to National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) Pension Scheme from 1 April 2023 for the provision of a pension scheme for election staff, be approved; and
- (3) the Recruitment, Retention and Remuneration project proposal as included within the 2023/24 Base Budget and MTFS, be noted.

(The Portfolio Holder for this item was Councillor Hales)
Forward Plan Reference 1,315

85. HRA Budget and Rent Setting

The Cabinet considered a report from Housing which informed on the Council's financial position for the Housing Revenue Account, bringing together the latest and original Budgets for 2022/23 and 2023/24. The report presented a balanced budget for 2023/24.

The report made recommendations to Members in respect of Council tenant housing rents, garage rents and other HRA charges for 2023/24.

From April 2020, a new national rent policy came into effect, which included the ability for Councils to increase rents annually by up to CPI (at September) + 1% per annum. The Council would have increased rents for Social and Affordable rent dwellings by CPI at September 2021+ 1% which was 10.1% +1% with the total rent increase being 11.1% from April 2023.

However, after a short consultation, in the Autumn Statement on 17 November 2022, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that a one year 7% Rent Cap would be applied in the place of the National Rent Policy using a Direction to the Regulator of Social Housing and advised this would support people in social and affordable housing in England with the cost of living crisis by limiting the increase in their rents.

Details of current rents and those proposed because of these recommendations were set out in Appendix 1 to the report. It was noted that from April 2016 Target Formula rents were applied when a dwelling became void and re-let, existing tenancies prior to this policy change, continued under the historic rent regime with inflation linked in line with national rent policy. Appendix 1 to the report contained the average rents for both Target Formula Rent and Historic Rent policy dwellings.

A comparison of the Councils proposed 2023/24 rents to Local Market Rents, National Formula Rent Caps and Local Housing Allowance Rents was set out in Appendix 2 to the report. The Council's Social Rents were 41% lower than the Local Average Weekly Market Rent. This meant that the Council's housing service reduced the cost of living for tenants, allowing more money to be spent in the wider economy and reducing the social welfare costs of helping lower income tenants afford their rent.

From April 2016, landlords were permitted to set the base rent as the Target Social Rent (also known as Target Formula Rent) for new social tenancies. These tenancies were subject to agreed rental policy to comply with the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016.

The Council adopted the policy to introduce Target Formula Social Rents on new tenancies issued upon a dwelling becoming void and re-let. This phased approach equated to approximately 400 dwellings per year transferring from the prior social rent policy to Target Formula Rents. Existing tenancies commencing prior to April 2016 would remain on the prior rent policy, with rents being inflated by the 7% Rent Cap for 2023/24 and thereafter CPI+1 in line with Target Social Rents Dwellings.

New Affordable Housing tenancies within the HRA would continue to have their rents set in line with the National Affordable Housing Rate, which was 80% of the Local Market Rent in line with planning permission and grant approvals from Homes England.

Prior to 2020, existing Affordable Housing tenancies were set at a special "Warwick Affordable Rent", which was a mid-point between social and affordable rent. Any existing historic tenancies would continue to pay 'Warwick Affordable' rents for the remainder of their tenancy to ensure there were no negative financial implications for existing tenants.

Affordable rents and 'Warwick Affordable' rents were usually inflated in line with national rent policy at CPI (at September) + 1%. CPI at September was 10.1% and so with the total rent increase would have been 11.1% from April 2023, but for 2023/24 would also be capped at the new one year only 7% rent cap.

Shared owners purchased a percentage of the property from the Council and were required to pay rent on the proportion of their home which they did not own.

The shared ownership properties' rent increases were not governed by National Rent Policy. Instead, the Council adopted the Homes England (previously the Homes and Communities Agency - HCA) template lease agreement which included a schedule on rent reviews. Schedule 4 of the lease agreement determined that the rent would be increased by RPI (at November) + 0.5% from April each financial year.

RPI at November 2022 was 14% +0.5% would have meant the total rent increase being 14.5% from April 2023. In comparison to November 2021, RPI was 7.1%+0.5% totaling 7.6%.

The National Housing Federation commissioned Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP to publish an advice note on the "Implementing a cap on Shared Ownership rent increases". In this document that was circulated to Registered Social Housing Providers, it stated the Government had no intention of compelling Registered Social Housing Providers to limit rent increases for shared owners, but did have some expectation that Social Landlords across the sector would treat shared owners in a similar manner to the Social and Affordable Housing and DLUHC.

Where shared ownership properties had been purchased using relevant Grant Funding from Homes England, there was an additional requirement to seek permission from Homes England to cap the Rent at 7% for one year only in place of the Homes England Lease Terms of RPI+0.5%. Permission must have been sought as the Rental increase of RPI +0.5% was a condition of the Shared Ownership Affordable Housing Program Grant Agreement, however, as social Housing Providers were collectively requesting to undertake a Voluntary 7% Rent Cap, seeking permission should not be a problem as Homes England were aware of this likely outcome.

The Council would continue to use lease agreements based on the existing HCA template lease for all new shared ownership tenancies which would be increased annually by RPI+0.5%.

Garage rent increases were not governed by national guidance. In 2020/21 as part of the HRA Rent Setting Report, Cabinet approved garage rents to be increased by 10% per year over a five-year period, with following years being inflated by CPI. The Council did not have a formal policy for the setting of rents for garages, but the points below contributed to the decision to increase the rents.

Two different rent charges applied to garages, depending upon whether the renter was an existing WDC tenant or not. There were also parking spaces and cycle sheds which were charged for.

Market Research showed that in the private sector, garages were being marketed in the District with rents ranging from £40-£85 per month (local market valuations last reviewed January 2021). The average monthly rent for a Council garage was currently £46.71.

The Garage Rents had increased by 10% per year from April 2021. For 2023/24, a tenant's weekly charge would increase on average by £1.08 per week from £11.86 to £13.04. Non-tenants also paid VAT on the charge, so VAT inclusive rates would increase by £1.42 per week, from £14.23 to £15.65. There were a number of garages of non-conventional size which were charged varying rates, these rents would also be increased by 10%.

The HRA owned a number of dwellings that were sub-leased to the Council's General Fund, to be used as Temporary Accommodation. The reason for the dwellings being sub-let was that Homelessness was a General Fund function and needed to be financed separately from the HRA Ringfence which meant the HRA could not cross subsidise General Fund costs and vice versa in line with legislation.

The way the Lease financing worked was that the HRA charged the General Fund an annual lease charge based on the weekly rent that would be charged for a Temporary Accommodation Dwelling. The General Fund temporary accommodation team allocated the temporary accommodation tenants and charged them rent, which was then collected and paid into the General Fund. At year end, an internal transfer of this rent was made by the Accountancy Team, to enable the General Fund to transfer enough Rent to the HRA to pay for the annual lease charge.

Most of the Temporary Accommodation rent was funded by tenants claiming Housing Benefit due to the nature of the service.

During the 2021/22 Social Housing Rent Regulator's inspection of the HRA Rents, it became apparent that the HRA dwellings being sublet to the general fund as Temporary Accommodation were deemed to have low rents. Although Temporary Accommodation fell outside of the Social Rent Regulators Remit, it was stated that it was good practice to have an annual rent review in place and a firm inflation policy adopted where the HRA owned the stock being sub-let to the General Fund.

There was no official national rent policy where Temporary Accommodation was concerned as providers varied greatly across the sector from B&Bs, Hotels, Private Landlords, Local Authorities and Housing Associations, so one flat rate of rental inflation had not been legislatively applied to this sector.

It was proposed that during the 2023/24 financial year, a full review of the HRA Temporary Accommodation Rents was completed to comply with the Social Rents Regulator's suggestions, and consultation would need to take place with the Local Benefits Office.

The lease agreements between the HRA and General Fund would be updated to factor in these new revised rents and an annual agreed inflation policy would be implemented.

It was not expected that this review of Temporary Accommodation Rents would generate any more income for the General Fund or HRA and should not negatively impact tenants due to the short-term nature of the service. The rent review and policy update would demonstrate good practice.

The Council was required to set a balanced budget for the HRA each year, approving the level of rents and other charges that were levied. The Cabinet made recommendations to Council that took into account the base budgets for the HRA and current Government guidance on national rent policy.

Appendix 3 to the report summarised the adjustments from 2022/23 base budgets to the 2022/23 latest budgets and 2023/24 base budgets.

The Housing Investment Programme (HIP) was presented as part of the separate February 2022 report 'Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24'.

The recommendations would enable the proposed latest HIP to be delivered and contribute available resources to the HRA Capital Investment Reserve for future development whilst maintaining a minimum working balance for the HRA of at least £1.5m plus annual inflation in line with Council policy.

The dwelling rents projected income had been adjusted to take account of the loss of rent resulting from actual and anticipated changes in property numbers and changes based on the number of actual and forecast Right-To-Buy sales and acquisitions.

The following table summarised the figures in Appendix 3 to the report and showed how the latest 2022/23 HRA budget had been calculated and how this had changed from the original 2022/23 approved budget:

	£
Original Approved Net HRA Operational Income Surplus 2022/23	(8,795,400)
Net Increase in Expenditure (Recharges Adjustment?)	4,059,100
Net Increase in Income	0
Latest Net HRA Surplus 2021/22	(4,736,300)

Key Drivers of the increase in Expenditure budgets included:

- an increase of £1,355,400 in HRA Repairs and maintenance costs caused by increased inflation on contracts and new budget requirements for emergency works;
- an increase of budget for an Earmarked Reserve Approval of £119,400;
- an increase of £955,000 being charged to Supervision & Management – General which consisted of increased Gas and Electricity Costs, inflation on contracts and staff costs and a revision of the GF Recharges to the HRA budget was approved mid-year in the Q1 Finance Report presented to Cabinet which had increased the charges made to the HRA;
- an increase of £906,900 being charged to the Supervision & Management – Special budget line which was linked to the revision of

- the GF Recharges to the HRA budget, approved mid-year in the Q1 Finance Report presented to Cabinet, which had increased the charges to the HRA; and
- a £722,400 increase on interest to be paid on Borrowing Costs for new Development Schemes for new Dwellings due to the timing of the borrowing being taken by the Council.

As a result of the above variations to the 2022/23 HRA budgets, the forecast contribution to the HRA Capital Investment Reserve for the year would be £281,000.

In determining the 2023/24 Base Budget, the over-riding principle was to budget for the continuation of services at the agreed level. The following adjustments needed to be made to the 2022/23 Original Budgets:

- removal of any one-off and temporary items;
- addition of inflation (contractual services and pay only);
- addition of previously agreed growth items;
- addition of unavoidable growth items; and
- inclusion of any identified savings.

The table below summarised the figures in Appendix 3 to the report and showed how the 2023/24 HRA base budget had been calculated.

	£
Original Approved Net HRA Surplus 2022/23	(8,795,400)
Net Increase in Expenditure	4,994,800
Net increase in Interest on Borrowing	1,678,200
Net Increase in Income	(1,908,700)
Original Net HRA Surplus 2023/24	(4,031,100)

Key drivers of the change in Expenditure budgets included:

- A net increase in Expenditure from General Supervision & Management of £4,994,800 consisting in the main of:
 - an increase of £2,083,400 in HRA Repairs and maintenance costs caused by increased inflation on contracts and new budget requirements for emergency works;
 - an increase of £1,773,400 being charged to Supervision & Management – General which consisted of increased Gas and Electricity Costs, inflation on contracts and staff costs and a revision of the GF Recharges to the HRA budget, approved mid-year in the Q1 Finance Report presented to Cabinet, which had increased the charges to the HRA;
 - an increase of £1,138,000 being charged to the Supervision & Management – Special budget line which was linked to the revision of the GF Recharges to the HRA budget, approved mid-year in the Q1 Finance Report presented to Cabinet, which had increased the charges to the HRA;
 - £1,678,200 Increase in Interest on Balances Costs due to a change in treasury policy from internal borrowing for additional HRA borrowing for Development schemes changed to external

- borrowing from the PWLB and this increase was the estimated interest cost on borrowing in real terms; and
- a £1,908,700 increase of HRA dwelling and Garage rents as per Rent Policy and Inflation.

A number of assumptions had been made in setting the budgets for 2023/24 as follows.

Inflation had been applied in line with specific guidance for each expenditure type, for instance the Gas and Electricity inflation had been advised by ESPO the Commercial Energy Broker that the Council should buy its energy from. The Russian war with Ukraine had caused utility costs to increase by huge and unexpected amounts. Price Caps were implemented by central government to protect consumers and businesses from these extreme price rises but because ESPO Broker affordable contracts for the Council the Caps were a lot higher than the actual usage so were not able to be applied. In real terms the increases had meant that from October 2022, the Electricity cost had doubled, and from April 2023, the Gas cost had quadrupled. Further increases were expected on electricity in October 2023 of another 30% increase on electricity and in April 2024 also 30% increase on gas on top off the previous increases. This increased cost was included in the Supervision and Management part of the Budget at Appendix 3 to the report.

Other inflation factors such as for the major works had been inflated at between 10-14% depending on the contract. Staff costs had been inflated in line with the National Local Government two-year Pay agreement and where there were no clear inflation factors, a 4% estimate had been applied to general budgets where applicable, which was an increase from 2% used in previous years.

The base rent budget in the report was a baseline calculated from the 7% Rent Cap assumptions as noted above. This Cap had meant that the rental income had not been increased at the same rate as corresponding inflation. Although increased rents higher than the 7% Cap would have been a further financial demand on tenants, in real terms the Rent Cap had meant that the increased income did not cover the costs of the increased inflation on other operation costs. If rents were inflated by national rent policy, then income increases of approx. £3m would have been anticipated but the 7% cap had meant an increase of only £1.9m. Considering that the inflation on costs had increased by £6.6m in section 1.17.2 in the report, there was a £4.7m gap between the two figures.

Growth / Income Reductions from unavoidable and previously committed growth had been included in the Base Budget.

In terms of the HRA Capital Investment Reserve, any HRA operational surplus above the amount required to maintain the appropriate HRA working balance of £1.5m was transferred into the HRA Capital Investment Reserve (CIR) to be used on future HRA capital projects. If the costs increased to the point that there was a requirement to draw money out of the CIR, then this was noted in the same place in the budget appendix 3 to the report. The 2023/24 Base Budget required £268,500 contribution from the reserve into the HRA Operating budgets to enable the budget to be balanced, and this meant that there were no top ups

being paid into the HRA CIR in 2023/24.

The Current Balance of the HRA CIR was £29.206m but there were numerous demands on this reserve, particularly from new build development schemes, Climate Change and Fire Safety works. The CIR was also being used to support the Major Repairs Reserve as that had been used in full in recent years to support the ongoing improvement works on the Council's Housing Stock. The full impact of having to drawdown from the HRA CIR would be documented in the forthcoming HRA Business Plan Report being presented to March Cabinet but in future years budgets would need to be adjusted to ensure that there were sufficient surpluses to enable the HRA CIR to continue to be topped up.

Notional Interest budgets had been removed in 2023/24 as they were no longer required by CIPFA Accounting Rules. Previously they were charged and reversed out to represent the cost of tying up resources in the HRA assets.

Costs for electricity, gas, water, and laundry facilities were provided at some sheltered housing schemes and were recovered as a weekly charge. These utility charges were not eligible for Housing Benefit. Tenants were notified of these charges at the same time as the annual rent increase. Appendix 4 to the report contained the charges for 2023/24 which would commence on the 1 April 2023.

A policy of full cost recovery was adopted in the report to Cabinet "Heating, Lighting and Water Charges 2018/19 – Council Tenants on 7 February 2018." Recharges were levied to recover costs of electricity, gas, and water supply usage to individual properties within one of the sheltered and the five very sheltered housing schemes.

The costs of maintaining communal laundry facilities were also recharged at those sites benefitting from these facilities under the heading of miscellaneous charges.

Utility costs were reviewed in line with Council contracts to ensure affordability. The gas and electricity used to deliver communal heating and lighting was supplied under the provisions of the Council's energy supply contracts. Other measures such as installing Photovoltaic cells (solar panels) at James Court, Tannery Court and Yeomanry Court in April 2012 assisted with reducing tenants' costs, with the electricity generated reducing consumption from the national grid.

The charges necessary to fully recover costs for electricity, gas, water, and laundry facilities in 2023/24 were calculated annually from average consumption over the last three years, updated for current costs such as average void levels, Solar panel feed in tariff income, Biomass Boiler feed in tariff subsidy and adjusted for estimated inflation for the forthcoming year. The use of a three-year adjusted average ensured that seasonal and yearly variations were reflected in the calculation.

The cost of gas and electricity had increased due to the Russian War and Cost of Living Crisis. The Council's electricity contract was renewed in October 2022 and the gas contract was to be renewed in April 2023. As part of these contract renewals, inflation of 100% on top of current

electricity cost had been advised and inflation on 200% had been advised on gas, meaning electric had doubled in cost and gas had tripled.

To protect the general public from the huge increases in energy costs, the Government implemented an Energy Price Guarantee which protected customers from increases in energy costs by limiting the amount suppliers could charge per unit of energy used. It currently brought a typical household energy bill in Great Britain for dual-fuel gas and electricity down to around £2,500 per year.

With the Councils ESPO Contract increases, the total charges to be paid by Sheltered Housing Tenants for their energy was below this Cap as noted in Appendix 4 to the report. Depending on the location and the number of bedrooms in the dwelling, the total annual bills ranged from £608.40 - £1,583.40 which at the top end of this range was £916.60 less than the £2,500 Energy Price Cap.

This three-year average cost calculation would shield tenants to some extent from the huge increases in gas and electricity bills which had been experienced in the current financial year, but costs were likely to increase in the next financial year as the second year of increased costs would increase the three-year average cost unless energy costs started to decrease.

The total cost to the Council in 2023/24 had been calculated at £323,181 for Electricity, Heating, Lighting and Laundry and £37,352 for Water. This would be recovered by being recharged to the tenants of applicable Sheltered Housing Schemes with the service charges being itemised in Appendix 4 to the report.

DLUHC had advised that it was able to award up to a total of £2,820,431 in Grant Funding to Warwick District Council to purchase 21 dwellings.

The objective of the funding was to ensure arrivals on Afghan and Ukraine resettlement schemes were provided with sufficient longer-term accommodation and relieve the increased pressures on local authority homelessness and housing resources. Of this funding, £2,268,600 was allocated to 19 of these homes, and an additional £551,831 in funding, referred to as "bridging funding" was to purchase two larger four-bedroom properties to support households currently residing in bridging accommodation. The level of grant was 40% for the 19 properties and 50% for the 2 x 4-bedroom properties.

It was anticipated additional match funding from the HRA of approximately £3,954,731 would be required to support the purchases. A full viability appraisal of the scheme would be completed and would be included in a further Cabinet report to be submitted at March's Cabinet meeting. It was anticipated the total Scheme costs would be approximately £6,775m including Grant and additional Funding.

The funding would be granted under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 and was programmed to be spent by November 2023. A "validation form" was required to be submitted by 25 January 2023 clarifying that the programme aims could be met, and a Memorandum of Understanding by 1 March 2023, authorised by the s151 officer."

In terms of alternative options, the purpose of the report was to produce budgets as determined under the requirements of the Financial Strategy, in line with current Council policies. Any alternative strategies would be the subject of separate reports.

In terms of Garage Rents, the Council had discretion over the setting of Garage rents. It would be possible to set Garage rents higher than those proposed to maximise income, however, significantly higher rents might make garages harder to let and so reduce income. Similarly, rents could also be reduced but this would reduce income to the HRA Budget when it was needed.

In terms of dwellings, the Council did have the discretion to decrease rents for existing tenants. However, following the negative impact of the previous rent policy of a four-year fixed -1% rental income reduction and the negative impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and now the 7% rent cap not matching inflationary operational costs, any decreases would further reduce the level of income for the HRA, which in turn could impact upon the viability of future projects and business requirements.

The Budget Review Group supported the recommendations in the report.

The Group was concerned that while the HRA was on target for delivering its plans for 2023/24, in the following financial years the Council might have to reduce the ambitions in terms of development, decarbonising, decent home standards and support to customers, because of the impact in rental income reduction. While at this time there was not a proposal for cuts, if the restrictions on rent continued, there might be a need to.

The Group welcomed the agreement that the Head of Housing would share contact details of the Housing Team Financial Inclusion Officers with all Councillors to help them filter and direct cases.

Councillor Matecki proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that

- (1) the proposed increase to rents for all Social & Affordable tenanted dwellings (excluding shared ownership) for 2023/24 in line with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's one year 7% Rent Cap announced in the Autumn Statement on 17th November 2022, in place of the usual National Rent Policy increases as detailed in section 1.1 in the report, be approved;
- (2) Shared Ownership tenanted dwelling rent increases are Voluntarily capped at 7% for 1 year in line with advice from the National Housing Federation, be approved;

- (3) the HRA Social dwelling rents for all new tenancies created in 2023/24 continue to be set at Target Social (Formula) Rent for Social rent properties, be noted;
- (4) the HRA Affordable dwelling rents for all new tenancies created in 2023/24 continue to be set at the standard National Affordable rent level, be noted;
- (5) any new shared ownership tenancies will continue to adopt lease agreements based on the existing Housing & Communities Agency (HCA) template lease with rents increased by RPI + 0.5% annually, be noted;
- (6) garage rents for 2023/24 continue to be increased by 10% per year, be approved;
- (7) the new Temporary Accommodation rent review noted in 1.5 in the report, be approved;
- (8) the proposed changes to the 2023/23 budget as detailed in section 1.33 in the report, be approved;
- (9) the proposed 2023/24 revenue budget, as detailed in section 1.41 in the report, be approved; and
- (10) the Sheltered Housing Heating, Water and Lighting recharges for 2023/24, (Appendix 4 to the report), be noted.

Resolved that authority be delegated to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Head of Housing and the Portfolio Holders for Housing, and Resources to agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUCH) for the purchase of 21 properties as part of the Local Authority Housing Fund noting that a full viability appraisal will be included in a report to be submitted to Cabinet in March 2023.

(The Portfolio Holder for this item was Councillor Matecki)
Forward Plan Reference 1,314

86. **Strategic Direction Christine Ledger Square**

The Cabinet considered a report from Housing which provided an update following the decision made to temporarily rehouse residents from Christine Ledger Square (CLS) into alternative accommodation, in response to serious concerns about fire safety.

The report also set out a series of recommendations that would allow for the next steps in the decision-making process on the future of the building to be expedited to alleviate concerns and anxiety of displaced residents.

CLS was an 11 Storey High-Rise Wimpey No-Fines building constructed in 1967, containing 54 flats. Of the 54 flats, 12 were one bedroomed, 42 were two bedroomed, and 5 were leasehold with the rest being tenants.

Members were aware there had been concerns for all of the Council's high-rise buildings following the tragedy at Grenfell and subsequently extensive fire safety works at the Council's high-rise blocks were carried out. Due to locating asbestos containing material at CLS in 2019, more intrusive works were placed on hold whilst further investigative works were undertaken, and advice was sought. There were obvious delays in obtaining information as a result of the pandemic. In December 2021, in response to heightening concerns about fire risk, a walking waking watch was commissioned on a 365/24/7 basis to offer early warning and to help those who required assistance to leave the building if needed, was introduced.

Most significantly at the end of October 2022, a fire occurred in a high rise building in Bristol where, it was said, the insulating cladding was seen to encourage the spread of fire. The full findings of the investigation into the fire were still being awaited, however, the Council had been advised that the insulating cladding at CLS was materially the same as that at the building in Bristol. The recent External Wall Survey report received in October had detailed concerns regarding the external wall insulation, in this case a Strutherm system. Concerns had been highlighted following the Bristol fire regarding the flammability of the internal expanded polystyrene insulation, whilst an apparent omission of vertical cavity barriers within the system had been highlighted. Within the report submitted in October, the nature of installation around window openings had also been questioned. These findings, over and above the position regarding fire safety measures and structural issues, could only draw officers to one conclusion which was in order to immediately protect the health and safety of residents, that they needed to be temporarily rehoused until a decision could be made on the future of CLS.

Cabinet members and Group Leaders were made aware of the need and urgency with which residents were required to be temporarily rehoused from CLS. Members were reminded this was not a decision taken lightly, particularly as it was so close to Christmas, but given the concerns with the safety of the building, the situation could not be ignored. The Housing team responded quickly and effectively to communicate with residents and support them, identifying and securing alternative accommodation and assisting them financially. All residents were temporarily rehoused from the building by 23 December 2022.

Tenants and other residents had been accommodated as follows:

- accepted a permanent move to another property;
- accepted a move under Decant arrangements;
- stayed with family or friends.

Officers continued to work closely with residents, ensuring contact twice a week to check on their situation and provide any update. In accordance with the Council's Decant Policy, measures had been put in place to meet the needs of individual households, and also the costs of this undertaking.

The Council was under a statutory duty to consult secure tenants on matters of housing management under the Housing Act 1985. The Council had wide discretion as to how it ran the consultation process. However, the overriding concern was that the consultation was carried out in a fair, timely, appropriate, and effective manner.

The urgency to start the consultation process was to minimise the levels of concerns and anxieties of displaced residents about having to live in temporary accommodation for a long period of time and not knowing what the future of the building would be and whether they would be moving back. The views and feedback of residents as to the future of the building were to be taken account of when the decision on the future of the block was to be made, however, they would only be one of the relevant factors which the Council would ultimately consider in making a decision.

The consultation involved a formal letter being sent to all households remaining at CLS (in the sense of not having agreed to being permanently rehoused elsewhere; some had already elected to move permanently from CLS and had no remaining interest in the block). There followed two in person sessions with residents to enable discussion and for residents to ask questions. Officers would also offer to meet individually with residents who might wish to discuss their options privately.

The consultation results would be collated and carefully considered by the Head of Service in deciding the Council's preferred option, together with all other relevant factors, which might include the degree of certainty that a given option would be deliverable, the practicality of each option, the ability of an option to deliver a safe, cost-effective, long term solution to the issues that had been identified, their likely timescales and costs and the level of disruption they were likely to cause to residents and others. This was a non-exhaustive list.

Even with expediting the start of the consultation process, given administrative timelines, it was likely that May 23 would be the earliest that a report could be presented to Cabinet. Members were aware that this was an election year, meaning that there was no Cabinet meeting in May and, given the process requirements of establishing a new administration, it was most likely that the matter would not be before Cabinet until July 2023, some five/six months away. For residents of CLS, this would mean an extended period of considerable uncertainty, anxiety and disturbance with no knowledge of when they would possibly be able to return to a safe and modern building or secure alternative permanent accommodation.

It was therefore proposed that Cabinet should delegate authority to the Head of Housing in consultation with Group Leaders and Portfolio Holders having considered the available information including the views of the residents of CLS and other relevant factors identified to decide on the most viable option for the Council.

As a result of the developing and emerging concerns for the block, the conclusion was that there were only two realistic and viable options, which were either to (a) fully refurbish the building or (b) to demolish the block. These were the two options on which residents were being consulted.

The current thinking was that both the options appeared to be viable on the information available, however:

- The refurbishment option had a great degree of uncertainty in design and cost from the beginning and had very limited scope for change during the refurbishment programme and hence would be more expensive and potentially might not be deliverable cost-effectively or at all if further investigations revealed additional barriers.
- There was also concern that this option would not be compliant with the climate emergency and decarbonisation targets and aspirations and might never meet standards which were considered modern good practice.
- The option of retaining and refurbishing the existing building, given the age and characteristics of the building, along with the choice of building material used when constructed, which now posed a risk not only to the buildings but also to the occupants and the landlord, gave rise to significant risks and reduced cost, programme and quality certainty.
- The investment needed in order to remedy current fire safety deficiencies and remove deleterious materials was significant and such investment could be undermined by the age and remaining life expectancy of the original concrete structure and the age and condition of services infrastructure that might need to be retained as part of a pragmatically designed refurbishment.
- Demolition would provide more cost certainty and less risk uncertainty.
- CLS was home to a people who had invested in their space and within the local community, and five currently owned homes in the block as long leaseholders. There were many financial and emotional ties with the building and the location.
- Demolition would provide the opportunity to provide new homes on the cleared site albeit a potentially reduced number. If taken forward this would be the subject of a separate report to Cabinet.

Residents were being consulted on these two viable options and following consideration of the feedback and consideration of any further structural or feasibility reports needed, the most viable option would be considered through the delegated authority process.

The costs of the two options were £10,092,000 for refurbishment and £1,500,000 for demolition. The costs of executing and arranging temporary and/or permanent housing options, provide interim building security and safety, resident consultation and project management costs, obtain further advice such as technical and legal advice was £2,289,000. These costs would be incurred whichever option was taken forward.

The maximum budget requirement was therefore:

Refurbishment £10,092,000.

Project costs	£2,289,000.
Contingency	£1,300,000.
Total	£13,681,000.

The implications of the two options on residents was as follows.

Refurbishment

Residents would continue to be displaced (with costs of accommodation, utilities etc. paid for by the Council) for an estimated period of c18 months/two years before returning to their current homes.

Demolition

Tenants: would be provided with a new tenancy of a new home by the Council. Costs of removals, reconnections etc. would also be met by the Council.

Leaseholders: The Council would have to enter into negotiations with leaseholders within the block to buy out their legal interests. Potentially, leaseholders could be offered the opportunity to become a secure tenant of a new property. In parallel with this, the Council would be likely to need to run a Compulsory Purchase Order exercise in case negotiations were unsuccessful. Leaseholders would be responsible for finding new properties for themselves.

Should the Refurbishment option be taken forward, it was intended that costs would be met primarily from borrowing from Public Works Loans Board (PWLb) with contributions from the Housing Investment Programme HIP), Major Repairs Reserve and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue budgets. Should the demolition option be chosen, costs would be met from Housing Revenue Account Reserves and possibly PWLB borrowing if new homes were to be built on the cleared land.

A confidential addendum circulated prior to the meeting advised of an additional recommendation.

Councillor Matecki commended all staff who reacted to the situation, and who worked tirelessly with residents during all hours of the day. He then proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that a total maximum budget of £13,681,000 is made available which includes for the following:

- (a) £2,289,000 to execute and arrange temporary and/or permanent housing options, provide interim building security and safety, obtain further advice such as technical and legal advice;
- (b) either:
 - i. £10,092,000 for refurbishment of the block; or
 - ii. £1,500,000 to cover demolition costs; and

- (c) A contingency of £1,300,000 for estimated costs associated with the above.

Resolved that

- (1) the urgent response and actions taken to temporarily rehouse residents of CLS in response to fire safety concerns, be noted;
- (2) the previous decision taken by the Chief Executive using his emergency powers, delegation CE(4) after consultation with Group Leaders, approving the urgent need for consultation with the residents of CLS on the future options for the building, be noted; and
- (3) authority be delegated to the Head of Housing in consultation with Group Leaders and Portfolio Holders for Housing and Resources to make a final decision on future of the building following the period of consultation, taking into consideration the views of residents and all other relevant factors.

(The Portfolio Holder for this item was Councillor Matecki)
Forward Plan Reference 1,273

87. Relocation of Office Accommodation and the Provision of Public Facing Access to Council Services

The Cabinet considered a report from Neighbourhood & Assets which sought agreement for a project for the relocation of the Council's administrative offices and public facing access to services.

At the meeting held on 29 September 2022, Cabinet considered an initial report on options for head office relocation including public facing access to services, and approved the recommendations in that report.

The report set out the recommendations following on from detailed negotiations with Warwickshire County Council in relation to offices owned by them and available for lease as an interim administrative base for the Council.

The Council was also required to designate a location as its legally recognised Headquarters for the making and receiving of documents and notices and for the delivery of mail etc. The current designated location within the Constitution was Riverside House and it was proposed that this be amended in the Constitution to be Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) currently assumed significant savings from the running costs of corporate office accommodation, principally Riverside House, with these assumed savings being £250,000 per year ongoing from 2023/24. It was possible that additional savings could be achieved from relocation over the medium term, and these were outlined later in the report, but there would be one-

off costs associated with the move to be met from the Service Transformation Reserve.

Riverside House provided around 140 desks which were available for those staff who could work from home and for staff who needed to work from an office for all or part of the week. Meeting rooms and collaborative space could also be booked at Riverside House.

Riverside House public reception had reopened following the pandemic enforced enclosure and around 250 members of the public were attending in a typical week. There were proposals for the continued provision of public facing services.

For the period January to December 2022, the peak demand for desks on any one day was around 70 and substantially less in the summer period. Whilst there was initially some evidence of a gradual increase in numbers using Riverside House over the preceding three months, these figures had largely levelled out and were still well within the capacity for desks available.

In addition to desk and meeting room space, vacating Riverside House would mean that new storage space would be needed for elections and other equipment and for service delivery linked to printing and other facilities, as well as for the deed and document store, PACE room and other storage needs. A location was also needed for the Corporate Support Team, Homelessness reception and for private interview facilities.

These services would be assisted by creating a new Customer facing facility to replace the Riverside House Reception, as well as moving deed and document storage to Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall and, potentially moving ICT server equipment off-site to a managed location.

The space currently occupied by the University of Warwick at Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall would need to be retained for use by WDC when the current lease expired at the end of May 2023. Whilst this would result in a loss of rental income to the Council of circa £26,000 p.a., there might be options to generate some new income and it would also retain a significant administrative presence for WDC within Royal Leamington Spa. As part of further work undertaken in developing options, the Council's existing assets had been considered in more detail to establish which, and to what extent these could be used to provide office accommodation, albeit on a dispersed basis, as part of a stage one approach. Apart from the continued use of Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall, these did not provide a viable option from which to deliver joined-up administrative functions as they would require significant investment to enable use as fully operational offices whilst dispersing services across several locations and losing potential benefits of co-location.

Work was initially commissioned in September 2022 through Savills to establish potential availability of private sector office accommodation available for rent to give a baseline of likely costs for options comparison. This showed that there were at that time several good quality premises available, and these were at that time all located within the Warwick Town area and surrounds. This was of course a dynamic situation and availability changed by the day, but was intended to give a comparison of

costs against other options.

Except for one, none of those available were likely to generate the savings required from leaving Riverside House, particularly on a short-term lease basis. The one that might have been viable no longer appeared to be on the market.

Alongside this exercise, contact was made with Warwickshire County Council as it was also undertaking a review of its own office accommodation needs post-pandemic and with the move to agile working.

Officers were made aware that WCC offices at Saltisford, Warwick were included in that review, and site visits were arranged to look at several options. The mid-range option of ground floor accommodation at Saltisford One was considered to be the best fit, and more detailed discussions around draft Heads of Terms commenced in December.

Saltisford One was a modern, brick-built building constructed in 2006, and was in a complex of three similar WCC buildings, accessed off Ansell Way, Warwick. It had an EPC rating of D (comparison for Riverside House also being D) and had the benefit of solar panels being installed on the roof although these might not have been reflected in the current EPC rating and officers were awaiting a revised EPC from the County Council. It had available a set number of parking (including disabled) spaces, with other spaces potentially available on a first come, first served basis each day. There were existing WDC public car parks within reasonable proximity to provide additional parking for staff and Members through using the issued car parking passes and green travel options would be promoted.

Saltisford One was accessed via an entrance lobby shared with the occupant of the first-floor space. The first floor was currently vacant, although WCC was also in advanced discussions with a prospective commercial tenant. It was not intended that the building would facilitate public access, this would be elsewhere in more appropriate locations.

The building could provide a mix of good quality open-plan desk space, a variety of meeting rooms of different sizes and capacities and kitchen and casual meeting spaces. An indicative layout was attached as the appendix to the report.

A key criterion was to provide a short to medium term option to allow for the disposal of Riverside House and associated cost savings over a period, and to allow WDC to then look at options for a permanent replacement for its office accommodation and other service needs.

On that assumption, discussions with WCC had been based on a six-year lease but with a break clause after three years with six months' notice thereafter to allow all parties the necessary certainty and flexibility after the initial three-year period.

The lease would be based on inclusive costs including maintenance and repair, energy/ services costs (subject to an annual year end reconciliation of actual expenditure) and certain facilities management services. There was an option to retain WCC cleaning services which required further discussion with the existing WDC cleaning contractor, or alternatively,

WDC could buy in to the WCC cleaning contract, subject to procurement and employment compliance.

Other facilities included bicycle racks and a staff shower, linked to a green transport plan to minimise the transport-related climate change impact, and a Faith room, these to be within the complex of buildings if not immediately available at Saltisford One itself.

An outline comparison of costs was shown at paragraph 2.1.5 in the report. There would be some one-off costs associated with vacating Riverside House, including deed/ document stores and ICT operations, public reception facilities, relocation or ending of contracts on the large capacity printers in Riverside House as well as the actual removals themselves. There were also many contracts associated with Riverside House which would either need ending or varying, and there might be costs with these, although they were not expected to be significant. For that reason, a contingency sum for unknown factors had been included.

There were discussions ongoing with WCC around including existing desk and storage equipment to be included as part of the proposed lease and this might reduce WDC costs in providing or transporting desks and other equipment.

Councillor Tracey echoed positive comments from the Cabinet regarding having a Town Centre based location, and the positive footfall that might bring to the Town Hall and Pump Rooms. He explained that there was the intention to ensure where possible there could be digitalisation at the forefront of customer interaction.

Councillor Matecki reassured that confidentiality for the public would not be compromised; there would be meeting rooms for privacy for the public and officers to meet. Having a front facing location on the Parade would be a much better experience for the public. He then proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that

- (1) the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend the Constitution to replace Riverside House as the Council's formal Headquarters, with Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall, from the day the Council formally takes occupation of the office space in Warwick; and
- (2) endorses the decisions taken by the Cabinet.

Resolved that

- (1) there is insufficient office space of the required quality and location within the Council's existing built assets to accommodate staff and to meet document and equipment storage needs, be agreed, as part of stage one of the two-stage relocation approach agreed by Cabinet at its

meeting of 29 September;

- (2) the lease from Warwickshire County Council the Premises known as Saltisford One (Ground Floor) located in Warwick (CV34 4UL), on terms as set out in the report, be agreed;
- (3) the use of the Ground Floor space at Royal Leamington Spa Town Hall as part of the office relocation strategy, be approved;
- (4) alternative options for Civic and Council meetings were investigated and found not to be feasible, be noted;
- (5) financial provision be made in 2022/23 from the Service Transformation Reserve in the sum of £98,000 as part of the one-off costs of moving to new offices, the balance of the estimated one-off costs of £396,500 to be funded from the reserve in 2023/24, be agreed;
- (6) a Customer Service Hub is created at the Royal Pump Rooms as a replacement and significant enhancement to the customer service provision currently operated at Riverside House, be agreed;
- (7) Crown Commercial Services be contracted through the Crown Hosting 2 Framework to provide a datacentre and space to allow ICT to relocate servers and other equipment currently located within Riverside House, be agreed; and
- (8) the report at Agenda Item 11 – Minute Number 88 - which provides the latest position on plans for the future use of the Riverside House site, be noted.

(The Portfolio Holders for this item were Councillors Matecki and Tracey)
Forward Plan Reference 1,325

88. Riverside House Disposal Options

The Cabinet considered a report from Place, Arts & Economy which set out a proposal through which the Riverside House site was proposed to be brought forward for development in the context of other possible approaches, together with risks and opportunities associated with each. The paper also made a recommendation based upon the information provided and requested delegated authority for agreements needed to proceed with the recommendation.

Subject to the recommendations being accepted, the report sought approval for the allocation of the capital receipt which together with

existing allocated CIL receipts to fund the project for the relocation of the Edmondscote athletics facility to land off Fusiliers Way and of the proposed Myton Path footpath/cycleway connecting Myton Road and Fusiliers Way and providing access to the relocated athletics track.

The report also sought approval to the creation of a new park as a Commonwealth Games legacy and to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II.

On 8 July 2021, Cabinet approved the draft Development Brief for the Riverside House site for public consultation. Then on 4 November 2021, Cabinet approved the updated Brief, following public consultation. It was agreed that the Brief would be used to guide future development on the site. The agreed brief was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The site, whilst allocated in the Local Plan for housing and in many ways certainly location wise, was an attractive site, it was also far from straightforward given it was partly in the flood plain. It was covered by extensive Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), had a major sewer running through it, adjoined a conservation area and it sloped down both west to east and north to south.

Cabinet also approved the recommendation that a further report putting forward options for how a development at Riverside House might be brought forward for consideration. The report though, had been dependent upon the Council having an agreed way forward for leaving Riverside House. That point had been reached as another report on the agenda – Minute Number 87 - recommended that the Council should move office provision to the ground floor of Saltisford One in Warwick in the short term – up to six years. Now that a plan to move from Riverside House this year had been established, options for disposal of the site could now be considered.

The options for bringing the site forward for development included:

The Council could decide to agree for Milverton Homes, the Council's wholly owned housing company, to bring the site forward for development. This option would also pose some degree of risk being carried by the Council since it was almost certain that this would involve a loan from the Council, though that risk would also be potentially balanced by the prospect of a reward. The increase in interest rates, however, made this position more difficult to assess and sustain. As a result, it was difficult at this stage to assess the financial benefit to the Council of this option or for the development that would be envisaged on site.

This option would not provide a quick solution, as it would take Milverton Homes and the Council time to complete the due diligence process to find a partner to work with in a joint venture relationship and to assess any potential loan finance. The Council would therefore continue to have a financial outlay over this period in terms of running the building, especially business rates, unless it decided to demolish the building though this would also involve a significant cost up front. The Council would also lose some degree of direct control over the development of the site should this option be chosen. The mitigation for this issue was reliance upon the Council's role as Local Planning Authority, but this could not compel the

development to take place in accordance with a specific scheme.

Whilst this option had attractions, it also meant the Council was carrying risks for an indeterminate period and/or it needed to invest further to demolish the existing building. As a benchmark, the cost of demolition of the Covent Garden car park was circa £1m.

The Council could potentially bring forward the site for development itself.

In doing so, this would keep the full control of the future site within the Council's remit, in accordance with the Development Brief. This would not provide a quick solution and would mean that the Council would continue to carry costs of owning the site and /or the demolition of the existing building (circa £1m) and the upfront cost of preparing a planning application – circa £300 - £500k and then of the cost of funding the procurement and construction of new homes and ancillary development. Whilst this cost could be mitigated by the reward of receiving the full income of the site's development, the recent increase in interest rates made the assessment of any reward challenging to sustain. In addition, there was also a lack of resource/expertise available within the Council to bring forward the development of the site in this way and so would need to be bought in or time allowed for recruitment thereof, and therefore the associated costs of doing so would be high and would not be quick. This approach came therefore with a considerable degree of risk and cost, all of which would lie with the Council.

Under this option, the Council could market the Riverside House site on the general market and sell to the highest bidder/most compliant proposal. This was a more straightforward option compared to the options above. There would be some cost of marketing and obtaining expert advice to assess the financial proposals put forward. However, in following this approach, the Council would lose direct control of the future use of the site and any design for the future of the site might considerably vary from the approved Development Brief. The Council would need to rely on its role as Local Planning Authority, but this would not result in a means to compel delivery of a particular scheme. This mitigation applied though to the other options set out above.

In addition, the Council needed to reflect upon its previous experience of trying to dispose of this site via a private sector partner which ultimately was unable to deliver a developer, even with planning permission.

Although there had been expressions of interest from various companies from time to time, there was no guarantee that the interest would materialise as an up-front payment or a willingness to take on the existing building and the site's existing running costs immediately. Therefore, this approach carried the risk to the Council of continuing to have to carry the costs of the site for an undetermined amount of time unless it also decided to demolish the existing building with the upfront cost that that involved.

All the above options were technically possible, but none were without risk to the Council, nor without upfront cost. However, the Council had received a specific proposal from another public body and this was

considered in the private and confidential appendix to the report.

The proposal received and set out in the private and confidential appendix was accompanied by place making infrastructure proposals. The agreed Development Brief for the site envisaged the inclusion of a bridge over the river Leam into Victoria Park. This would deliver greater access to public open space for any residents on the site but would also enable the wider existing community in the Milverton Hill area to have more direct access to Victoria Park and to the riverside corridor. The bridge would also enable a connection for walking and cycling along the river as there were tunnels under both Adelaide Road and Princes Drive, but they were on opposite sides of the river. The bridge would therefore enable that connection across the river to be made and so enable the creation of a continuous off-road footpath/cycleway route along the river through the town and onwards westwards via the proposed new park to St Nicholas Park in Warwick, and eastwards to Newbold Comyn and onwards into the wider countryside via the canal and old railway line, to Draycote Water in particular. There was always the risk that the cost of the bridge was greater than the sum allocated, in which case the Council might choose to top up the funding using the £250k already allocated in the five-year CIL programme for such a facility and top it up with more funds if or as necessary.

The proposal also envisaged a place shaping investment in the laying out of a new park covering the area along the River Leam from Princes Drive to Emscote Road. An illustration of this potential was attached at Appendix 2 to the report. This project, which the Council had previously considered and supported, would represent a clear legacy for the Commonwealth Games. Given the timing, it seemed appropriate for *Royal* Leamington Spa to add another "Royal" park and it was therefore also proposed that the park commemorated the life of Queen Elizabeth II and be named after her. As the park would take some time to implement in terms of design, community consultation, seeking of planning permission and then implementation, it seemed appropriate that the date of the late Majesty's 100th birthday be identified as a target date for opening 21 April 2026.

It was highly possible that the cost of the park could be more if local community aspirations, maximising the opportunity to implement the Council's commitment to improving biodiversity as per the recent Council motion, and integrating features to accommodate safe river bathing, were also accommodated (as laid out in another report on the agenda relating to works in Leamington proposed by Severn Trent Water (STW) – Minute Number 96). Therefore, those other opportunities for funding should be pursued. This included tapping into other funding sources held by STW and other agencies as well as approaching the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to secure Commonwealth Games legacy funding. It had circa £70m to distribute.

However, to implement the new park required the relocation of the existing athletics facilities and to secure the small portion of land owned by the Guide Dogs for the Blind charity. The Council was in discussion on the latter point and would seek to secure that land in connection with the redevelopment of the main part of their site as part, if necessary, of a Section 106 agreement and therefore at no cost to the Council.

In respect of the athletics facilities, the Council had a proposal to relocate the facilities to land off Fusiliers Way to the rear of Myton School as part of a much bigger project – the masterplan was included at Appendix 3 to the report. Connected to this was another project to create a footpath/cycleway from Myton Road to Fusiliers Way. As well as enabling access north and south to the new facilities, it would also enable a new access to Myton School and to the new Schools proposed on Fusiliers Way, as well as to the wider footpath and cycleway network. It would also create another access point to Warwick School and a pedestrian and cycle access to Warwick Technology Park. Officers were also in discussion with WCC officers on the footpath/cycleway becoming part of a bid to the Government relating to Active Travel as part of the overall funding package.

The current CIL schedule over five years allowed for £1.5m for the relocation of the athletics facilities and £1.05m for the footpath/cycleway proposal as against an estimated cost of £3m to £4m for the athletics facilities overall and £1.75m to £2.75m for the footpath/cycleway. The Council had already agreed £225,000 for athletics and £150,000 for the Myton Path for the development of the proposals for each project in the financial years 22/23 and 23/24. The programme for both projects anticipated completion by the autumn of 2024 which would be enough time to then allow for the implementation of the new park. It was proposed therefore that part or all of the receipt from the disposal of Riverside House should be used to underwrite/complete the funding gap to allow both projects to be fully implemented. This would require a detailed report so that Members could understand the costs involved before proceeding in practice.

Whilst the Programme Team progressing the Council's Leisure Development Programme was staffed to cover the athletics track and footpath/cycleway link, the team responsible for taking the Council's parks and related projects forward did not have sufficient staff resource to take this forward, so it was proposed that up to £100,000 should be provided.

In terms of alternative options, the options that were available to decide upon were set out above and in the private and confidential appendix to the report. Given the previous direction by Members to officers to arrange to leave Riverside House as soon as possible and given the opportunity to deliver that objective via the report set out at Minute Number 87, doing nothing with the Riverside House site was not a real option and indeed would be perverse in the circumstances.

The Chief Executive updated the Cabinet that he had received the valuation from Bruton Knowles and shared with Members. Although it did not change the report, it was shared ahead of Cabinet taking their decision.

Councillor Matecki praised the Council for leading by example in the high standard of houses being built. He then proposed the report as laid out.

Recommended to Council that

- (1) the expected capital receipt be in principle earmarked and incorporated within the Council's Capital Programme and used to complete the funding package (including the existing commitment of CIL) necessary to cover the expected cost of relocating the Council's Edmondscote athletics facilities to land off Fusiliers Way and the associated footpath/cycleway connecting Myton Road and Fusiliers Way, subject to a further detailed report setting out and seeking approval for the details on the implementation of the schemes, be approved; and
- (2) endorses the decisions below taken by the Cabinet.

Resolved that

- (1) the options for the disposal of Riverside House, together with the associated risks, costs, and opportunities for each, be noted;
- (2) to the necessary due diligence and completion of negotiations (in principle and subject to contract), the disposal of the Riverside House site on the basis as set out in the private and confidential appendix to the report and in line with the approved Development Brief for the site, be approved;
- (3) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive (Monitoring Officer), Head of Finance (S151), Head of Neighbourhood and Assets, Group Leaders, and the Portfolio Holder for Resources and the Portfolio Holder for Housing, to finalise and agree the Heads of Terms and to subsequently put in place the necessary agreements and to seek any consents necessary or required to implement the proposals within the report;
- (4) included within the Council's project list, the new foot/cycle bridge over the River Leam and the creation of a new park stretching from Princes Drive to Emscote Road as a Commonwealth Games Legacy to be named Queen Elizabeth II Park in commemoration of the late Queen with a target date for completion of 21 April 2026 (which would have been the late Queen's 100th birthday), noting

that a full business case will be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting, be agreed;

- (5) £100,000 be made available for progressing the projects listed at recommendation 4 to provide a staffing and other resource to be funded from additional income generated, be agreed; and
- (6) other funding be sought for the new park, bridge, footpath/cycleway, and athletics facilities to enhance/ensure the intended outcomes, be agreed.

(The Portfolio Holders for this item were Councillors Day, Falp, Hales and Matecki)

Forward Plan Reference 1,340

A vote of thanks was recorded for the Chief Executive for his work on the project, showing entrepreneurial ability in getting the deal done in the time that had been achieved.

(The meeting ended at 6.20pm)

CHAIRMAN
8 March 2023

STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I am required to make this report by the Local Government Act 2003.

Robustness of Budgets

The preparation of the budgets started back in August. As the Head of Finance, and being a qualified and experienced accountant, I have overseen the process. The budgets have used the current year as their base. Budget Review process has shown where these do not form a reasonable basis for the following year. There has been a high level of scrutiny to the budget this year, along with budget monitoring throughout the year, from:-

- Budget Managers and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)
- Portfolio Holders
- The Executive through the various preceding reports set out in the background papers
- Scrutiny Committees

Consequently, I am satisfied that the budgets are prepared on a robust basis.

Heads of Service should also confirm the robustness of the budgets. Officers in all Services have been actively involved in preparing the budgets with the accountants. SMT members agreed the base budget.

In preparing the Budget, in view of the current economic climate facing the Council along with the whole of the public sector, many budgets have again not been increased at levels to match the current rate of inflation. This has also come on the back of a number of years where the budget has been prepared and impacted by the Global Pandemic and the impact of the UK leaving the EU. Government support has either ceased or reduced significantly following the Pandemic, and while the Autumn Statement and Local Finance Settlement provided some short term stability, the 3% increase provided in core spending power is well below the levels of increases seen across service areas in net expenditure costs. Therefore the management of contracts and close working with procurement will be essential to ensure best value can be achieved. During 2022-23 the Council showed its commitment to procurement and the support it can provide to Service areas by investing in the function's capacity. A number of contingencies have been included within the budgets, to mitigate against the impact of unexpected changes in-year. The Council

Adequacy of Reserves

There has been much discussion over what the appropriate levels of reserves are for a local authority to hold, with various papers being issued on this subject. However, it is for each authority to determine the right level of reserves, reflecting its individual circumstances and risk appetite.

The Audit Commission in its December 2012 report "Striking a Balance" discussed the reserves held by local authorities. Whilst it recognised it was for each body to determine the level of reserves it should hold, it was important for it to be clear why it was holding those reserves. Within the main report and Appendix 5, the Council's reserves are discussed in detail.

In the Audit Commission's Value for Money Guidance (December 2010) the following is stated:-

"Financial planning

An annual budget is not enough to secure financial resilience. Organisations should set the budget in the context of a longer-term financial strategy and a medium-term financial plan (MTFP) covering for example, a three-to five-year horizon. The MTFP needs to be realistic. Assumptions around inflation, income levels, demographics and future demand for services need to be modelled and based on reasonable predictions.

The financial position of an organisation will depend on a number of factors including the level of borrowing, receivables outstanding, investment risks, council tax collection rates and levels of reserves."

The Council's budget and financial planning regime can be demonstrated to be robust.

The Code of practice on local authority accounting requires the purpose, usage and basis of transactions of earmarked reserves to be identified clearly. This is set out in Appendix 5 of this report and Overview and Scrutiny Committee have been asked to pay particular attention to this (section 1.9 of report). In accordance with best practice on reserves and balances these have therefore been reviewed as part of the annual budget preparation. In addition, there are forecasts for future years which are reflected in the medium term financial strategy. In considering the level of reserves in addition to the cash flow requirements CIPFA recommends that the following factors are considered: -

Budget assumptions	Financial standing and management
The treatment of inflation and interest rates	The overall financial standing of the authority (level of borrowing, debt outstanding, council tax collection rates).
Estimates of the level and timing of capital receipts	The authority's track record in budget and financial management.
The treatment of demand led pressures	The authority's capacity to manage in-year budget pressures.
The treatment of efficiency savings/productivity gains	The strength of financial information and reporting arrangements.

Budget assumptions	Financial standing and management
The financial risks inherent in any significant new funding partnerships, major outsourcing deals or major capital developments	The authority's virement and end of year procedures in relation to budget under/overspends at authority and departmental level.
The availability of other funds to deal with major contingencies	The adequacy of the authority's insurance arrangements to cover major unforeseen risks.

The Cipfa Resilience Index was launched in December 2019 compares the Council to other comparator authorities. This does not suggest any areas where the authority is notably at risk, with levels of ear-marked reserves providing much security in the short/medium term.

I have considered these matters and can advise members that they currently have a satisfactory level of reserves and balances but need to address the medium term financial forecast in order to deliver balanced budgets from 2024/25 onwards. Risks which may impact upon the Council's finances and the Budget, together with controls and mitigations, are set out in Section 5, and a risk assessment against the general fund reserve is set out in Appendix 4. The Council has self-insurance for small items but generally relies on external insurance for claims above £25,000, so there is no major risk in this area.

In making this assessment I have considered the core contingency budget of £200,000 for 2023/24, and the provisions to mitigate against inflation (including major contracts). These provisions reduce the possibility of the Council calling upon its General Fund balances

Risks

The Council continues to face in-year budget risks. Primarily these relate to the current economic conditions, in addition to the legacy impact of the global pandemic and the continued impact on the Council of the UK leaving the EU.

The medium-term financial strategy has been prepared on a prudent basis given the uncertainties that face local government finance into the future. Whilst the 2023/24 budget has been prepared prudently, there are undoubtedly risks associated with it, linked to the current high levels of inflation, and increasing interest rates. However, with the level of reserves currently held, the Council should be able to manage any risks throughout the year.

In considering future years from 2025/26 there are significant uncertainties relating to any changes following a General Election. The 2022 Autumn Statement indicated that

key, difficult decisions will need to be made by the next administration, which are likely to have an impact on the Council and some of its main funding sources.

One such funding source where there is still longer-term uncertainty relates to the Council's share of Business Rates linked to the Fair Funding Review and the long-expected reset of the Business Rate Retention Scheme. Prudent estimates for business rates retention have been included from 2025/26, allowing for a significant reduction from the level budgeted for 2023/24. To help meet this reduction, the Council should be able to make use of the Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve in the short/medium term. However, this will not be sustainable if the Council does not reduce its overall spending level to match its Business Rate income without relying on contributions from the reserve.

The immediate in-year budget risks to which the Council is exposed are moderate. There are currently additional risks in relation to the uncertain state of the economy, the impact this may have on the Council's income sources, and the risks associated with capital schemes. Contingency budgets and reserve balances are available to mitigate such risk.

Savings

The budget takes into consideration the Budget proposals originally agreed in December 2020, that have been subject to regular scrutiny and revision. However, officers and members will need to address the underlying budget deficit in future years, and ensure that further proposals are brought forward in good time to balance the budget for future years. Members need to be mindful of the underlying budget situation throughout their decision-making and ensure that the need to deliver a sustainable baseline financial position without the need to use reserves through organisational change is given due priority.

Andrew Rollins

Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

February 2023

Project funding

Appendix 10

		Funding source
Projects	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000
Lord Leycester Hospital - underwriting of HLF award match funding		40,000 STR
St Mary's tower		50,000 NHB / FG
Barford Youth and Community Centre		250,000 NHB / FG
Packmores Community Centre plus land		25,000 NHB / FG
Womens Cycle Tour		30,000 NHB / FG
Kings Coronation		25,000 NHB / FG
Demolition of Covent Garden MSCP		1,000,000 NHB / FG
Rural / Urban Capital Improvement Scheme		100,000 NHB / FG
Voluntary and Community Sector Contracts		249,400 NHB / FG
Community Forums		35,000 NHB / FG
Decarbonisation		NHB / FG
Trees for the future		399,700 NHB / FG
Abbey Fields Cycle Track		160,000 NHB / FG
Office Relocation One-off costs	98,000	306,500 STR
Play areas disabled improvements		100,000 NHB / FG
Corporate Assets Reserve Top up		2,500,000 BRRVR
ICT Reserve Top Up		1,000,000 GF
Community Projects Reserve Top Up		500,000 NHB / FG
Total	98,000	6,770,600
Funding Source Summary		-1,078,500
New Homes Bonus 23/24		-1,845,600
Funding Guarantee 23/24		
Business Rate Volatility Reserve		-2,500,000
(Retaining a balance of £8m)		
Service Transformation Reserve	-98,000	-346,500
GF Balances		-1,000,000
(Retaining a balance of £1.5m)		
Total	-98,000	-6,770,600

GF PPM - New 5 Year Plan - 2023/24 - 2027/28
Appendix 11

PPM Category	23/24 Budget Estimate	24/25 Budget Estimate	25/26 Budget Estimate	26/27 Budget Estimate	27/28 Budget Estimate	5 Year Overall Totals
Corp Operational Total	3,373,650	700,250	258,250	254,550	209,650	
Non-Operational Total	157,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	80,000	
Open Spaces Total	696,900	550,600	380,600	380,600	385,750	
Total	4,227,550	1,320,850	708,850	705,150	675,400	7,637,800

Revised PPM 5 year Medium Term Financing Plan						
Funding Resources Analysis	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	5 Year Overall Totals
Corporate Assets Reserve Opening Balance	1,073,359	258,809	-149,041	55,109	262,959	
Corporate Assets Reserve Annual Top Up - MTFS	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	
Contribution from Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve	2,500,000					
Corporate Asset Reserve Balances	4,073,359	758,809	350,959	555,109	762,959	
PPM Base General Fund Budget	413,000	413,000	413,000	413,000	413,000	
Total Available Funding	4,486,359	1,171,809	763,959	968,109	1,175,959	
PPM Annual Budgets - Estimated Spend	-4,227,550	-1,320,850	-708,850	-705,150	-675,400	-8,366,281
Y/E Estimated Corp Assets Reserve Balance	258,809	-149,041	55,109	262,959	500,559	

Appendix 2

General Fund Summary

Appendix 2

Department	Outturn 2021/22 £ A	Original Budget 2022/23 £ B	Latest Budget 2022/23 £ C	Original Budget 2023/24 £ D	Variance 2022/23 £ C - B	Variance 2023/24 £ D - B
Neighbourhood & Assets	7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	4,218,604	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600
Place, Arts & Economy	5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400
Finance	965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700
Housing Services - GF	2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700
Customer & Digital Services	1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300
People and Communication	10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)
Strategic Leadership	7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND SERVICES	29,547,472	26,801,700	35,367,800	36,018,100	8,566,100	9,216,400
Replacement of Notional with Actual Cost of Capital: - Deduct Notional Capital Financing Charges in Budgets - Add Cost of Loan Repayments, Revenue Contributions and - Interest paid	(9,648,077)	(6,488,000)	(11,785,900)	(7,587,200)	(5,297,900)	(1,099,200)
Revenue Contributions to Capital	780,741	259,000	409,300	80,000	150,300	(179,000)
Contributions to / (from) Reserves	(2,727,361)	4,136,500	591,900	(2,234,300)	(3,544,600)	(6,370,800)
Net External Investment Interest Received	(2,324,508)	(2,464,400)	(4,504,100)	(5,889,900)	(2,039,700)	(3,425,500)
IAS19 Adjustments reversed	(3,477,856)	(2,168,300)	(2,168,300)	(3,450,000)	0	(1,281,700)
Employee Benefits Accruals reversed	78,644	0	0	0	0	0
Contributions to / (from) General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET EXPENDITURE FOR DISTRICT PURPOSES	12,229,481	20,651,800	20,042,900	19,995,100	(608,900)	(656,700)
Less Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Business Rate Income	466,097	(7,627,100)	(7,018,200)	(6,718,700)	608,900	908,400
Less General Grants	571,187	0	0	0	0	0
Less New Homes Bonus	(3,269,135)	(2,680,700)	(2,680,700)	(1,078,500)	0	1,602,200
Funding Guarantee	0	0	0	(1,845,600)	0	(1,845,600)
Less Lower Tier Services Grant	(146,834)	(154,600)	(154,600)	0	0	154,600
Services Grant	0	(237,600)	(237,600)	(133,900)	0	103,700
Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	38,685	23,000	23,000	(19,000)	0	(42,000)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET EXPENDITURE BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX - WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL	9,889,481	9,974,800	9,974,800	10,199,400	0	224,600
Aggregate Parish Council Expenditure	1,836,819	2,001,900	2,001,900	TBC	0	TBC
COMBINED DISTRICT AND PARISH EXPENDITURE BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX:	11,726,300	11,976,700	11,976,700	TBC	0	TBC
Warwickshire County Council Expenditure	85,748,900	89,727,800	89,727,800	TBC	0	TBC
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Expenditure	14,144,700	14,816,700	14,816,700	TBC	0	TBC
BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX	111,619,900	116,521,200	116,521,200	TBC	0	TBC
Council Tax - Band D						
Warwick District Council	176.86	176.86	176.86	176.86		
Parish/Town Councils (average)	32.85	35.49	35.49	TBC		
District & Parish/Town Band D Council Tax	209.71	212.35	212.35	TBC		
Warwickshire County Council	1,996.18	2,065.99	2,065.99	TBC		
Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner	0.00	0.00	0.00	TBC		
Total Band D Council Tax	2,205.89	2,278.34	2,278.34	TBC		
Tax Base - Band D	55,916.75	56,399.56	56,399.56	57,669.62		

Medium Term Financial Strategy

Appendix 3 (i)

	2022/23	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	latest £'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Cost Of General Fund Services	26,801	35,368	36,018	30,796	29,337	28,269	27,738
Investment Interest	-2,464	-4,504	-5,890	-3,561	-3,215	-2,577	-1,707
Other Financing Adjusments	-3,685	-10,821	-10,133	-5,117	-9,715	-9,718	-9,488
Net Expenditure after adjustments	20,652	20,043	19,995	22,118	16,407	15,974	16,543
NNDR (Business Rate Retention, including SBR grant)	-7,627	-7,018	-6,719	-7,073	-2,675	-2,626	-2,626
Collection Fund Balance 20/21 Deficit spread over 3 years	54	54	54				
Collection Fund Balance 23-24	-31	-31	-73				
New Homes Bonus	-2,681	-2,681	-1,079				
Funding Guarantee			-1,846				
Lower Tier Services Grant	-155	-155					
Services Grant	-238	-238	-134				
Amount being from Council Tax	-9,975	-9,975	-10,199	-10,711	-11,256	-11,824	-12,417
Band D Equivalent	176.86	176.86	176.86	182.15	187.59	193.20	198.98
% increase on previous year	-	-	-	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%
Net Expenditure after adjustments	20,652	20,043	19,995	22,118	16,407	15,974	16,543
Total Grant and Council Tax Income	-20,652	-20,043	-19,995	-17,784	-13,931	-14,449	-15,042
Deficit-Savings Required(+)/Surplus(-) future years	0	0	0	4,334	2,476	1,525	1,501
Change on previous year	0	0	0	4,334	-1,858	-951	-24
Current Year Surplus(-) Deficit (+)		0					

	2022/23 £'000	2022/23 latest £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Base Cost of General Fund Services	29,737	26,801	35,368	36,018	26,462	26,861	26,744
Inflation on Controllable Expenditure	654	0	466	556	417	459	977
Recurring Growth	485	550	-886	1,744	1,749	988	40
Items funded from Reserves	798	3,970	5,636	1,469	695	574	343
Total New time limited growth/savings	-2,324	4,047	826	-6,863	-7,856	-9,299	-10,593
Less previous year 1 Off/Time Limited Growth	-2,549	0	-6,491	-6,462	5,394	7,161	8,725
Changes in Capital Charges	0	0	1,099	0	0	0	0
Net Cost of General Fund Services	26,801	35,368	36,018	26,462	26,861	26,744	26,237
Less:Capital Financing Charges	-6,488	-11,786	-7,587	-7,587	-7,587	-7,587	-7,587
Less IAS19 included above	-2,168	-2,168	-3,450	-3,450	-3,450	-3,450	-3,450
Controllable Expenditure	18,145	21,414	24,981	15,425	15,824	15,707	15,200
Financing Charges etc.							
Loan repayments etc	575	2,132	3,058	1,597	1,597	1,597	1,597
Revenue Contributions to Capital	259	409	80	80	80	80	80
Contributions to/from reserves	4,137	592	-2,234	4,243	-355	-358	-128
External investment interest	-2,464	-4,504	-5,890	-3,561	-3,215	-2,577	-1,707
Total Financing Charges etc	2,507	-1,371	-4,986	2,359	-1,893	-1,258	-158
Contribution to/from GF Balance							
(Deficit)/Surplus	0	0					
Net Expenditure	20,652	20,043	19,995	17,784	13,931	14,449	15,042
NNDR redistributed	-7,627	-7,018	-6,719	-7,073	-2,675	-2,626	-2,626
Lower Tier Services Grant	-155	-155					
Services Grant	-238	-238	-134				
New Homes Bonus	-2,681	-2,681	-1,079				
Funding Guarantee			-1,846				
Collection Fund Balance 20/21 Deficit Spread	54	54	54				
Collection Fund Balance 23-24	-31	-31	-73				
Total AEF/Collection Fund	-10,677	-10,068	-9,796	-7,073	-2,675	-2,626	-2,626
Council Tax borne expenditure	9,975	9,975	10,199	10,711	11,256	11,824	12,417
Equivalent to Band D Council Tax	176.86	176.86	176.86	182.15	187.59	193.20	198.98
% increase on previous year	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%	2.99%
Council Tax Base	56,400	56,400	57,670	58,800	60,000	61,200	62,400

APPENDIX 4

Risks Influencing the Level of General Fund Balance

Risk Area	Provision
The possibility the Council overspends – risk increased with budgets reduced to reflect prior year underspends, reductions in “non-contractual” budgets.	£0.2 million
Economic cycle issues affect the budget – over and above what can be expected to be contained within routine monitoring procedures.	£0.2 million
Development control income adversely affected by planning policies and economic cycle.	£0.2 million
Costs of environmental prosecution or public enquiry. This is always a possibility and is difficult to forecast in terms of cost.	£0.1 million
Car parking income doesn’t achieve budget forecast.	£0.15 million
Uninsurable event – e.g. environmental or asbestos claim outside terms of insurance policies.	£0.15 million
Costs of potential planning appeals.	£0.2 million
Possible impacts of budget reductions by other public agencies on this council and the area of Warwick District.	£0.1 million
Reduction in Retained Business Rates	£0.1million
Cost arising from unanticipated risks	£0.1 million
Total	£1.5 million

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
General Fund Reserves			
Art Gallery Gift Reserve To provide finance for major Art Gallery and Museum purchases linked to the specific conditions imposed by the original gift of the money to the Council	Items to be financed from this reserve are charged to the Art Gallery and Museum Account during the year and notified to Finance. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the General Fund as part of the final accounts process.	The Head of Cultural Services has delegated authority to make such purchases as necessary from this reserve subject to reporting retrospectively to the Executive. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	This reserve is reviewed during the final accounts process but as the reserve was created by a private donation and has conditions of use attached to it, levels and potential closure are not applicable
Building Control Reserve The fee earning part of the Building Control service should not make a loss over a rolling three year period. This reserve has been created to assist in this with annual surpluses being paid into it and any annual losses being funded from it. It also funds any improvements required in the service.	Annual surpluses / deficits are credited / debited to this reserve as necessary. If funding improvements e.g. IT, reserve makes the necessary contribution to either the General Fund or Capital Financing as appropriate.	Approval for expenditure to be met from this reserve is delegated to the Head of Development Services and Head of Finance, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve	Reserve established to provide finance for "smoothing out" future retained Business Rate revenues.	Executive to approve usage.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Capital Investment Reserve To provide finance for the Council's General Fund capital programme not met by other resources such as capital receipts, revenue contributions to capital (RCCO), external contributions, other reserves.	This reserve provides the balancing figure for financing the Council's General Fund capital programme and the relevant amount is transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account as part of the final accounts process. Annual "repayments" in respect of recently financed schemes are made to the reserve from the General Fund.	The General Fund capital programme and its financing is approved by the Executive. This sets the contribution from this reserve. Any variation to this figure will be formally agreed by the Executive either as part of the final accounts process or as part of the normal process of revising the General Fund Capital Programme. In addition the reserve is monitored by Finance on a regular basis to provide information for reviews of capital programme resources.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the Estimates and Final Accounts processes where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure. In addition the adequacy of the reserve is reviewed as part of the financial strategy and capital programme setting processes. Normal practice is to keep the level at around £1,000,000.
Car Parks Displacement Reserve	Substantial work is required to be carried out in respect of some of the Council's car parks in forthcoming years.	Transfers to and from this reserve will be approved by the Executive as part of the Budget and Final Accounts processes.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Car Parks Repairs and Maintenance Reserve	Reserve created from car parks revenue repairs and maintenance budget in order to provide resources for future years.	Transfers to and from this reserve will be approved by the Executive as part of the Budget and Final Accounts processes.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
<i>Cemetery Land Purchase Reserve</i>	To purchase land for cemetery extensions	The General Fund capital programme and its financing is approved by the Executive. This sets the contribution from this reserve. Any variation to this figure will be formally agreed by the Executive either as part of the final accounts process or as part of the normal process of revising the General Fund Capital Programme. In addition the reserve is monitored by Finance on a regular basis to provide information for reviews of capital programme resources.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Commonwealth Games (Bowls) Reserve</i>	To set aside funds towards funding the project in future years.	The use of this reserve will be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Community Forums Reserve</i>	To provide finance for the annual programme of Community Forum Grants	February 2013 Executive approved 4 year programme 2014/15 to 2017/18. forums now funded within core budgets.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Community Projects Reserve</i>	Reserve created from 2017/18 New Homes Bonus to provide finance for various District wide community projects.	Approval for project spend will be way of reports to the Executive.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Corporate Assets Reserve</i>	To provide finance for refurbishment of facilities following Stock Condition Surveys.	Subject to future Executive reports, approvals from the reserve have been delegated to SAG and the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the portfolio holders for Assets and Finance.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Covent Garden Multi Storey Reserve</i>	Balance repurposed towards the 'Future High Street Fund'.	Authority to spend is delegated to the Head of Finance in line with the actual lost net income and debt charges. Executive to be informed of the use of the reserve and its balance.	The level and continuing need for the reserve was reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer, where a recommendation was made to Cabinet for the balance to be repurposed towards the 'Future High Street Fund'
<i>Election Expenses Reserve</i> To provide finance to fund the expense incurred in holding the District Council elections every four years.	The cost of the election is charged to a service account and a contribution from this reserve is credited to the General Fund from this reserve as part of the final accounts process. In the years where no election is held an annual contribution of £30,000 is made to the reserve..	The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
<i>Enterprise Projects Reserve</i>	Reserve is used to smooth surpluses / deficits	Transfers to and from this reserve will be approved by the Executive as part of the Budget and Final Accounts processes, with delegations over usage agreed by Executive (August 2017) to the Head of Development Services up to £20k..	Reserve reviewed by Finance as part of budget estimates and closedown procedures.

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
Equipment Renewal Reserve To finance a rolling programme of equipment and property replacement and renewal.	Revenue Items to be financed from this reserve are charged to the service accounts during the year. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the General Fund as part of the final accounts process.	Items proposed to be financed from this reserve are first approved by the Executive. Use of reserve is subsequently controlled by SMT, which considers a business case requesting release of funding from the reserve and may approve, if appropriate, followed by approval from Chief Executive and relevant portfolio holders. The standard business case template to be used for SMT's consideration was presented and approved by the September 2011 Executive.	Reserve reviewed as part of Estimates and closedown procedures. Balance increased on basis of Executive approval.
Harbury Lane Reserve	A reserve has been created over a number of years to fund this project.	The use of this reserve will be agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader.	The level and continued requirement of this reserve will be reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the Chief Executive and the Leader.
Homelessness Prevention Reserve	From Government grants received in 18/19 and 19/20 towards Homelessness Prevention. A balance of £40k is committed for Rough Sleepers Initiative Interventions.	The Head of Housing Services has delegated authority to draw down from the Reserve in conjunction with the Service Portfolio Holder, Head of Finance and Finance Portfolio Holder.	This money is ring-fenced to prevent or deal with homelessness, with the funding being allocated to the reserve until Council has determined how this money will be spent.
ICT Replacement Reserve To provide finance for the Council's ICT Replacement programme	This reserve has been established in order to provide certainty of finance for the Council's ICT replacement programme.	The ICT Services Manager has delegated authority to spend from this reserve in consultation with the Head of Finance and relevant Portfolio Holders	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer and ICT Manager essentially three times a year: a) when the Financial Strategy is updated b) at budget setting and c) final accounts where depending on the need. A recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure. In addition the adequacy of the reserve is taken into account when revising the capital programme.
Insurance Reserve To provide finance to cover the Council's self insurance against potential claims and to pay for security improvements to the Council's General Fund properties. The reserve also holds sufficient funds to cover any potential claim with regard to the Municipal Mutual Insurance "clawback" re previous claims settled.	Self insurance claims and Security Improvements are charged to the service accounts and the comparable amount is credited to the General Fund from this reserve as part of the final accounts process.	The Insurance Officer has authority to spend up to £15,000 (£1,000 per project) in any one year on security improvements. Items above these thresholds have to be authorised by the Head of Finance. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Investment Volatility Reserve	Set up to capture a portion of the gain on corporate equity funds to be used to smooth possible future fluctuations	Authority to spend from this reserve is delegated to the Head of Finance.	The use of this reserve will be included within future Budget reports to be agreed by the Executive.

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
Leisure Options Reserve	This reserve has been established to cover such items as the reduction in income whilst the Leisure Centre refurbishment programme is under way and also the first year and a half's debt charges arising from the prudential borrowing for this project. The reserve will also fund the re-profiling of the contractor concessions arising from the outsourcing of the Leisure Centres operation.	Authority to spend from this reserve is delegated to the Head of Finance in line with the actual lost income and debt charges incurred.	The continuing need for the reserve will be reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer and Head of Cultural Services, and depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Local Plan Delivery Reserve	The reserve is used for items of work required to help the implementation of the Local Plan. This would include detailed work on a specific proposal to help turn it from a proposal to reality.	Approval to spend from this reserve is delegated to the Chief Executive, Head of Finance and Head of Development Services in consultation with the Deputy Leader (responsible for the Local Plan) and all group leaders.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Other Commuted Sums Reserve Commuted Sums are received from developers in respect of the adoption of public open space or other facilities to be maintained at the Council's expense.	Credits are made annually to the General Fund based on (usually) 1/13 th of the capital sum starting from the year in which the maintenance of the facility begins. This date notified by the relevant Service Area.	The General Fund Estimates and its financing is approved by the Executive. This sets the contribution to / from this reserve. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The balance on this reserve is dictated by receipts from developers.
Planning Appeal Reserve Originally created to provide finance to cover the costs incurred by the Council with regard to appeals against its planning decisions. The Reserve also now pays for issues relating to planning policy, for example the costs associated with the Local Plan, and associated research.	Items to be financed from this reserve are charged to the Planning service account during the year and notified to Finance. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the General Fund as part of the final accounts process.	Approval for expenditure to be met from this reserve is proposed to be delegated to the Head of Development and Head of Finance, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Planning Investment Reserve	Creation of a reserve into which the 20% uplift in planning fees will be allocated.	To be apportioned by the Head of Finance.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance followed by a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure
Public Amenity Reserve	To provide finance for play area and public open space improvements	The General Fund capital programme and its financing is approved by the Executive. This sets the contribution from this reserve. Any further upward variation in the contribution would have to be approved by the Executive either as part of a report on the particular scheme in question or as part of a revision of the capital programme during the budget monitoring process. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Public Open Spaces Planning Gain Reserve	Expenditure from this reserve will be charged to service accounts during the year. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the General Fund as part of the final accounts process.	The Head of Neighbourhood Services, in agreement with the Head of Finance, has delegated authority to spend from this reserve.	This reserve is reviewed during the final accounts process but as the reserve was created from S106 contributions which generally have conditions of use attached to them, levels and potential closure are not applicable

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
Services Transformation Reserve	Reserve created to enable services to continue to be provided pending delivery of required savings and to finance "Fit For the Future" schemes so as to help the Council secure the savings needed in its Medium Term Financial Strategy.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Tourism Reserve To provide finance for initiatives relating to the Council's ongoing promotion of tourism	Items to be financed from this reserve are charged to the service accounts during the year. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the General Fund as part of the final accounts process.	Authority to spend delegated to Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Development Services Portfolio Holder, Finance Portfolio Holder and S151 Officer.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Digital By Default Reserve	Reserve created to enable digitalisation of services to continue to be provided pending delivery of required savings and to finance "Fit For the Future" schemes so as to help the Council secure the savings needed in its Medium Term Financial Strategy.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Climate Change Reserve	Reserve created to respond to the Climate Emergency Declaration for Council services and across the District.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Community Emergency Response Fund Reserve	Reserve created to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
Newbold Benches Donation Reserve	To be used in accordance with the wishes of the benefactor on benches and tree planting at Newbold Comyn.	Head of Service to ensure sums spent in accordance with donation conditions.	Use of the Reserve to be reviewed annually until fully disbursed.
Service Alignment Reserve	Reserve initially created to enable services to prepare for integration with Stratford District Council. Closed in 2023/23 and balance transferred to the Service Transformation Reserve.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.
ICT Service System Alignment Reserve	Reserve initially created to develop ICT systems to support service delivery in preparation for integration with Stratford District Council. Uncommitted balance to be transferred to the ICT Reserve.	The responsibility for the authorisation of expenditure from this reserve is proposed to be with the Chief Executive and Head of Finance in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, subject to being reported within subsequent budget reports.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure.

Name of Reserve & Purpose	Use of Reserve / Balance	Management and Control	Review Mechanism
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)			
Housing Capital Investment Reserve To provide finance for new build projects.	To provide finance for new build projects.	The budgets which affect the balance are monitored during the year by Finance and Housing with the effect on the balance being taken into account in future years' projections to ensure the balance conforms to minimum acceptable requirements within the Self Financing Business Plan in order to achieve the required number of new build homes.	The adequacy of the balance is assessed as part of reviewing the Self Financing Business Plan .
Major Repairs Reserve To provide funding for major capital works to the Council's housing stock	The relevant amount required to finance the HRA capital programme is transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account as part of the final accounts process.	The contribution made from this reserve towards capital expenditure is dictated by the developing needs of the HRA Self Financing Business Plan and will be reviewed as part of the formal Business Plan governance process.	The operation of this reserve will be reviewed as part of the ongoing monitoring of the Self Financing Business Plan.
Housing Revenue Account balance To provide a contingency reserve to protect the HRA against any unexpected and adverse revenue or capital cash flows arising during the year.	The balance will be applied as necessary to finance housing landlord revenue or capital budget variations.	The budgets which affect the balance are monitored during the year by Finance and Housing with the effect on the balance being taken into account in future years' projections to ensure the balance conforms to minimum acceptable requirements within the Self Financing Business Plan.	The adequacy of the balance is assessed as part of reviewing the Self Financing Business Plan. The Self Financing Business Plan is based on maintaining a minimum £1.5m balance (uplifted each year for inflation).
HRA Early Retirement Reserve To provide finance to cover the pension one off costs to the HRA as a result of the early retirement of Housing officers and to provide finance to cover redundancy costs properly chargeable to the HRA.	Items to be financed from this reserve are charged to the HRA during the year and notified to Finance. An appropriate amount is then transferred to the HRA as part of the final accounts process.	Approval for expenditure to be met from this reserve is subject to a report to the Executive which previously has been agreed with Finance. The movements in and out of the reserve are monitored against the approved or expected pattern by Finance at least three times a year.	The level and continuing need for the reserve is reviewed by Finance in conjunction with the S151 Officer during the final accounts process where depending on the need, a recommendation to the Executive can include increasing / decreasing the balance or complete closure
HRA Rough Sleeping Initiative Reserve	To fund a rough sleeping initiative at the William Wallsgrove hostel, from Government grant received in 2018/19.	To match-fund expenditure incurred by the HRA in 2019/20, up to the level of the Reserve.	The reserve will be reviewed as part of the wider housing and homeless strategies of the Council

GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RESERVES AND BALANCES

APPENDIX 5b

Reserve	Use of Reserve 2022/23 to 2026/27	Balance 1/4/2022 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2023 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2024 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2025 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2026 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2027 £000
GENERAL FUND RESERVES - EARMARKED							
Art Gallery Gift Reserve	Balance on this reserve includes monies transferred from Art Fund Reserve. Currently there is no expenditure to be met from this reserve. External donations of approximately £1k per annum will be credited to this reserve.	132	133	134	135	136	138
Building Control Reserve	The surpluses from this 'trading account' are used to support the service costs.	473	473	473	473	473	473
Business Rate Retention Volatility Reserve	Reserve set up to 'smooth' receipt of business rate income. Covid-19 grants since 20/21 have distorted the previous trends. Expected to be a Government Business Rate re-set in 2025/26.	10,272	11,485	7,689	9,542	8,054	6,874
Capital Investment Reserve	The reserve will receive £100k top ups in respect of RUCIS capital schemes in 21/22 and 22/23. £1m is the minimum balance recommended for this reserve.	1,356	1,456	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383
Car Park Displacement Reserve	The balance was applied to the Commonwealth Games Leamington Spa Station project.	276	-	-	-	-	-
Car Parking Repairs and Maintenance Reserve	Reserve created in order to provide resources for future years repairs and maintenance programmes. It is currently funding replacement pay & display ticket machines.	139	122	122	122	122	122
Cemetery Land Purchase Reserve	Reserve established to provide finance for the purchase of land for cemetery extensions. Currently no such purchases are included in the General Fund Capital Programme. Future contributions to the reserve will be provided for by a surcharge imposed on out of area burial fees.	28	28	28	28	28	28
Commonwealth Games (Bowls) Reserve	This reserve is currently funding the Project Manager salary costs and various ancillary costs.	236	-	-	-	-	-
Community Projects Reserve	Reserve created from New Homes Bonus to provide finance for various District-wide community projects. Being topped up in 2023/24 with £500k from New Homes Bonus / Funding Guarantee.	656	466	366	341	316	291
Corporate Assets Reserve	Reserve created to provide finance for refurbishing facilities following stock condition surveys. It includes General Fund contributions of £500k from 22/23, which are necessary to maintain balances. Drawdown from reserve is subject to future Executive reports.	889	1,073	259	-149	55	263
Covent Garden Multi Storey Reserve	Balance being repurposed towards the 'Future High Street Fund'.	900	900	-	-	-	-
Election Expenses Reserve	£35k per annum will be credited to the reserve to help defray the costs of General Elections and £105k subsequently released toward funding the General Elections, based on a 4-year cycle.	75	110	5	40	75	110

GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RESERVES AND BALANCES

APPENDIX 5b

Reserve	Use of Reserve 2022/23 to 2026/27	Balance 1/4/2022 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2023 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2024 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2025 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2026 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2027 £000
Enterprise Projects Reserve	Reserve being reduced to cover legal commitments only.	218	218	80	80	80	80
Equipment Renewal Reserve	Projects will be approved by SMT, Chief Executive and relevant Portfolio Holders prior to going ahead. The reserve will receive top ups of £100k per annum and is being used to support a number of projects detailed in Appendix 7.	517	107	51	103	193	283
Harbury Lane Reserve	This reserve will provide funding towards the proposed travellers site in Harbury Lane	84	84	84	84	84	84
Homelessness Prevention Reserve	From Government grants received in 18/19 and 19/20 towards Homelessness Prevention.	1,336	1,336	1,336	1,336	1,336	1,336
ICT Replacement Reserve	This reserve is to provide for planned ICT replacements and revenue costs. The reserve will be topped up by £250k p.a., plus a one-off £500k from the ICT Alignment Reserve in 2022/23 and £1m from General Fund balances in 2023/24, but is projected to become negative at the end of 2025/26.	162	842	391	20	-401	-684
Insurance Reserve	This reserve will be used to cover self insurance against claims and to provide finance for security improvements to mitigate future claims.	274	274	274	274	274	274
Investment Volatility Reserve	Set up to smooth possible future fluctuations on equity funds and other treasury investments.	100	100	100	100	100	100
Leisure Options Reserve	Balance from Phase 1 of leisure improvements, plus funds for Phase 2. New Homes Bonus contributions totalling £740k across 20/21 and 21/22.	765	765	564	67	67	67
Local Plan Delivery Reserve	The reserve is funding the Tachbrook Country Park capital budget	44	44	44	44	44	44
Other Commuted Sums Reserve	Contributions of around £29k will be made to the General Fund each year to fund maintenance of adopted land. In addition, the reserve will fund part of the cost of the Green Spaces Team Leader. New developer	1,381	1,307	1,234	1,162	1,089	1,017
Planning Appeal Reserve	This is funding consultancy for Local Plan, HS2, Kenilworth development brief and site development officer salary etc. costs	452	444	436	428	420	412
Planning Investment Reserve	This reserve will receive income from the uplift in planning fees. Various posts e.g. temporary Senior EHO, Development Monitoring Officer, CIL Officer etc. are being funded from this reserve	10	174	338	502	666	830
Public Amenity Reserve	This reserve will provide the finance for the play equipment capital programme. £270k was added from New Homes Bonus in 22/23.	244	514	300	300	300	300
Public Open Spaces Planning Gain Reserve	Reserve receives a reduced amount of S106 planning development contributions for one-off improvement of Public Open Spaces. It contributes towards capital play area improvements.	382	106	107	109	110	111

GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT RESERVES AND BALANCES

APPENDIX 5b

Reserve	Use of Reserve 2022/23 to 2026/27	Balance 1/4/2022 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2023 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2024 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2025 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2026 £000	Estimated Balance 1/4/2027 £000
Services Transformation Reserve	Current approvals from this reserve include contribution to a number of capital projects, 'Transforming Our Workplace' and various temporary posts. The reserve received a top-up from the New Homes Bonus, and the balance on the Service Alignment Reserve in 2022/23, and is used to smooth funding between financial years	2,330	350	315	1,047	1,022	1,022
Tourism Reserve	Established to help fund tourism initiatives within the District	27	27	27	27	27	27
Digital By Default Reserve	Used for digitisation projects.	23	44	38	32	27	21
Climate Change Reserve	Tackling the climate emergency declaration.	-	326	817	1,308	1,799	2,290
Community Emergency Response Fund Reserve	Funds for Covid-19 community support	2	2	2	2	2	2
Newbold Benches Donation Reserve	Donation from a member of public for benches and tree planting	6	6	6	6	6	6
Service Alignment Reserve	General Fund contribution towards joint working with Stratford District Council. This Reserve has been closed and the balance has been transferred to the Service Transformation Reserve.	-	-	-	-	-	-
ICT Service System Alignment Reserve	General Fund contribution towards ICT system developments. Moving to ICT Replacement Reserve in 2022/23.	500	-	-	-	-	-
GENERAL FUND RESERVE TOTAL		24,289	23,316	17,003	18,946	17,887	17,304
Change in GF reserves (+ increase / - decrease)			-973	-6,313	1,943	-1,059	-583
BALANCES							
General Fund	A core balance of at least £1.5m after liabilities will be maintained as a contingency reserve.	3,776	2,707	1,806	1,641	1,509	1,509
Housing Revenue Account (HRA):							
Housing Capital Investment Reserve	Under self financing, this reserve provides the finance for investment in new housing stock	29,206	21,023	13,809	9,295	6,538	5,538
Major Repairs Reserve	Under Self Financing this reserve provides the major element of funding for capital maintenance works to the Council's housing stock.	6,150	5,206	4,491	4,176	4,079	3,975
Housing Revenue Account balance	To provide a contingency reserve to protect the Housing Revenue Account against adverse in year revenue or capital cash flows arising from unexpected major repairs etc.	1,552	1,579	1,606	1,633	1,661	1,688
Housing Early Retirements Reserve	Contributions of £20k in each year will be made.	21	41	61	81	101	121
HRA Rough Sleeping Initiative Reserve	To support provision of temporary accomodation and services	262	262	262	262	262	262
HRA TOTAL		37,191	35,949	35,934	37,214	38,617	39,422

ICT Replacement Schedule February 2023

Appendix 6

	Capital / Revenue	2022/23	2022/23 Latest	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
DataCentre							
ESX Servers (x 5)	Capital			60			
C Class (inc SAN Switch, Ethernet Switch)	Capital			30			33
Fibre Switches (HP 24 Port)	Capital			15			18
Storage Area Network (SAN)	Capital			125			130
Backup Solution	Capital			100			
UPS	Capital			10		14	
Physical Server Replacement	Capital			46	15		25
Relocation to Crown Hosting Site	Capital			50			
Infrastructure (General)	Capital	14	14	15	15	15	15
Network							
Network Devices LAN (Core)	Capital	150		150			
Network Devices WAN (Remote Sites)	Capital	35		35			
Wireless Access Controllers	Capital			45			
CyberSecurity (Firewalls, IPS/IDS)	Capital	35		35			
Intrusion Prevention	Capital			5			5
Network General	Capital	14	14	15	15	15	15
New/Updated WAN Links	Capital	50		75			50
New/Updated WAN Links	Revenue				25	25	25
Telephony							
VoIP Telephony	Capital		8	67			80
Contact Centre	Capital	50		58			60
Desktop							
Desktop Infrastructure	Capital	30	11	37	200	125	30
Mobile Phone Replacement	Capital			20			20
Virtualisation Servers	Capital			10			
Software/Digital							
Development, Building Control and LLPG Replace	Capital			250	50		
Committee Services Software Replacement	Capital			20			
Regulatory Services Software	Capital				200	50	
Revenues and Benefits Software	Capital					400	

Equipment Renewal Schedule

Appendix 7

Summary

Portfolio	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Grand Total £'000
People and Communications	205					205
Strategic Leadership						0
Culture, Tourism & Leisure	161	95				256
Environment & Operations	38	61		10	5	114
Law & Governance			48			48
Grand Total	404	156	48	10	5	623

Detail

Portfolio	Manager	Year and Description	Grand Total £'000
		2022/23	404
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	1 Monitor Labs Nox Monitor - Mn9841 With Floppy Drive	8
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	B&K 2250 sound Level Meter/ Matron & calibrator(red)	10
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	B&K 2250 sound Level Meter/ Matron & calibrator(yellow)	10
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	B&K 2250 sound Level Meter/Matron & calibrator (Green)	10
People and Communications	Tracy Dolphin	MFDs (Multi Functional Devices), plus Colour Copier	205
Culture, Tourism & Leisure	David Guilding	R.P.R. Ag&M - Local History Gallery Refurbishment	100
Culture, Tourism & Leisure	David Guilding	Replacement sound desk and lighting - Spa Centre	61
		2023/24	156
Environment & Operations	Pam Chilvers	Automatic Bier Replacement	55
Culture, Tourism & Leisure	David Guilding	Cinema projector	40
Culture, Tourism & Leisure	David Guilding	Front of House / Backstage PA	55
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	Photometer Envitech PF-12	6
		2024/25	48
Law & Governance	Graham Leach	150 packflat polling screens	48
		2025/26	10
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	B&K 3650 sound Level Meter(blue)	10
		2026/27	5
Environment & Operations	Paulette Samuels	Portable Weather Station	5
		Grand Total	623

CAPITAL VARIATIONS

Appendix 8

	2022/23 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2024/25 £'000's	2025/26 £'000's	2026/27 £'000's	TOTAL £'000's
ORIGINAL BUDGETS PER 2022/23 BUDGET BOOK:						
Original General Fund Capital Budgets	56,005.2	14,761.0	374.0	396.0	N/A	71,536.2
Original Housing Investment Programme	24,489.5	18,492.6	18,498.7	18,504.9	18,511.2	98,497.0
TOTAL	80,494.7	33,253.6	18,872.7	18,900.9	18,511.2	170,033.2

ORIGINAL GENERAL FUND CAPITAL BUDGETS PER 2022/23 BUDGET BOOK	56,005.2	14,761.0	374.0	396.0	Not published	71,536.2
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Items slipped from 2021/22 and added to 2022/23 Budgets (see Final Accounts Report 2021/22 for detail on individual schemes - Not yet approved by Cabinet)	4,769.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,769.0
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Items brought forward from 2021/22 to 2020/21 (see Final Accounts Report 2020/21 for detail on individual schemes- Not yet approved by Cabinet)	-33.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-33.0
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TOTAL adjustments arising from Final Accounts Report:	4,736.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,736.0
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INCREASES TO SCHEMES:

Voice of IP telephone system-should have been slippage from 21-22	8.0	67.0				75.0
Storage Area Network (SAN)-should have been slippage from 21-22		170.0				170.0
Physical Server Replacement-should have been slippage from 21-22		26.0				26.0
UPS-should have been slippage from 21-22		10.0				10.0
Network		18.0				18.0
Car Park Pay & Display Machines-funded from Repairs & Maintenance Revenue Budget	12.6					12.6
Recycling & Refuse Containers-funded from extra income	6.0					6.0
Recycling bins and caddies-New Joint contract with SDC. Increase takes into account of EuorBins £70k and the SDC costs	413.2					413.2
Future High Street increase in budget matched by private funding		3,649.3	4,170.0			7,819.3
TOTAL Increase to Schemes:	439.8	3,940.3	4,170.0			8,550.1

NEW APPROVALS:

Mobile Phone Replacement		20.0			20.0	40.0
Infrastructure General					3.0	3.0
Storage Area Network (SAN)					181.0	181.0
Network					69.5	69.5
Contact Centre					60.0	60.0
Physical Server Replacement					25.0	25.0
Relocation to Crown Hosting Site		50.0				50.0
Development, Building Control and LLPG Replacement.		250.0	50.0			300.0
Committee Services Software Replacement		20.0				20.0
Regulatory Services Software			200.0	50.0		250.0
Revenues and Benefits Replacement or Renewal				400.0		400.0
Villiers Street Land Purchase	58.2					58.2
Railway Line Spur To Draycote Water (Sustrans)	25.0	25.0				50.0
St. Mary's Church Tower Restoration	50.0	50.0				100.0
Warwick Station Fence	30.0					30.0
Pottertons Landscaping Works	9.0	6.0				15.0
Spa Centre Lights and Radio Microphones	85.0					85.0
Recycling & Refuse Containers					80.0	80.0
Cyber Security Posture	100.0					100.0
St. John's Playing Fields Basketball Court Extension and New Footpath	12.1					12.1
Newbold Comyn Pavilion Refurbishment	4.9					4.9
Athletics Facility Relocation	238.0					238.0
Myton footpath/cycleway	147.0					147.0
TOTAL New Approvals:	759.2	421.0	250.0	450.0	438.5	920.2

CAPITAL VARIATIONS

Appendix 8

	2022/23 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2024/25 £'000's	2025/26 £'000's	2026/27 £'000's	TOTAL £'000's
TOTAL General Fund New/Increases to Capital Approvals during 2022/23:	1,199.0	4,361.3	4,420.0	450.0	438.5	9,470.3
SLIPPAGE/BUDGET B/FWD - Changes to start dates or delays on projects mean that it is proposed to slip resources into future years/bring forward from future years - identified as part of budget review process:						
Voice of IP telephone system				-80.0	80.0	
Desktop Infrastructure	-19.0	-11.0			30.0	
Infrastructure General	-11.5				11.5	
Contact Centre	-50.0	58.0		-8.0		
Network	-322.5	322.5				
Software/Digital-- Strategy Seed Funding	-200.0	200.0				
Software/Digital-- GIS	-70.0	70.0				
Virtualisation Servers		10.0		-10.0		
Abbey Fields LC New Building	-5,000.0	5,000.0				
Castle Farm LC New Building	-2,000.0	2,000.0				
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Abbey Fields	-496.7		496.7			
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Castle Farm	-200.7	200.7				
Play Area Improvement Programme	-260.0	260.0				
Skate Park in St. Nicholas Park	-38.8	38.8				
Future High Street-reprofiling and splitting out into separate projects	-6,134.4	6,134.4				
Tach Brook Country Park-reprofiled	-2,530.4	-278.2	2,808.6			
Community Stadium Project	-256.0	256.0				
Castle Farm Sports Pitch Drainage	-73.0	73.0				
TOTAL General Fund Capital Slippage identified during 2022/23:	-17,663.0	14,334.2	3,305.3	-98.0	121.5	
SCHEMES DELETED / REDUCED /SAVINGS/VIREMENTS:						
Cycle Improvements at Leamington Station--now separate from the main CWG project. Virement from line below	60.0					60.0
Commonwealth Games - Leamington Station-virement to line above	-60.0					-60.0
Abbey Fields LC New Building (reduced slippage from 21/22)	-226.9					-226.9
Castle Farm LC New Building (reduced slippage from 21/22)	-248.6					-248.6
Community Stadium Project	-122.0					-122.0
Virtualisation Servers				-50.0		-50.0
TOTAL General Fund Reductions / Savings:	-597.5			-50.0		-647.5
PROPOSED GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2022/23 BUDGET BOOK:	43,679.7	33,456.5	8,099.3	698.0	560.0	86,493.5

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Total HRA Housing Investment Programme Expenditure	24,489.5	18,492.6	18,498.7	18,504.9	18,511.2	98,497.0
Construction / Acquisition of Housing:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Repurchase of Ex-Council Housing	169.0					169.0
Purchase of property	192.3					192.3
Refurbishment						
Purchase of land						
Development	2,940.9					2,940.9
Purchase of Land						
Development	4,989.8					4,989.8
Purchase of property	5,826.0					5,826.0
Purchase of Land						
Purchase of property						
Purchase of property	383.8					383.8
Development	1,554.0					1,554.0
Purchase of property	-7,533.3	7,533.3				0.0
Purchase of property	3,200.0	6,500.0	3,300.0			13,000.0
Development	589.0	8,162.0	11,374.0	1,477.0		21,602.0
Total Construction / Acquisition of Housing	12,311.5	22,195.3	14,674.0	1,477.0		50,657.8
General Fund Housing	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
Construction / Acquisition of Housing:	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Purchase of Land - Shared Scheme with HRA Housing						
Total General Fund Construction / Acquisition of Housing						
Total Construction / Acquisition of Housing Variations 2022/23	12,311.5	22,195.3	14,674.0	1,477.0		50,657.8
Improvement / Renewal Works:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Stock Condition Survey Works:						
Aids & Adaptations						
Defective Flooring						
Door Entry/Security/Safety Systems						
Kitchen & Bathroom Fittings / Sanitaryware Replacement	-479.4	-225.0	-225.0	-225.0	-225.0	-1,379.4
Electrical Fitments / Rewiring	64.0					64.0
Water Services						
Structural Improvements	350.0	230.3				580.3
Improved Ventilation						
Major Garage Works						
Codependant Asbestos Removal						
Special capital works - Lift Replacement						
Capital Salaries for Improvement / Renewal Works						
Total Stock Condition Survey Works	-65.4	5.3	-225.0	-225.0	-225.0	-735.1
Climate Change Works:						
Environmental - Roof Coverings		400.0	225.0			625.0
Solar Panels - Roof Covering Works	300.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	2,300.0
Environmental - Window/Door Replacement	100.0					100.0
Environmental Central Heating Replacement						
Thermal Improvement Works						
Environmental Works						
Environmental Works: Tenant Participation Projects						
Environmental Improvement works - The Crest	100.0	500.0				600.0
Environmental Improvement works - The Crest Water Main Rep.		200.0				200.0
Total Climate Change Works	500.0	1,600.0	725.0	500.0	500.0	3,825.0

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	TOTAL
	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Fire Safety Works:						
Fire & Building safety in Multi Occupancy Use Blocks						
Total Fire Safety Works						
Decarbonisation Grant Works						
LAD 1B BEIS - Green Homes Grant Match Funde Works	99.6					99.6
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	-957.2					-957.2
LAD 2 Match Funding	154.6					154.6
LAD 3 BEIS - Sustainable Warmth Grant - HUG	3,630.6					3,630.6
LAD 3 Match Funded Works	137.9					137.9
BEIS Wave 2 Grant Funded Works		1,093.6	1,093.6	546.8		2,734.1
BEIS Wave 2 Match Funded Works		3,265.5	3,265.5	1,632.7		8,163.6
BEIS Wave 2 Match Funded Ancillary Works		248.4	248.4	124.2		621.1
Total Grant Funded Works	3,065.5	4,607.5	4,607.5	2,303.8		14,584.3
Total Improvement / Renewal Variations 2021/22 vs 2022/23	15,811.5	28,408.1	19,781.5	4,055.8	275.0	68,331.9
Total HRA Housing Investment Programme Construction and Improvement Variations	40,301.0	46,900.8	38,280.2	22,560.7	18,786.2	166,828.9

	Latest Budget 2022/23 £'000	Proposed Expend. 2023/24 £'000	Proposed Expend. 2024/25 £'000	Proposed Expend. 2025/26 £'000	Proposed Expend. 2026/27 £'000	TOTAL 2022/23 to 2026/27 £'000
Capital Programme Summary						
Strategic Leadership	1,526.4	75.0				1,601.4
Customer & Digital Services	179.0	1,392.5	494.0	618.0	480.0	3,163.5
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	13,224.6	16,996.2	3,305.2			33,526.0
Finance Portfolio	139.5					139.5
Neighbourhood & Assets	13,868.4	624.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	14,732.4
Place, Arts & Economy	14,741.7	14,368.8	4,220.0			33,330.6
Total General Fund Capital Programme	43,679.7	33,456.5	8,099.2	698.0	560.0	86,493.5
Strategic Leadership						
Commonwealth Games - General	87.4					87.4
Commonwealth Games - Leamington Station	944.0					944.0
Commonwealth Games - Green Parks Enhancements	370.0					370.0
Bowling Greens - Commonwealth Games	20.0					20.0
Railway Line Spur To Draycote Water (Sustrans)	25.0	25.0				50.0
St. Mary's Church Tower Restoration	50.0	50.0				100.0
Warwick Station Fence	30.0					30.0
Total Strategic Leadership	1,526.4	75.0	-	-	-	1,601.4
Customer & Digital Services						
Desktop infrastructure	11.0	37.0	200.0	125.0	30.0	403.0
Mobile Phone Replacement		20.0			20.0	40.0
Virtualisation Servers		10.0				10.0
Infrastructure Replacement-ESX Servers (x5)		60.0				60.0
Infrastructure general	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	72.0
Backup solution		100.0				100.0
Voice of IP telephone system	8.0	67.0			80.0	155.0
Storage Area Network (SAN)		170.0			181.0	351.0
Network devices LAN & WAN	14.0	360.0	14.5	14.5	69.5	472.5
Contact Centre		58.0			60.0	118.0
Physical server replacement		46.0	15.0		25.0	86.0
Relocation to Crown Hosting Site		50.0				50.0
UPS		10.0		14.0		24.0
Committee Services Software Replacement		20.0				20.0
Regulatory Services Software			200.0	50.0		250.0
Revenues and Benefits Replacement or Renewal				400.0		400.0
Software/Digital - Strategy Seed Funding		300.0	50.0			350.0
Software/Digital - GIS		70.0				70.0
Cyber Security Posture	100.0					100.0
Transforming Our Workplace	10.0					10.0
AV Kit	22.0					22.0
Total Customer & Digital Services	179.0	1,392.5	494.0	618.0	480.0	3,163.5
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment						
Castle Farm sports pitch drainage		73.0				73.0
Abbey Fields LC New Building	1,156.8	9,455.2				10,612.0
Castle Farm LC New Building	10,031.8	6,512.4				16,544.2
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Abbey Fields			496.7			496.7
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Castle Farm		200.8				200.8
St. John's Playing Fields Basketball Court Extension and New Footpath	12.1					12.1
Newbold Comyn Pavilion Refurbishment	4.9					4.9
Athletics Facility Relocation	238.0					238.0
Myton footpath/cycleway	147.0					147.0
CCTV replacement system	53.0					53.0
Health & Community Protection IT system	98.6	27.5				126.1
Play area improvement programme	15.0	260.0				275.0
Victoria Park Play Area	355.0					355.0
Pump Rooms Gardens restoration	2.0					2.0
Community Stadium project	40.0	256.0				296.0
Tach Brook Country Park	93.0	166.5	2,808.6			3,068.1
Newbold Comyn Masterplan & Cycling Facilities	883.5					883.5
Skate park in St. Nicholas Park		38.8				38.8
Pottertons Landscaping Works	9.0	6.0				15.0
Spa Centre Lights and Radio Microphones	85.0					85.0
Total Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	13,224.6	16,996.2	3,305.2	-	-	33,526.0
Finance						
Rural & Urban Initiatives	100.0					100.0
Financial Management System	39.5					39.5
Total Finance	139.5	-	-	-	-	139.5
Neighbourhood & Assets						
Car park pay & display machines	30.1					30.1
Warwick Town Wall	100.0					100.0
Waste Contract Costs for Depot (Stratford Rd and one-off costs)	113.0					113.0
Frontline Vehicle Fleet (SDC/WDC)	8,609.1					8,609.1
Recycling bins & caddies	1,955.2					1,955.2
Recycling and refuse containers	86.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	406.0
Sherbourne Resource Park Development Costs and Long-term Loan	2,975.0	544.0				3,519.0
Total Neighbourhood & Assets	13,868.4	624.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	14,732.4
Place, Arts & Economy						
Villiers Street Land Purchase	58.2					58.2
Development, Building Control and LLPG Replacement.		250.0	50.0			300.0
Cycle Improvements at Leamington Station	60.0					60.0
CFS Aeroproducts relocation to Warwick loan	100.0					100.0
Kenilworth School loan	11,881.4					11,881.4
Future High Street-Town Hall	175.0	1,563.0				1,738.0
Future High Street-Spencer Yard	1,235.5	3,649.3				4,884.7
Future High Street-Former Stoneleigh Arms	150.0	2,860.3				3,010.3
Future High Street-Sorting Office	100.0	5,040.0	4,170.0			9,310.0
Future High Street-Sustainable Movement		1,006.3				1,006.3
Lord Leicester Hospital	60.0					60.0
Leper Hospital regeneration	921.6					921.6
Total Place, Arts & Economy	14,741.7	14,368.8	4,220.0	-	-	33,330.6

General Fund Capital Programme Financing 2022/23 to 2026/27

Appendix 9 Part 3

Source	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Internal / External Borrowing	31,748.5	13,511.6	-	-	-	45,260.1
Capital Receipts	4,480.5	3,416.0		-	-	7,896.5
External Contributions	4,617.9	13,140.5	6,978.6	-	-	24,736.9
Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay	409.3	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	729.3
Service Transformation Reserve	1,269.7	66.4				1,336.1
Equipment Renewal Reserve	85.0		-	-	-	85.0
Public Amenity Reserve	-	213.3	-	-	-	213.3
Planning Public Open Space Reserve	277.6	-	-	-	-	277.6
Community Projects Reserve	450.8	75.0	-	-	-	525.8
Leisure Options Reserve		200.8	496.7			697.5
Car Parks R & M Reserve	17.5		-	-	-	17.5
Parking Displacement Reserve	275.8		-	-	-	275.8
ICT Replacement Reserve	47.0	1,642.5	544.0	618.0	480.0	3,331.5
Enterprise Reserve	-	137.6		-	-	137.6
Covent Garden MSCP Reserve	-	900.0		-	-	900.0
Capital Investment Reserve	-	73.0	-	-	-	73.0
Funding	43,679.7	33,456.6	8,099.2	698.0	560.0	86,493.5

Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Financing Strategy 2022/23 to 2031/32

Appendix 9 Part 4

Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Financing:	2022/23 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2024/25 £'000's	2025/26 £'000's	2026/27 £'000's	2027/28 £'000's	2028/29 £'000's	2029/30 £'000's	2030/31 £'000's	2030/32 £'000's	Total £'000's
Capital receipts: Buy Back	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	500.0
Capital Receipts: One for One replacement	550.0	450.0	450.0	2,316.7	450.0	1,050.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0	7,066.7
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	5,183.3	9,213.9	6,513.9	4,756.9	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	43,668.0
Major Repairs Reserve	7,092.7	6,864.6	6,465.4	6,246.6	6,252.9	6,259.3	6,265.9	6,272.6	6,279.5	6,279.5	64,278.9
S 106 Affordable Housing Contributions	793.1										793.1
Shared Ownership Sales Capital Receipts	535.4	2,162.0	812.3	477.5	477.5	477.3					4,942.0
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Turpin Court Garage Site	570.0										570.0
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Juniper Way		6,000									6,000.0
HRA Market Rate Cross Subsidy Capital Receipts - Cubbington Riding School	4,989.8										4,989.8
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	293.2										293.2
LAD 3 BEIS - Sustainable Warmth Grant - On Gas Delivery	5,792.6										5,792.6
BEIS WAVE 2 Grant Funding		1,094	1,094	547							2,734.1
HRA Additional Borrowing	14,450.9	21,066.6	22,895.0	8,166.1	8,555.8	7,956.0					83,090.5
Housing Revenue Account Related HIP Financing	40,301.0	46,900.8	38,280.2	22,560.7	18,786.2	18,792.7	9,765.9	9,772.6	9,779.5	9,779.5	224,719.0

Estimated Housing Investment Programme Resources at:-	31/3/2022 £'000's	31/3/2023 £'000's	31/3/2024 £'000's	31/3/2025 £'000's	31/3/2026 £'000's	31/3/2027 £'000's	31/3/2028 £'000's	31/3/2029 £'000's	31/3/2030 £'000's
Capital Receipts: One for One replacement & Buy Back Allowance	96.7	686.7	1,276.7	1,866.7		600.0		600.0	1,200.0
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	29,206.2	21,022.9	13,809.0	9,295.1	6,538.1	5,538.1	4,538.1	3,538.1	2,538.1
Major Repairs Reserve	6,149.6	5,206.5	4,491.5	4,175.7	4,078.7	3,975.4	3,865.7	3,749.4	3,626.3
HRA Shared Ownership Capital Receipts from New Build Acquisitions	535.4	2,496.8	812.3	477.5	477.5	955.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
S 106 Affordable Housing Contributions	793.1								
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Turpin Court	570.0								
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Juniper Way		6,000.0							
HRA Market Rate Cross Subsidy Capital Receipts - Cubbington Riding School	5,412.6								
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	293.2								
LAD 3 BEIS - Sustainable Warmth Grant - On Gas Delivery & Private Sector Lanlord Contributions	5,792.6								
BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation WAVE 2 Grant Funding		1,093.6	1,093.6	546.8					
Total Housing Investment Programme Resources	48,849.4	36,506.5	21,483.1	16,361.8	11,094.4	11,068.6	8,403.8	7,887.5	7,364.5

General Fund Programme & Resources

Appendix 9 Part 5

Capital Programme 2022/23 to 2026/27

	Proposed expenditure					Total £'000
	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	
Capital summary						
Strategic Leadership	1,526.4	75.0	-	-	-	1,601.4
Customer & Digital Services	179.0	1,392.5	494.0	618.0	480.0	3,163.5
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	13,224.6	16,996.2	3,305.2	-	-	33,526.0
Finance Portfolio	139.5	-	-	-	-	139.5
Neighbourhood & Assets	13,868.4	1,095.3	80.0	80.0	80.0	15,203.8
Place, Arts & Economy	14,741.7	14,368.8	4,220.0	-	-	33,330.6
Total capital programme (A)	43,679.7	33,927.9	8,099.2	698.0	560.0	86,964.8
Capital resources brought forward						
Usable Capital receipts	-	-	-	-	-	
Capital Investment Reserve	1,356.2	1,456.2	1,383.2	1,383.2	1,383.2	
Public Amenity Reserve	243.5	513.5	300.2	300.2	300.2	
Equipment Renewal Reserve	516.9	106.7	50.6	102.6	192.6	
ICT Replacement Reserve #	162.1	668.9	-3.7	-460.2	-964.7	
Total capital resources brought forward (B)	2,278.7	2,745.3	1,730.4	1,325.9	911.4	
Additions in year to resources						
Borrowing / leasing	31,748.5	13,511.6	-	-	-	45,260.1
Capital receipts	4,480.5	3,416.0	-	-	-	7,896.5
External contributions	4,617.9	13,240.5	6,978.6	-	-	24,837.0
Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay (RCCO)	409.3	80.0	80.0	80.0	80.0	729.3
Capital Investment Reserve (net increase)	-100.0	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Other reserves used for capital financing	2,423.5	3,235.5	1,040.7	618.0	-	7,317.7
Total additions to capital resources in year (C)	43,579.7	33,483.6	8,099.3	698.0	80.0	85,940.6
Total available capital resources (B+C)	45,858.4	36,228.9	9,829.7	2,023.9	991.4	85,940.6
less : Capital programme expenditure as above (A)	43,679.7	33,927.9	8,099.2	698.0	560.0	86,964.8
Capital resources carried forward (B+C-A)	2,178.7	2,301.0	1,730.5	1,325.9	431.4	
Reduction in capital resources brought forward (C - A)	-100.0	-444.3	0.1	-	-480.0	-1,024.2

Note: # ICT Reserve is expected to have a negative balance in 2024/25 to 2026/27.

Housing Investment Programme (HIP) 2022/23 to 2031/32

Appendix 9 Part 2

Activity Description	Actual Spend	Budgeted Spending Plan									
Construction / Acquisition of Housing:	2022/23 Revised £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2024/25 £'000's	2025/26 £'000's	2026/27 £'000's	2027/28 £'000's	2028/29 £'000's	2029/30 £'000's	2030/31 £'000's	2031/32 £'000's	Total £'000's
Repurchase of Ex-Council Housing	669	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	5,169
Purchase of Property	0										0
Purchase of property	0										0
Purchase of property	192										192
Refurbishment	1,786										1,786
Purchase of land	0										0
Development	2,941										2,941
Purchase of Land	0										0
Development	4,990										4,990
Purchase of property	5,826										5,826
Purchase of Land	0										0
Purchase of property	0										0
Purchase of property	384										384
Development	1,554										1,554
Purchase of property	1,500	16,567	9,033	9,033	9,033	9,033					54,200
Purchase of property	3,200	6,500	3,300								13,000
Development	589	8,162	11,374	1,477							21,602
Total Construction / Acquisition of Housing	23,630	31,729	24,207	11,010	9,533	9,533	500	500	500	500	111,643

Improvement / Renewal Works:	2022/23 £'000's	2023/24 £'000's	2024/25 £'000's	2025/26 £'000's	2026/27 £'000's	2027/28 £'000's	2028/29 £'000's	2029/30 £'000's	2030/31 £'000's	2031/32 £'000's	Total £'000's
Stock Condition Survey Works:											
Aids & Adaptations	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	647.1	6,471.0
Defective Flooring	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	593.0
Door Entry/Security/Safety Systems	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	1,500.0
Kitchen & Bathroom Fittings / Sanitaryware Replacement	745.6	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	9,745.6
Electrical Fitments / Rewiring	676.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	612.4	6,188.0
Water Services	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	91.0
Structural Improvements	600.0	250.0	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.7	1,007.6
Improved Ventilation	35.0	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	77.3
Major Garage Works	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.6	246.0
Codependant Asbestos Removal	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	2,000.0
Special capital works - Lift Replacement	300.0	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	1,650.0
Capital Salaries for Improvement / Renewal Works	291.8	303.6	309.7	315.9	322.2	328.6	335.2	341.9	348.8	348.8	3,246.5
Total Stock Condition Survey Works	3,738.9	3,410.8	3,186.6	3,192.8	3,199.1	3,205.5	3,212.1	3,218.8	3,225.7	3,225.7	32,815.9
Climate Change & Environmental Works:											
Environmental - Roof Coverings	925.0	925.0	750.0	525.0	525.0	525.0	525.0	525.0	525.0	525.0	6,275.0
Solar Panels - Roof Covering Works	300.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0	4,800.0
Environmental - Window/Door Replacement	635.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	535.0	5,450.0
Environmental Central Heating Replacement	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	1,239.8	12,398.0
Thermal Improvement Works	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	141.3	1,413.0
Environmental Works	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	750.0
Environmental Works: Tenant Participation Projects	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	37.7	377.0
Environmental Improvement works - The Crest	100.0	500.0									600.0
Environmental Improvement works - The Crest Water Main Repairs		200.0									200.0

Activity Description	Actual Spend	Budgeted Spending Plan									
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	Total
Construction / Acquisition of Housing:	2022/23 Revised £'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's	£'000's
Total Climate Change Works	3,453.8	4,153.8	3,278.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	3,053.8	32,263.0
Fire Safety Works:											
Fire & Building safety in Multi Occupancy Use Blocks	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	30,000.0
Total Fire Safety Works	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	30,000.0
Decarbonisation Grant Works											
LAD 1B BEIS - Green Homes Grant Match Funded Works	99.6										99.6
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	293.2										293.2
LAD 2 Match Funding	154.6										154.6
LAD 3 BEIS - Sustainable Warmth Grant - HUG	5,792.6										5,792.6
LAD 3 Match Funded Works	137.9										137.9
BEIS Wave 2 Grant Funded Works		1,093.6	1,093.6	546.8							2,734.1
BEIS Wave 2 Match Funded Works		3,265.5	3,265.5	1,632.7							8,163.6
BEIS Wave 2 Match Funded Ancillary Works		248.4	248.4	124.2							621.1
Total Grant Funded Works	6,477.9	4,607.5	4,607.5	2,303.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17,996.7
Total Improvement/Renewal Works	16,670.6	15,172.1	14,072.9	11,550.3	9,252.9	9,259.3	9,265.9	9,272.6	9,279.5	9,279.5	113,075.6
Total Housing Investment Programme Expenditure	40,301.0	46,900.8	38,280.2	22,560.7	18,786.2	18,792.7	9,765.9	9,772.6	9,779.5	9,779.5	224,719.0

HRA Rent Setting Report - Rent Summary

Historic Rent Regime Weekly Rents - Formula, Current and Proposed Social Rents

- The Historic Rent Regime levels are slightly lower than Target Formula Rent
- It is estimated that approximately 2000 HRA dwellings are currently paying Target Formula Rents with approximately 400 dwellings per year transferring from the historic rents policy

Number of Bedrooms	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24	
	Historic Rents - Weekly Rent - Averages	Historic Rents - Proposed Weekly Rent - Averages	Proposed Average Weekly Rent 7% (Rent Cap %)	Increase in Weekly Rent 7% (Rent Cap %)
Studio	£66.43	£71.08	£4.65	7.0%
1	£83.73	£89.60	£5.86	7.0%
2	£92.08	£98.53	£6.45	7.0%
3	£104.24	£111.54	£7.30	7.0%
4	£113.71	£121.67	£7.96	7.0%
5	£154.37	£165.18	£10.81	7.0%
Averages Based on all HRA Social Rent Stock	£94.09	£100.68	£6.59	7.0%

Target Formula Weekly Rents - Formula, Current and Proposed Social Rents

- From April 2016 the national rent policy was updated with all NEW Social Rent Tenancies being charged Target Formula Social Rent
- Target Formula rents are applied when a dwelling becomes void and re-let, existing tenancies prior to this policy change continue under the historic rent regime with inflation linked in line with national rent policy

Number of Bedrooms	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24	
	Target Formula Rent - Averages	Target Formula Rent - Proposed Weekly Rent - Averages	Proposed Average Weekly Rent 7% (Rent Cap %)	Increase in Weekly Rent 7% (Rent Cap %)
Studio	£70.03	£74.93	£4.90	7.0%
1	£89.36	£95.62	£6.26	7.0%
2	£98.05	£104.91	£6.86	7.0%
3	£112.29	£120.15	£7.86	7.0%
4	£125.40	£134.18	£8.78	7.0%
5	£170.25	£182.17	£11.92	7.0%
Averages Based on all HRA Social Rent Stock	£100.69	£107.74	£7.05	7.0%

"Warwick" Affordable Rent - Existing Schemes Only from April 2021

- Prior to April 2021 "Warwick Affordable Rents" were charged which was a local policy to charge a mid point between National Affordable Rents and Target Social Rent
- In 2020 Homes England Investment Partner Status was achieved so National Affordable Rents will now apply from April 2021 on all new Affordable tenancies
- Existing tenants will continue to pay "Warwick Affordable Rents" for the remainder of their tenancy to ensure financial hardship is not caused by this policy change
- The average market rent for "Warwick Affordable Rent" Schemes is based on independent valuations prepared upon completion of Sayer Court (2016) and Bremridge Close (2019) by a RICS registered Valuer.
- The average market rent is based on median weekly rents data from Hometrack
- Affordable rent is calculated at 80% of the market rent
- "Warwick" affordable rent is calculated at the midpoint between affordable rent and target social rent
- Some affordable rents properties are subject to a service charge of £7.39 per week

Number of Bedrooms & Property Type (SC/B denotes different schemes)	2022/23 Rent Per Week	2023/24 Rent Per Week		
	Average "Warwick" Affordable Rent (existing tenancies)	Warwick Affordable Rent *** (existing tenancies Only)	Average Proposed increase for Existing Tenants Only from 1st April 2023	
1 Apartment (SC)	£114.03	£122.01	£7.98	7.0%
2 Apartment (SC)	£138.29	£147.97	£9.68	7.0%
2 Bungalow (SC)	£150.71	£161.26	£10.55	7.0%
3 Bungalow (SC)	£176.78	£189.16	£12.37	7.0%
2 House (B)	£134.92	£144.36	£9.44	7.0%
3 House (B)	£158.37	£169.45	£11.09	7.0%
2 Bungalow (B)	£134.92	£144.36	£9.44	7.0%

National Affordable Rent - New Affordable Schemes from April 2021

- National Affordable Rents Policy will apply to all Affordable Tenancies from April 2021.
- Historic Affordable Housing Stock currently paying "Warwick Affordable" Rents will transfer to the National Affordable rent levels when dwellings become void and are re-let.
- Affordable rent is calculated at 80% of the market rent using the Average Market Rents sourced from Hometrack for the Warwick District area at December 2020

Existing Tenancies

Number of Bedrooms	2021/22 Rent Per Week		2022/23 Rent Per Week			2023/24 Rent Per Week		
	Average Local Market Rent (Hometrack Dec 2020)	Average Affordable Rent - 80% of local Market Rent	Average Affordable Rent - 80% of local Market Rent	Proposed increase for Existing Tenants Only	2022/23 Proposed Average Increase in Weekly Rent 4.1% (CPI 3.1% + 1%)	Average Affordable Rent - 80% of local Market Rent	Proposed increase for Existing Tenants Only	2023/24 Proposed Average Increase in Weekly Rent 7% (Rent Cap %)
1	£159.00	£127.20	£132.42	£5.22	4.1%	£141.68	£9.27	7.0%
2	£196.00	£156.80	£163.23	£6.43	4.1%	£174.65	£11.43	7.0%
3	£259.00	£207.20	£215.70	£8.50	4.1%	£230.79	£15.10	7.0%
4	£350.00	£280.00	£291.48	£11.48	4.1%	£311.88	£20.40	7.0%

New Tenancies from April 2023

Number of Bedrooms	2023/24 Rent Per Week	
	Average Local Market Rent (Hometrack Dec 2022)	Average Affordable Rent - 80% of local Market Rent
1	£173.00	£138.40
2	£219.00	£175.20
3	£300.00	£240.00
4	£392.00	£313.60

WDC HRA Rent Setting Report - Rent Comparisons 2023/24

Comparison to Local Market Rents - WDC Historic Rents Regime - Average Rents

- The overall average rents charged for HRA dwellings are compared with the average market rents
- Median local average private market rents (as at December 2019) from Hometrack
- The Council currently charges Historic Social Rent, Target Formula Social Rent, "Warwick Affordable Rents", National Level Affordable Rents (From April 2021) - All are inflated by CPI+1
- Shared Ownership Rents are excluded from this exercise and inflated by RPI+0.5% in line with the lease agreement

Number of Bedrooms	2022/23 WDC Average Weekly Rent	2023/24 WDC Proposed Average Weekly Rent (inflated by 7% Rent Cap)	Hometrack Local Average Weekly Market Rent (Dec 2022)	Difference between Proposed WDC Rent and Market Rent	Proposed 2022/23 WDC Rent as a % of Market Rent
1 Bedroom	£83.73	£89.60	£173.00	-£83.40	52%
2 Bedroom	£92.08	£98.53	£219.00	-£120.47	45%
3 Bedroom	£104.24	£111.54	£300.00	-£188.46	37%
4 Bedroom	£113.71	£121.67	£392.00	-£270.33	31%
Average 2022/23 Proposed WDC Rent as a % of Market Rent					41%

Comparison to Local Market Rents - Target Formula Rents

- From April 2016 the national rent policy was updated with all NEW Social Rent Tenancies being charged Target Formula Social Rent
- Target Formula rents are applied when a dwelling becomes void and re-let, existing tenancies prior to this policy change continue under the historic rent regime with inflation linked in line with national rent policy
- It is estimated that approximately 1600 HRA dwellings are currently paying Target Formula Rents

Number of Bedrooms	2022/23 WDC Average Formula (Target) Rent	2023/24 WDC Proposed Average Formula (Target) Rent (inflated by CPI+ 1%)	Hometrack Current Local Average Weekly Market Rent	Difference 2023/24 WDC Formula Rent to Market Rent	2023/24 WDC Formula Rent as a % of Market Rent
1 Bedroom	£89.36	£95.62	£173.00	-£77.38	55%
2 Bedroom	£98.05	£104.91	£219.00	-£114.09	48%
3 Bedroom	£112.29	£120.15	£300.00	-£179.85	40%
4 Bedroom	£125.40	£134.18	£392.00	-£257.82	34%

Comparison to Local Market Rents - Affordable Rents (National Level)

- Prior to April 2021 "Warwick Affordable Rents" were charged but Homes England Investment Partner Status was achieved in 2020 so National Affordable Rent applies from April 2021 on all new Affordable tenancies

Number of Bedrooms	2023/24 Hometrack Local Average Weekly Market Rent	2023/24 Affordable Rent 80% Local Market Rent	Difference 2023/24 Affordable Rent to Local Market Rent	2023/24 Affordable Rent as a % of Market Rent
1 Bedroom	£173.00	£138.40	-£34.60	80%
2 Bedroom	£219.00	£175.20	-£43.80	80%
3 Bedroom	£300.00	£240.00	-£60.00	80%
4 Bedroom	£392.00	£313.60	-£78.40	80%

Comparison to National Formula Rent Caps - Target Formula Rent

- Annual Target Formula Rent Caps represent the highest possible rents that can be charged to Social Housing tenants.
- The Rent Cap Data is as per the Regulator of Social Housing Publication "Limit on annual rent increases 2021-22"
- Formula Rent Caps are applicable from the 1st April each year

Number of Bedrooms	Target Formula Rent Caps for 2023-24 + 7% Rent Cap as data not yet published.	WDC Average Formula Rents 2023/24	Difference between WDC Average Formula Rents and Rent Cap	WDC Rents as a % of Formula Rent Caps
1 Bedroom	£166.63	£95.62	-£71.02	57%
2 Bedroom	£176.41	£104.91	-£71.50	59%
3 Bedroom	£186.21	£120.15	-£66.06	65%
4 Bedroom	£196.00	£134.18	-£61.82	68%

Comparison to Local Housing Allowance Limit - Target Formula Rent

- LHA (Local Housing Allowance) is the cap for housing benefit for those who rent privately, subject to other eligibility criteria.
- Rates shown are for the Warwickshire South Broad Rental Market Area, December 2020 sourced from the Valuation Office Agency via Direct Gov
- LHA does not apply to council tenants; it is shown to illustrate the highest rents that can be supported by housing benefit in the private rented sector.

Number of Bedrooms	LHA Local Housing Allowance Limit ** (Dec 2022)	WDC Average Formula Rents 2023/24	Difference between WDC Average Formula Rents and LHA	WDC Rents as a % of LHA Rent Caps
1 Bedroom	£143.84	£95.62	-£48.22	66%
2 Bedroom	£172.60	£104.91	-£67.69	61%
3 Bedroom	£207.12	£120.15	-£86.97	58%
4 Bedroom	£276.16	£134.18	-£141.98	49%

Appendix 3 - HRA Budgets 2022/23 - 2023/24

HOUSING SERVICES - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT		Outturn 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	Latest Budget 2022/23	Original Budget 2023/24	Variance 2022/23	Variance 2023/24
		£ A	£ B	£ C	£ D	£ C - B	£ D - B
6999 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT							
EXPENDITURE							
10-0-6999-10000-64500	Housing Repairs Supervision	698,432	942,000	942,000	942,000	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62111	HRA Repairs and Maintenance	6,228,207	6,350,100	7,705,500	8,424,500	1,355,400	2,074,400
10-0-6999-10000-62201	Electricity	36	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62202	Gas	14	3,000	3,000	12,000	0	9,000
10-0-6999-10000-62204	Wood Fuel - Bio-Mass boiler	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62400	Rates	44,984	50,600	50,600	50,600	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62401	Council Tax	281,586	145,100	145,100	145,100	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62500	Water Rates	48,183	42,300	42,300	42,300	0	0
	PREMISES	7,301,442	7,533,100	8,888,500	9,616,500	1,355,400	2,083,400
10-0-6999-10000-65105	Debt Recovery Agency Costs	0	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64503	Grants-Revenue	810	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64950	Contributions To Provisions	0	77,200	77,200	77,200	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64951	Bad Debts Provision	(31,782)	402,600	402,600	402,600	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-67001	Inter department Charges	0	0	119,400	0	119,400	0
	SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	(30,971)	483,900	603,300	483,900	119,400	0
10-0-6999-10000-67000	Supervision & Management - General	2,810,027	2,602,800	3,557,800	4,376,200	955,000	1,773,400
10-0-6999-10000-67101	Supervision & Management - Special	3,348,872	3,726,100	4,633,000	4,864,100	906,900	1,138,000
	SUPPORT SERVICES	6,158,898	6,328,900	8,190,800	9,240,300	1,861,900	2,911,400
10-0-6999-10000-68100	Depreciation on Equipment	5,604,451	6,206,500	6,206,500	6,206,500	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-68101	Depreciation on Council Dwellings	497,509	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-68102	Depreciation on Other HRA Properties	47,597	0	0	0	0	0
	CAPITAL CHARGES	6,149,557	6,206,500	6,206,500	6,206,500	0	0
	GROSS EXPENDITURE	19,578,926	20,552,400	23,889,100	25,547,200	3,336,700	4,994,800
INCOME							
10-0-6999-10000-43000	Fees+Charges General	0	(2,000)	0	0	2,000	2,000
10-0-6999-10000-43021	Other Licences	(745)	(4,200)	(4,200)	(4,200)	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43016	Heating Charges	(580,590)	(574,100)	(206,000)	(209,500)	368,100	364,600
10-0-6999-10000-43034	Service Charges	(20,000)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43001	Service Charges Leasehold	(6,737)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43500	Rents-Others	(1,082,287)	(1,883,500)	(353,700)	(353,700)	1,529,800	1,529,800
10-0-6999-10000-43501	Rents-Housing	(25,736,608)	(26,341,100)	(26,341,100)	(28,185,000)	0	(1,843,900)
10-0-6999-10000-43502	Rents-Shared Ownership	(54,422)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(107,000)	0	(7,000)
10-0-6999-10000-43503	Rents-Garages	0	0	(764,900)	(767,900)	(764,900)	(767,900)
10-0-6999-10000-43504	Use and Occupation - Homeless	0	0	(33,000)	(33,000)	(33,000)	(33,000)
10-0-6999-10000-43505	Rents-Affordable	0	0	(731,800)	(783,100)	(731,800)	(783,100)
10-0-6999-10000-43506	Recharges - Water	0	0	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)
10-0-6999-10000-43507	Recharges - Heating & Lighting	0	0	(335,700)	(335,700)	(335,700)	(335,700)
10-0-6999-10000-69002	General Fund	(39,400)	(38,700)	(38,700)	(38,700)	0	0
	GROSS INCOME	(27,520,789)	(28,943,600)	(28,943,600)	(30,852,300)	0	(1,908,700)
	NET INCOME FROM SERVICES	(7,941,864)	(8,391,200)	(5,054,500)	(5,305,100)	3,336,700	3,086,100
10-0-6999-40010-49003	Interest-Balances	(15,100)	(304,200)	418,200	1,374,000	722,400	1,678,200
10-0-6999-40013-69101	Capital Charges - Adj	0	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	0	0
	NET OPERATIONAL INCOME	(7,956,964)	(8,795,400)	(4,736,300)	(4,031,100)	4,059,100	4,764,300
APPROPRIATIONS							
10-0-6999-10000-68000	Reversal of Notional Interest	14,585,100	14,357,000	0	0	(14,357,000)	(14,357,000)
10-0-6999-10000-68001	Reversal of Notional Interest	(14,585,100)	(14,357,000)	0	0	14,357,000	14,357,000
10-0-6999-40009-68002	External Interest	4,765,564	4,765,600	4,765,600	4,765,600	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69000	Approp HRA Resource Equiv to Depn to MRR	(6,149,557)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69013	Approp from CAA to Offset HRA Resources	6,149,557	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40003-69001	Capital financing	3,273,754	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40003-69310	Cap Fin-Rev Contr to Cap Outlay(GF+HIP)	0	119,600	119,600	119,600	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69002	Cont from Reserves	464,636	73,400	73,400	73,400	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69014	Contrib HRA Capital Invest Reserve (Dr)	3,893,321	4,220,700	281,000	(652,400)	(3,939,700)	(4,873,100)
10-0-6999-40002-49321	Recognised gains/losses -asset sales	2,221,225	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40008-69011	F Assets sales b/s val trf to I & E a/c	(2,221,225)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69001	Capital financing	(3,177,863)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-49002	Cont from Reserves	(650,300)	(100,000)	(219,400)	(100,000)	(119,400)	0
10-0-6999-40001-69200	employee benefits accruals (cr)	9,139	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40016-49200	Net IAS19 Charges for Retirement Benefits	(1,251,006)	(878,800)	(878,800)	(1,490,200)	0	(611,400)
10-0-6999-40006-69102	Employers Contribs payable to Pension Fd	421,950	402,000	402,000	928,800	0	526,800
10-0-6999-40012-69302	Pensions Interest+Rate of Return Assets	169,070	165,700	165,700	359,100	0	193,400
	TRANSFER (TO) / FROM HRA RESERVE	(38,700)	(27,200)	(27,200)	(27,200)	0	0
	Balance Brought Forward	(1,482,900)	(1,513,100)	(1,513,100)	(1,540,300)		
	HRA BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	(1,521,600)	(1,540,300)	(1,540,300)	(1,567,500)	0	0

Appendix 4 - 2023/24 Sheltered Heating, Lighting and Miscellaneous Charges

The Charges necessary to fully recover costs are calculated annually from average consumption over the last 3 years, updated for current costs. The use of an average ensures that seasonal and yearly variations are reflected in the calculation

As Heating, Lighting and water charges are intended to be cost recovery it is proposed that from 2019/20 the charges are agreed following the methodology above by the Head of Housing, Head of Finance and in consultation with the relevant portfolio holders, any changes to the income will be reflected in the HRA rent setting report.

Heating, Lighting and Miscellaneous Recharges	Current Charge per Week 2022/23	Proposed Charge per Week 2023/24	Proposed Increase/ (Decrease) per week 2023/24	Total Cost per year
Acorn Court, Stockton Grove, Lillington, Royal Leamington Spa	£	£	£	
No's 1-12, 14-41	12.95	21.4	8.45	1,112.80
No's 43, 44, 46, 47 (Misc. Charge Only)	1.85	1.85	0	96.20
Tannery Court, Bertie Road, Kenilworth				
No's 1, 2, 4-6, 7a, 8-12, 22a, 14-40	11.40	11.70	0.30	608.40
Yeomanry Close, Priory Road, Warwick				
No's 1-12,14-32	12.15	18.1	5.95	941.20
James Court, Weston Close, Warwick				
No's 1-12, 14-26	10.50	15.00	4.50	780.00
Chandos Court, Chandos Street, Royal Leamington Spa				
No's 1-12,11a, 25a,14-46	15.35	25.25	9.90	1,313.00
Radcliffe Gardens, Brunswick Street, Royal Leamington Spa				
Bedsits and 1 Bed Flats	9.55	20.30	10.75	1,055.60
2 Bedroom Flats	14.30	30.45	16.15	1,583.40

Water Recharges Weekly Cost Analysis	Acorn Court	Tannery Court	Yeomanry Close	James Court	Chandos Court
	£	£	£	£	£
Charge payable for 2022/23 per week	3.97	4.13	2.86	2.91	3.55
Proposed weekly charge 2023/24 per week	3.55	4.03	2.64	5.51	3.82
Difference between 2022/23 & 2023/24	-0.43	-0.11	-0.22	2.60	0.27

Total Cost per year	184.36	209.45	137.42	286.38	198.79
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Title: The Setting of the Council Tax for the Area of Warwick District
Council 2023/24

Lead Officer: Andrew Rollins (01926 456013)

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Hales

Wards of the District directly affected: N/A

Approvals required	Date	Name
Portfolio Holder	23/02/23	Cllr Hales
Finance	23/02/23	Andrew Rollins
Legal Services		
Chief Executive	23/02/23	Chris Elliot
Head of Service(s)	23/02/23	Andrew Rollins
Section 151 Officer	23/02/23	Andrew Rollins
Monitoring Officer	23/02/23	Andrew Jones
Leadership Co-ordination Group		
Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Cttee / Council?	Yes	
Contrary to Policy / Budget framework?	No	
Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?	No	
Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?	No	
Accessibility Checked?	Yes	

Summary

The report sets the Council Tax for the area of Warwick District, incorporating its own Budget which is borne by Council Tax, along with the precepts from the other authorities within the area.

Recommendations

- (1)** That the following, as set out in the Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 (Cabinet recommendations, 9 February 2023 and Appendix 3) and 2023/24 Budget Book (Appendix 4 – to follow electronically), be approved:-
 - (a) the Revenue Budgets for 2023/24
 - (b) the Capital Programme for 2023/24
 - (2)** That Council notes the amounts for the 2023/24 Warwick District Tax Base
 - (3)** That Council notes the amounts for the 2023/24 Warwick District Council's Council Tax, including Parish / Town Council precepts (Appendix 1)
 - (4)** That Council notes the amounts for the 2023/24 Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner precepts
 - (5)** That Council approves the total Council Tax for the District for each band in each Parish / Town Council (Appendix 2).
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Reasons for the Recommendations

1.1 Warwick District Tax Base

The Council notes the following amounts for the year 2023/24, in accordance with regulations made under Section 31B (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- a) 57,669.62 being the amount calculated, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 as amended, as its council tax base for the year.

Parish / Town Council	Tax Base 2023/24
Baddesley Clinton	113.85
Baginton	313.34
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	966.34
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	337.79
Bishops Tachbrook	2,610.84
Bubbenhall	314.02
Budbrooke	929.48
Burton Green	728.88
Bushwood (No Parish Council)	14.20
Cubbington	1,597.04
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	332.44
Hatton	956.64
Kenilworth	9,984.68
Lapworth	999.10
Leamington Spa	17,226.33
Leek Wootton	532.42
Norton Lindsey	225.32
Old Milverton & Blackdown	175.13
Radford Semele	1,069.46
Rowington	571.62
Shrewley	424.02
Stoneleigh & Ashow	459.66
Warwick	13,002.15
Weston-under-Wetherley	190.08
Whitnash	3,594.78
Total Warwick District Council Area	57,669.62

- b) Part of the Council's Area being the amounts calculated, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations as amended, as the amounts of its council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area.

1.2 Calculation of Warwick District Council's Council Tax, including Parish / Town Council precepts.

That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2023/24 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended:-

a) £97,539,400

being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2)(a) to (f) of the Act (Gross Expenditure including parish/town council precepts).

b) £85,196,243.48

being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3)(a) to (d) of the Act (Gross Income).

c) £12,343,156.52

being the amount by which the aggregate at 1.2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1.2(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax Requirement for the year.

d) £214.03

being the amount at 1.2(c) above divided by the amount at 1.1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year (Average Warwick District Council Tax, including parish/town precepts).

e) £2,143,708

being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (Total parish/town council precepts).

f) £176.86

being the amount at 1.2(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1.2(e) above by the amount at 1.1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates (Warwick District Council Tax excluding parish/town council precepts).

g) Part of the Council's Area

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 1.2(f) above, the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above 1.2(e) divided in each case by the amount at 1.1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate (Warwick District Council plus parish/town council's Council Tax for each parish/town council at Band D).

Parish / Town Council	Band D 2023/24 £
Baddesley Clinton	207.60
Baginton	231.12
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	241.80
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	204.98
Bishops Tachbrook	231.25
Bubbenhall	234.18
Budbrooke	219.34
Burton Green	204.99
Bushwood	176.86
Cubbington	215.71
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	227.35
Hatton	192.07
Kenilworth	199.64
Lapworth	201.48
Royal Leamington Spa	202.55
Leek Wootton	216.30
Norton Lindsey	223.46
Old Milverton & Blackdown	219.69
Radford Semele	210.94
Rowington	214.35
Shrewley	193.77
Stoneleigh & Ashow	218.05
Warwick	221.65
Weston-under-Wetherley	233.95
Whitnash	267.76

- h) The amounts shown in Appendices 1 and 1a, attached, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 1.2(g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands (Warwick District Council plus parish/town council Council's Tax for each parish/town council for each Band).

1.3 Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Precepts

That it be noted for the year 2023/24, Warwickshire County Council and Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Band	Warwickshire County Council	Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner
	£	£
A	1,102.38	184.47
B	1,286.11	215.22
C	1,469.84	245.96
D	1,653.57	276.71
E	2,021.03	338.20
F	2,388.49	399.69
G	2,755.95	461.18
H	3,307.14	553.42

1.4 Total Council Tax for the District for each Band in each Parish / Town Council

That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 1.2(g) and 1.3 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 2 as the amounts of council tax for the year 2023/24 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.

- 1.5** The Cabinet papers for 9 February 2023 contain all the background information on the budget within Item 7, 'General Fund 2023/24 Budget and Council Tax'. The recommendations in this report combine Warwick District Council's element of the Council Tax, with Council Tax levels agreed by Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner, and the town/parish councils for 2023/24. With all these constituent parts, the Council should now be in a position to set the overall levels of Council Tax for the District.

2 Alternative Options

- 2.1** No alternative options are presented

3 Legal Implications

- 3.1** The proposals are in line with current legislation where applicable.

4 Financial

- 4.1** The whole of the Council's budget is concerned with the financing of its priorities. The formal setting of the tax is the arithmetic and technical process of aggregating the council tax levels set for each band by the County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner with those required by this Council, including parish/town councils. The Chief Financial Officer reports directly to Council in order that the council tax can be set in accordance with section 30 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

5 Business Strategy

- 5.1** Warwick District Council has adopted a Business Strategy which sets out key areas for service delivery. Council Tax supports all strands of the Business

Strategy by way of ensuring the necessary financial resources are in place.

5.2 Health, Homes, Communities.

The General Fund aims to support the provision of improved health and wellbeing within cohesive and active communities, housing needs being met for all and impressive cultural and sporting activities / events.

5.3 Green, Clean, Safe.

Whilst this report does not directly include proposals to address the climate emergency the 2023/24 budget, supported by Council Tax, will factor in funding to support the ongoing work relating to Climate Change.

5.4 Infrastructure, Enterprise, Employment.

The recommendations aim to support a dynamic and diverse local economy, with vibrant town centres, improved performance / productivity of the local economy and increase levels of employment and prosperity.

5.5 Effective Staff.

Ensuring the necessary resourcing is in place to support delivery of services.

5.6 Maintain or Improve Services.

The Council's Budget seeks to allocate the Council's financial resources to ensure the Council's services continue to be provided in accordance with Council policies and priorities, and resources for projects are similarly prioritised.

5.7 Firm Financial Footing over the Longer Term.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy seeks to allocate the Council's financial resources, including Council Tax, to ensure the Council's services continue to be provided in accordance with Council policies and priorities, and resources for projects are similarly prioritised.

6 Environmental/Climate Change Implications

6.1 There are no direct environmental or climate change implications arising as part of this report other than the proposed allocations to the Climate Change Reserve as detailed in the report.

7 Analysis of the effects on Equality

7.1 There are no direct equality implications arising as part of this report.

8 Data Protection

8.1 There are no data protection implications arising as part of this report.

9 Health and Wellbeing

9.1 There are no direct health and wellbeing implications arising as part of this report.

10 Risk Assessment

10.1 The Council's Risks, Controls and Mitigations from the proposals are outlined in

section 10 of the General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 Report (Cabinet 9 February 2023 – Item 7).

11 Consultation

11.1 The Warwick District Council element of Council Tax (1.2(f)) has been discussed as part of the General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 Report (Cabinet 9 February 2023 – Item 7).

Background papers:

General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget 2023/24 – (Cabinet 9 February 2023 – Item 7)

WCC and WPCC Precepts – received February 2023

Parish and Town Council Precepts – received December 2022 – February 2023.

Supporting documents:

Appendix 1 – Calculation of Warwick District Council Element including Special Expenses

Appendix 1a – District and Parish/Town Council precept by Band

Appendix 2 - Council Tax Calculations 2023/24 Warwick District Council including Warwickshire County Council And Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner precepts

Appendix 3 – General Fund Summary 2023/24 (updated to include precepts)

Appendix 4 – Budget Book 2023/24 (updated to include precepts)

Budget and Council Tax 2023/24
Calculation of Warwick District Council Element including Special Expenses

	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Warwick District Council	117.91	137.56	157.21	176.86	216.16	255.46	294.77	353.72
PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL								
Baddesley Clinton	138.40	161.47	184.53	207.60	253.73	299.86	346.00	415.20
Baginton	154.08	179.76	205.44	231.12	282.48	333.84	385.20	462.24
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	161.20	188.07	214.93	241.80	295.53	349.26	403.00	483.60
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	136.66	159.43	182.21	204.98	250.53	296.08	341.64	409.96
Bishops Tachbrook	154.17	179.86	205.56	231.25	282.64	334.02	385.42	462.50
Bubbenhall	156.12	182.14	208.16	234.18	286.22	338.26	390.30	468.36
Budbrooke	146.23	170.60	194.97	219.34	268.08	316.82	365.57	438.68
Burton Green	136.66	159.44	182.21	204.99	250.54	296.09	341.65	409.98
Bushwood	117.91	137.56	157.21	176.86	216.16	255.46	294.77	353.72
Cubbington	143.81	167.78	191.74	215.71	263.64	311.58	359.52	431.42
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	151.57	176.83	202.09	227.35	277.87	328.39	378.92	454.70
Hatton	128.05	149.39	170.73	192.07	234.75	277.43	320.12	384.14
Kenilworth	133.10	155.28	177.46	199.64	244.00	288.36	332.74	399.28
Lapworth	134.32	156.71	179.09	201.48	246.25	291.02	335.80	402.96
Royal Leamington Spa	135.04	157.54	180.05	202.55	247.56	292.57	337.59	405.10
Leek Wootton	144.20	168.24	192.27	216.30	264.36	312.43	360.50	432.60
Norton Lindsey	148.98	173.80	198.63	223.46	273.12	322.77	372.44	446.92
Old Milverton & Blackdown	146.46	170.87	195.28	219.69	268.51	317.33	366.15	439.38
Radford Semele	140.63	164.07	187.50	210.94	257.81	304.69	351.57	421.88
Rowington	142.90	166.72	190.53	214.35	261.98	309.61	357.25	428.70
Shrewley	129.18	150.71	172.24	193.77	236.83	279.89	322.95	387.54
Stoneleigh & Ashow	145.37	169.60	193.82	218.05	266.50	314.96	363.42	436.10
Warwick	147.77	172.40	197.02	221.65	270.90	320.16	369.42	443.30
Weston-under-Wetherley	155.97	181.96	207.96	233.95	285.94	337.92	389.92	467.90
Whitnash	178.51	208.26	238.01	267.76	327.26	386.76	446.27	535.52
Proportion of Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9

Budget and Council Tax 2023/24
District and Parish/Town Council by Band

	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Warwick District Council	117.91	137.56	157.21	176.86	216.16	255.46	294.77	353.72
PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL								
Baddesley Clinton	20.49	23.91	27.32	30.74	37.57	44.40	51.23	61.48
Baginton	36.17	42.20	48.23	54.26	66.32	78.38	90.43	108.52
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	43.29	50.51	57.72	64.94	79.37	93.80	108.23	129.88
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	18.75	21.87	25.00	28.12	34.37	40.62	46.87	56.24
Bishops Tachbrook	36.26	42.30	48.35	54.39	66.48	78.56	90.65	108.78
Bubbenhall	38.21	44.58	50.95	57.32	70.06	82.80	95.53	114.64
Budbrooke	28.32	33.04	37.76	42.48	51.92	61.36	70.80	84.96
Burton Green	18.75	21.88	25.00	28.13	34.38	40.63	46.88	56.26
Bushwood								
Cubbington	25.90	30.22	34.53	38.85	47.48	56.12	64.75	77.70
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	33.66	39.27	44.88	50.49	61.71	72.93	84.15	100.98
Hatton	10.14	11.83	13.52	15.21	18.59	21.97	25.35	30.42
Kenilworth	15.19	17.72	20.25	22.78	27.84	32.90	37.97	45.56
Lapworth	16.41	19.15	21.88	24.62	30.09	35.56	41.03	49.24
Royal Leamington Spa	17.13	19.98	22.84	25.69	31.40	37.11	42.82	51.38
Leek Wootton	26.29	30.68	35.06	39.44	48.20	56.97	65.73	78.88
Norton Lindsey	31.07	36.24	41.42	46.60	56.96	67.31	77.67	93.20
Old Milverton & Blackdown	28.55	33.31	38.07	42.83	52.35	61.87	71.38	85.66
Radford Semele	22.72	26.51	30.29	34.08	41.65	49.23	56.80	68.16
Rowington	24.99	29.16	33.32	37.49	45.82	54.15	62.48	74.98
Shrewley	11.27	13.15	15.03	16.91	20.67	24.43	28.18	33.82
Stoneleigh & Ashow	27.46	32.04	36.61	41.19	50.34	59.50	68.65	82.38
Warwick	29.86	34.84	39.81	44.79	54.74	64.70	74.65	89.58
Weston-under-Wetherley	38.06	44.40	50.75	57.09	69.78	82.46	95.15	114.18
Whitnash	60.60	70.70	80.80	90.90	111.10	131.30	151.50	181.80
Proportion of Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9

Council Tax Calculations 2023/24 Warwick District Council
Including Warwickshire County Council And Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner

PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL	BAND A	BAND B	BAND C	BAND D	BAND E	BAND F	BAND G	BAND H
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Baddesley Clinton	1,425.25	1,662.80	1,900.33	2,137.88	2,612.96	3,088.04	3,563.13	4,275.76
Baginton	1,440.93	1,681.09	1,921.24	2,161.40	2,641.71	3,122.02	3,602.33	4,322.80
Barford, Sherbourne & Wasperton	1,448.05	1,689.40	1,930.73	2,172.08	2,654.76	3,137.44	3,620.13	4,344.16
Beausale, Haseley, Honiley & Wroxall	1,423.51	1,660.76	1,898.01	2,135.26	2,609.76	3,084.26	3,558.77	4,270.52
Bishops Tachbrook	1,441.02	1,681.19	1,921.36	2,161.53	2,641.87	3,122.20	3,602.55	4,323.06
Bubbenhall	1,442.97	1,683.47	1,923.96	2,164.46	2,645.45	3,126.44	3,607.43	4,328.92
Budbrooke	1,433.08	1,671.93	1,910.77	2,149.62	2,627.31	3,105.00	3,582.70	4,299.24
Burton Green	1,423.51	1,660.77	1,898.01	2,135.27	2,609.77	3,084.27	3,558.78	4,270.54
Bushwood	1,404.76	1,638.89	1,873.01	2,107.14	2,575.39	3,043.64	3,511.90	4,214.28
Cubbington	1,430.66	1,669.11	1,907.54	2,145.99	2,622.87	3,099.76	3,576.65	4,291.98
Eathorpe, Hunningham, Offchurch, Wappenbury	1,438.42	1,678.16	1,917.89	2,157.63	2,637.10	3,116.57	3,596.05	4,315.26
Hatton	1,414.90	1,650.72	1,886.53	2,122.35	2,593.98	3,065.61	3,537.25	4,244.70
Kenilworth	1,419.95	1,656.61	1,893.26	2,129.92	2,603.23	3,076.54	3,549.87	4,259.84
Lapworth	1,421.17	1,658.04	1,894.89	2,131.76	2,605.48	3,079.20	3,552.93	4,263.52
Royal Leamington Spa	1,421.89	1,658.87	1,895.85	2,132.83	2,606.79	3,080.75	3,554.72	4,265.66
Leek Wootton	1,431.05	1,669.57	1,908.07	2,146.58	2,623.59	3,100.61	3,577.63	4,293.16
Norton Lindsey	1,435.83	1,675.13	1,914.43	2,153.74	2,632.35	3,110.95	3,589.57	4,307.48
Old Milverton & Blackdown	1,433.31	1,672.20	1,911.08	2,149.97	2,627.74	3,105.51	3,583.28	4,299.94
Radford Semele	1,427.48	1,665.40	1,903.30	2,141.22	2,617.04	3,092.87	3,568.70	4,282.44
Rowington	1,429.75	1,668.05	1,906.33	2,144.63	2,621.21	3,097.79	3,574.38	4,289.26
Shrewley	1,416.03	1,652.04	1,888.04	2,124.05	2,596.06	3,068.07	3,540.08	4,248.10
Stoneleigh & Ashow	1,432.22	1,670.93	1,909.62	2,148.33	2,625.73	3,103.14	3,580.55	4,296.66
Warwick	1,434.62	1,673.73	1,912.82	2,151.93	2,630.13	3,108.34	3,586.55	4,303.86
Weston-under-Wetherley	1,442.82	1,683.29	1,923.76	2,164.23	2,645.17	3,126.10	3,607.05	4,328.46
Whitnash	1,465.36	1,709.59	1,953.81	2,198.04	2,686.49	3,174.94	3,663.40	4,396.08
Proportion of Band D	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9

General Fund Summary

Appendix 3

Department	Outturn 2021/22 £ A	Original Budget 2022/23 £ B	Latest Budget 2022/23 £ C	Original Budget 2023/24 £ D	Variance 2022/23 £ C - B	Variance 2023/24 £ D - B
Neighbourhood & Assets	7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	4,218,604	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600
Place, Arts & Economy	5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400
Finance	965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700
Housing Services - GF	2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700
Customer & Digital Services	1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300
People and Communication	10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)
Strategic Leadership	7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND SERVICES	29,547,472	26,801,700	35,367,800	36,018,100	8,566,100	9,216,400
Replacement of Notional with Actual Cost of Capital: - Deduct Notional Capital Financing Charges in Budgets	(9,648,077)	(6,488,000)	(11,785,900)	(7,587,200)	(5,297,900)	(1,099,200)
- Add Cost of Loan Repayments, Revenue Contributions and - Interest paid	427	575,300	2,132,200	3,058,400	1,556,900	2,483,100
Revenue Contributions to Capital	780,741	259,000	409,300	80,000	150,300	(179,000)
Contributions to / (from) Reserves	(2,727,361)	4,136,500	591,900	(2,234,300)	(3,544,600)	(6,370,800)
Net External Investment Interest Received	(2,324,508)	(2,464,400)	(4,504,100)	(5,889,900)	(2,039,700)	(3,425,500)
IAS19 Adjustments reversed	(3,477,856)	(2,168,300)	(2,168,300)	(3,450,000)	0	(1,281,700)
Employee Benefits Accruals reversed	78,644	0	0	0	0	0
Contributions to / (from) General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
NET EXPENDITURE FOR DISTRICT PURPOSES	12,229,481	20,651,800	20,042,900	19,995,100	(608,900)	(656,700)
Less Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Business Rate Income	466,097	(7,627,100)	(7,018,200)	(6,718,700)	608,900	908,400
Less General Grants	571,187	0	0	0	0	0
Less New Homes Bonus	(3,269,135)	(2,680,700)	(2,680,700)	(1,078,500)	0	1,602,200
Funding Guarantee	0	0	0	(1,845,600)	0	(1,845,600)
Less Lower Tier Services Grant	(146,834)	(154,600)	(154,600)	0	0	154,600
Services Grant	0	(237,600)	(237,600)	(133,900)	0	103,700
Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	38,685	23,000	23,000	(19,000)	0	(42,000)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year			0	0		
NET EXPENDITURE BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX - WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL	9,889,481	9,974,800	9,974,800	10,199,400	0	224,600
Aggregate Parish Council Expenditure	1,836,819	2,001,900	2,001,900	2,143,700	0	141,800
COMBINED DISTRICT AND PARISH EXPENDITURE BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX:	11,726,300	11,976,700	11,976,700	12,343,100	0	366,400
Warwickshire County Council Expenditure	85,748,900	89,727,800	89,727,800	95,360,800	0	5,633,000
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Expenditure	14,144,700	14,816,700	14,816,700	15,957,700	0	1,141,000
BORNE BY COUNCIL TAX	111,619,900	116,521,200	116,521,200	123,661,600	0	7,140,400
Council Tax - Band D						
Warwick District Council	176.86	176.86	176.86	176.86	0	0.00
Parish/Town Councils (average)	32.85	35.50	35.50	37.17	0	1.67
District & Parish/Town Band D Council Tax	209.71	212.36	212.36	214.03	0	1.67
Warwickshire County Council	1,533.51	1,590.93	1,590.93	1,653.57	0	62.64
Warwickshire Police & Crime Commissioner	252.96	262.71	262.71	276.71	0	14.00
Total Band D Council Tax	1,996.18	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,144.31	0	78.31
Tax Base - Band D	55,916.75	56,399.56	56,399.56	57,669.62		1,270.06

Budget Book 2023/24



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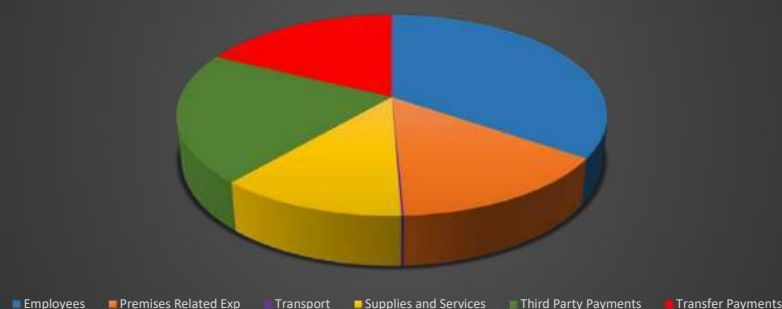
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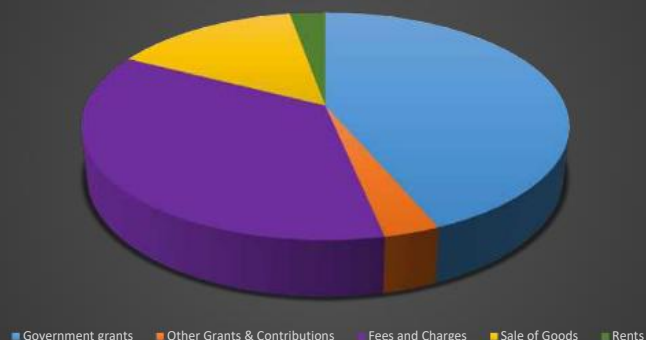
General Fund - Summary						
Department	Outturn 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	Latest Budget 2022/23	Original Budget 2023/24	Variance 2022/23	Variance 2023/24
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	A	B	C	D	C-B	D-B
Neighbourhood & Assets	7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	4,225,434	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600
Place, Arts & Economy	5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400
Finance	965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700
Housing Services - GF	2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700
Customer & Digital Services	1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300
People and Communication	10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)
Strategic Leadership	7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)
Total General Fund Services:	29,554,302	26,801,700	35,367,800	36,018,100	8,566,100	9,216,400
Replacement of Notional with Actual Cost of Capital:						
- Deduct Notional Capital Financing Charges in Budgets	(9,648,077)	(6,488,000)	(11,785,900)	(7,587,200)	(5,297,900)	(1,099,200)
- Add Cost of Loan Repayments, Revenue Contributions and	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Interest paid	427	575,300	2,132,200	3,058,400	1,556,900	2,483,100
Revenue Contributions to Capital	780,741	259,000	409,300	80,000	150,300	(179,000)
Contributions to / (from) Reserves	(2,727,361)	4,136,500	591,900	(2,234,100)	(3,544,600)	(6,370,600)
Net External Investment Interest Received	(2,324,508)	(2,464,400)	(4,504,100)	(5,889,900)	(2,039,700)	(3,425,500)
IAS19 Adjustments reversed	(3,477,856)	(2,168,300)	(2,168,300)	(3,450,000)	0	(1,281,700)
Employee Benefits Accruals reversed	78,644	0	0	0	0	0
Contributions to / (from) General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Expenditure for District Purposes:	12,236,311	20,651,800	20,042,900	19,995,300	(608,900)	(656,500)
Less Revenue Support Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Business Rate Income	466,097	(7,627,100)	(7,018,200)	(6,718,700)	608,900	908,400
Less General Grants	571,187	0	0	0	0	0
Less New Homes Bonus	(3,269,135)	(2,680,700)	(2,680,700)	(1,078,500)	0	1,602,200
Funding Guarantee	0	0	0	(1,845,600)	0	(1,845,600)
Less Lower Tier Services Grant	(146,834)	(154,600)	(154,600)	0	0	154,600
Services Grant	0	(237,600)	(237,600)	(134,100)	0	103,500
Collection Fund (Surplus) / Deficit	38,685	23,000	23,000	(19,000)	0	(42,000)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Expenditure Borne by Council Tax:	9,896,311	9,974,800	9,974,800	10,199,400	0	224,600
Aggregate Parish Council Expenditure	1,836,819	2,001,900	2,001,900	2,143,700	0	141,800
Combined District and Parish Expenditure Borne By Council Tax:	11,733,130	11,976,700	11,976,700	12,343,100	0	366,400
Warwickshire County Council Expenditure	85,748,900	89,727,800	89,727,800	95,360,800	0	5,633,000
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Expenditure	14,144,700	14,816,700	14,816,700	15,957,700	0	1,141,000
Borne by Council Tax:	111,626,730	116,521,200	116,521,200	123,661,600	0	7,140,400
Council Tax - Band D						
Warwick District Council	176.98	176.86	176.86	176.86	0.00	0.00
Parish/Town Councils (average)	32.85	35.50	35.50	37.17	0.00	1.67
District & Parish/Town Band D Council Tax	209.83	212.36	212.36	214.03	0.00	1.67
Warwickshire County Council	1,533.51	1,590.93	1,590.93	1,653.57	0.00	62.64
Warwick shire Police & Crime Commissioner	252.96	262.71	262.71	276.71	0.00	14.00
Total Band D Council Tax	1,996.30	2,066.00	2,066.00	2,144.31	0.00	78.31
Tax Base - Band D						
	55,916.75	56,399.56	56,399.56	57,669.62	0.00	1,270.06

Warwick District Council - General Fund						
Portfolio	Outturn 2021/22 (A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2023/24 (D-B)
Neighbourhood & Assets	7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	4,225,434	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600
Place, Arts & Economy	5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400
Finance	965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700
Housing Services - GF	2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700
Customer & Digital Services	1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300
People and Communication	10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)
Strategic Leadership	7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)
Total Warwick District Council	29,554,302	26,801,700	35,367,800	36,018,100	8,566,100	9,216,400
Subjective Analysis						
Direct Expenditure						
Employees	20,415,552	19,640,500	20,655,400	22,612,600	1,014,900	2,972,100
Premises Related Exp	4,170,791	4,617,200	5,325,000	9,567,800	707,800	4,950,600
Transport	79,806	121,900	119,800	115,100	(2,100)	(6,800)
Supplies and Services	5,257,688	4,598,300	5,778,700	7,771,800	1,180,400	3,173,500
Third Party Payments	13,468,070	12,535,300	14,809,100	13,747,400	2,273,800	1,212,100
Transfer Payments	13,132,499	14,321,800	11,535,900	11,536,100	(2,785,900)	(2,785,700)
Total Direct Expenditure	56,524,407	55,835,000	58,223,900	65,350,800	2,388,900	9,515,800
Direct Income						
Government grants	(25,566,498)	(25,026,900)	(20,619,100)	(20,499,800)	4,407,800	4,527,100
Other Grants & Contributions	(2,341,188)	(1,738,500)	(1,778,700)	(1,479,600)	(40,200)	258,900
Fees and Charges	(12,464,983)	(14,163,000)	(13,980,200)	(16,862,550)	182,800	(2,699,550)
Sale of Goods	7,398,799	8,844,200	6,676,700	6,877,480	(2,167,500)	(1,966,720)
Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rents	(1,195,209)	(1,356,400)	(1,239,000)	(1,321,830)	117,400	34,570
Total Direct Income	(34,169,078)	(33,440,600)	(30,940,300)	(33,286,300)	2,500,300	154,300
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure	22,355,328	22,394,400	27,283,600	32,064,500	4,889,200	9,670,100
Support Charges						
Support Services	11,119,415	13,228,600	12,218,300	12,548,500	(1,010,300)	(680,100)
Capital Charges	9,669,077	6,488,000	11,667,100	7,648,400	5,179,100	1,160,400
Recharges	(13,589,519)	(15,309,300)	(15,801,200)	(16,243,300)	(491,900)	(934,000)
Total Support Charges	7,198,973	4,407,300	8,084,200	3,953,600	3,676,900	(453,700)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary	29,554,302	26,801,700	35,367,800	36,018,100	8,566,100	9,216,400

Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024

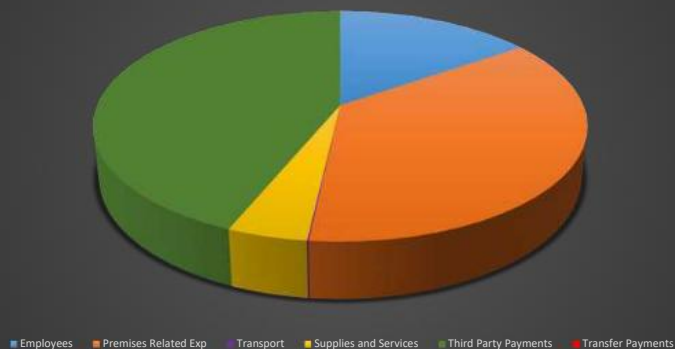


Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024

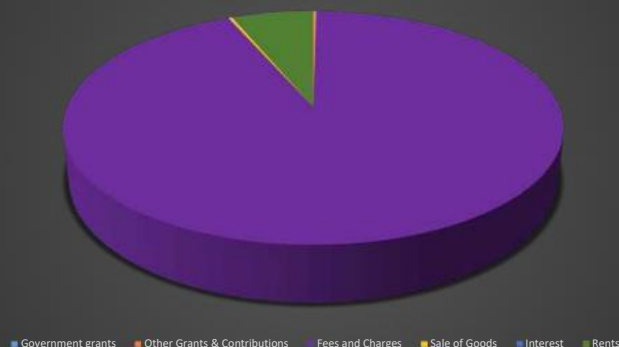


Neighbourhood & Assets							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 (.A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (.B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (.C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (.D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 20223/24 (D-B)
S1105	Car Parks	(473,951)	(917,400)	(2,098,000)	(1,545,800)	(1,180,600)	(628,400)
S1250	WCC Highways	90,314	70,900	26,000	44,000	(44,900)	(26,900)
S1320	Bereavement Services	(749,044)	(1,019,100)	(932,300)	(957,800)	86,800	61,300
S4090	Waste Management	7,025,821	6,969,700	8,042,700	6,398,700	1,073,000	(571,000)
S4095	Ranger Service	57,527	(46,400)	632,700	748,900	679,100	795,300
S4811	Watercourses & Culverts	(19,439)	(157,200)	(129,600)	(160,800)	27,600	(3,600)
S6015	Grounds Maintenance	778,650	931,300	866,900	1,008,900	(64,400)	77,600
S6016	Business Support & Development	(46,910)	248,600	0	0	(248,600)	(248,600)
S6018	Estates	1,085,498	1,506,900	722,700	3,709,600	(784,200)	2,202,700
S6019	Compliance	60,859	115,000	(58,700)	0	(173,700)	(115,000)
S6020	Asset Management	98,046	162,500	(227,700)	102,600	(390,200)	(59,900)
S6027	Commercial	158,093	216,600	169,200	202,100	(47,400)	(14,500)
S6034	Strat Lead Investment	(344,562)	(369,800)	(480,900)	(364,400)	(111,100)	5,400
Total Neighbourhood & Assets		7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	2,710,838	2,888,500	2,829,800	3,225,200	(58,700)	336,700
	Premises Related Exp	2,462,968	3,267,400	3,847,000	7,703,800	579,600	4,436,400
	Transport	22,151	15,300	15,300	17,700	0	2,400
	Supplies and Services	800,623	760,800	901,000	940,700	140,200	179,900
	Third Party Payments	8,920,712	8,613,300	9,361,800	9,253,000	748,500	639,700
	Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		14,917,292	15,545,300	16,954,900	21,140,400	1,409,600	5,595,100
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(6,200)	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Grants & Contributions	(33,152)	(59,900)	(59,900)	(26,700)	0	33,200
	Fees and Charges	(7,279,422)	(7,914,100)	(8,699,300)	(10,984,200)	(785,200)	(3,070,100)
	Sale of Goods	(51,347)	(41,200)	(215,600)	(32,120)	(174,400)	9,080
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	(734,378)	(760,800)	(722,400)	(742,480)	38,400	18,320
Total Direct Income		(8,104,499)	(8,776,000)	(9,697,200)	(11,785,500)	(921,200)	(3,009,500)
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		6,812,793	6,769,300	7,257,700	9,354,900	488,400	2,585,600
Support Charges							
	Support Services	2,499,467	2,432,900	2,271,000	2,583,000	(161,900)	150,100
	Capital Charges	991,556	2,310,700	900,700	1,077,900	(1,410,000)	(1,232,800)
	Recharges	(2,582,914)	(3,801,300)	(3,896,400)	(3,829,800)	(95,100)	(28,500)
Total Support Charges		908,109	942,300	(724,700)	(168,900)	(1,667,000)	(1,111,200)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		7,720,902	7,711,600	6,533,000	9,186,000	(1,178,600)	1,474,400

Neighbourhood & Assets Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024

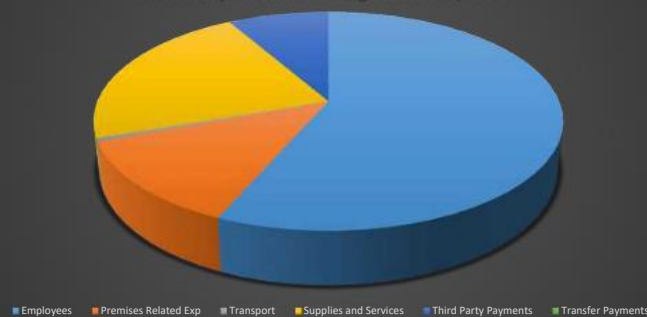


Neighbourhood & Assets Gross Income Budgets 2023/ 2024

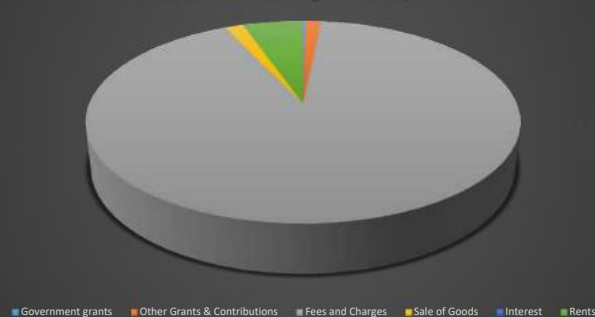


Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 (A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2022/23/24 (D-B)
S1045	CCTV	228,283	257,700	623,200	620,900	365,500	363,200
S1270	Green Space Development	1,325,390	2,030,700	1,407,200	1,383,600	(623,500)	(647,100)
S1288	Outdoor Recreation	584,405	840,700	721,000	1,194,700	(119,700)	354,000
S1289	Open Spaces	174,417	131,300	174,300	348,200	43,000	216,900
S1367	Leisure Options	581,672	1,253,500	713,200	697,600	(540,300)	(555,900)
S1368	Sports Development	17,596	110,300	42,600	44,200	(67,700)	(66,100)
S2360	Licensing & Registration	7,151	142,500	5,800	172,100	(136,700)	29,600
S4210	EH Environmental Health Core	(101,744)	84,500	276,200	173,200	191,700	88,700
S4270	Food+Occupational Safety+Health	374,846	453,800	624,400	608,200	170,600	154,400
S4300	Environmental Protection	679,212	790,500	827,400	850,100	36,900	59,600
S4350	Community Safety	354,206	344,200	648,300	785,200	304,100	441,000
S6013	Environment & Operational Serv Man	0	25,900	60,300	(139,800)	34,400	(165,700)
Total Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment		4,225,434	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	2,583,909	2,520,200	2,674,500	2,693,500	154,300	173,300
	Premises Related Exp	481,332	458,300	501,100	601,400	42,800	143,100
	Transport	8,591	23,800	23,800	25,100	0	1,300
	Supplies and Services	634,673	496,400	574,500	1,050,900	78,100	554,500
	Third Party Payments	394,510	349,500	422,700	394,700	73,200	45,200
	Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		4,103,015	3,848,200	4,196,600	4,765,600	348,400	917,400
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(317,232)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	0	0
	Other Grants & Contributions	(262,185)	(29,000)	(8,200)	(7,400)	20,800	21,600
	Fees and Charges	(453,525)	(573,300)	(573,300)	(460,700)	0	112,600
	Sale of Goods	(86,746)	(7,800)	(7,800)	(8,000)	0	(200)
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	(38,848)	(24,100)	(24,100)	(26,900)	0	(2,800)
Total Direct Income		(1,158,537)	(635,200)	(614,400)	(504,000)	20,800	131,200
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		2,944,478	3,213,000	3,582,200	4,261,600	369,200	1,048,600
Support Charges							
	Support Services	1,409,190	2,178,500	1,398,000	1,435,200	(780,500)	(743,300)
	Capital Charges	1,148,406	2,339,000	1,143,700	1,041,400	(1,195,300)	(1,297,600)
	Recharges	(1,276,639)	(1,264,900)	0	0	1,264,900	1,264,900
Total Support Charges		1,280,956	3,252,600	2,541,700	2,476,600	(710,900)	(776,000)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		4,225,434	6,465,600	6,123,900	6,738,200	(341,700)	272,600

Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment
Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024

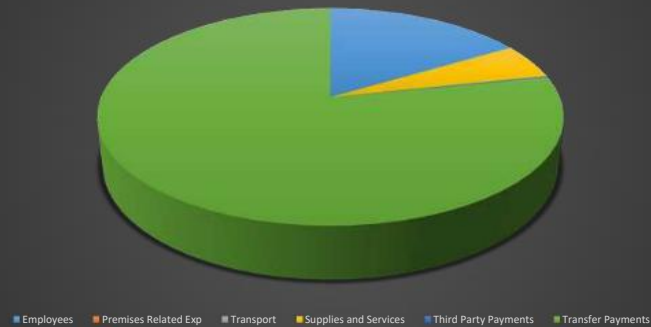


Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment
Gross Income Budgets 2023/ 2024

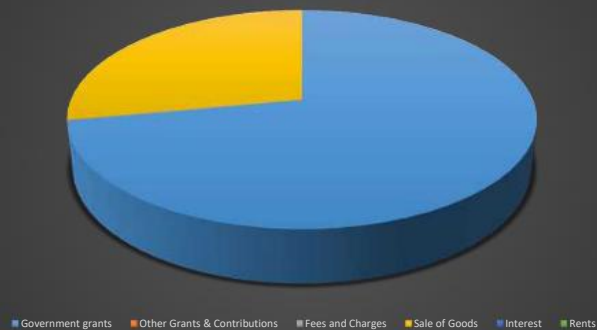


Customer & Digital Services							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 (A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2023/24 (D-B)
S3500	ICT Management	192,476	(93,600)	600	600	94,200	94,200
S3100	Customer Service	452,852	160,400	0	0	(160,400)	(160,400)
S3250	Benefits	605,117	542,400	672,800	721,900	130,400	179,500
TOTAL Customer & Digital Services		1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300
Subjective Analysis							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	2,221,273	2,247,900	2,193,500	2,422,400	(54,400)	174,500
	Premises Related Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transport	159	4,800	4,800	5,000	0	200
	Supplies and Services	420,284	414,800	409,700	768,700	(5,100)	353,900
	Third Party Payments	19,000	8,400	35,100	35,100	26,700	26,700
	Transfer Payments	13,132,499	14,321,800	11,535,900	11,536,100	(2,785,900)	(2,785,700)
Total Direct Expenditure		15,793,216	16,997,700	14,179,000	14,767,300	(2,818,700)	(2,230,400)
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(21,497,077)	(24,420,800)	(19,242,900)	(19,222,300)	5,177,900	5,198,500
	Other Grants & Contributions	(37,812)	(44,800)	(4,100)	0	40,700	44,800
	Fees and Charges	(39,942)	(45,000)	(45,000)	(55,000)	0	(10,000)
	Sale of Goods	8,230,992	9,490,100	7,472,100	7,472,100	(2,018,000)	(2,018,000)
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Income		(13,343,838)	(15,020,500)	(11,819,900)	(11,805,200)	3,200,600	3,215,300
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		2,449,378	1,977,200	2,359,100	2,962,100	381,900	984,900
Support Charges							
	Support Services	321,630	925,100	613,900	583,900	(311,200)	(341,200)
	Capital Charges	93,853	127,900	121,500	53,600	(6,400)	(74,300)
	Recharges	(1,614,415)	(2,421,000)	(2,421,100)	(2,877,100)	(100)	(456,100)
Total Support Charges		(1,198,932)	(1,368,000)	(1,685,700)	(2,239,600)	(317,700)	(871,600)
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		1,250,446	609,200	673,400	722,500	64,200	113,300

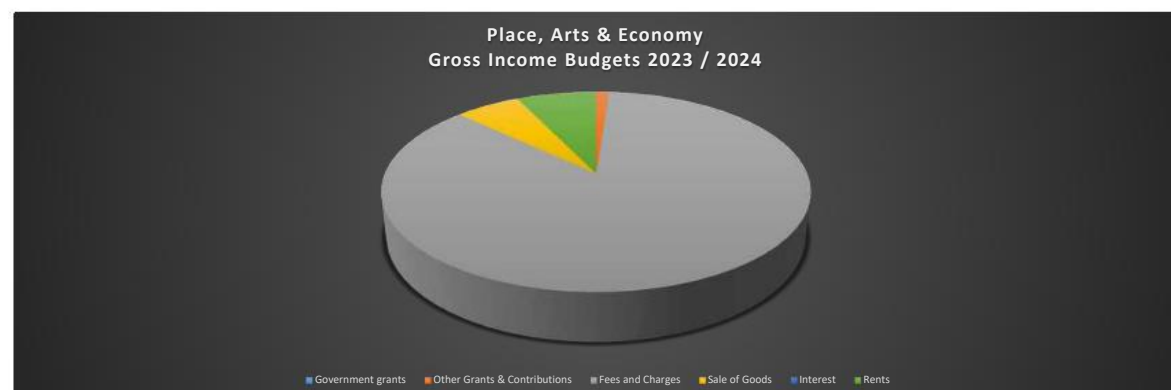
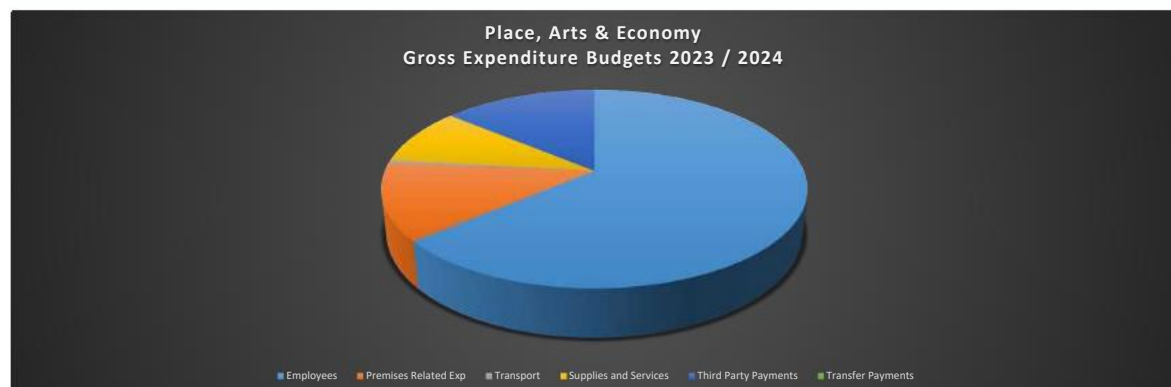
Customer & Digital Services Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024



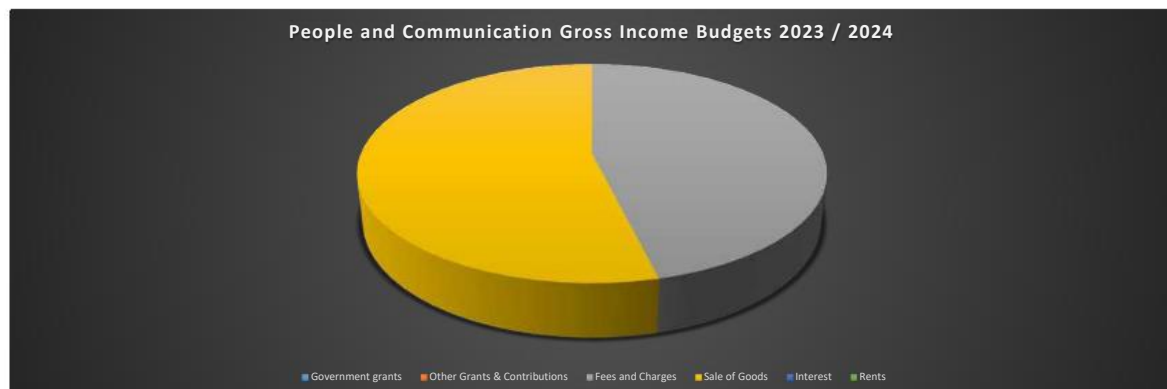
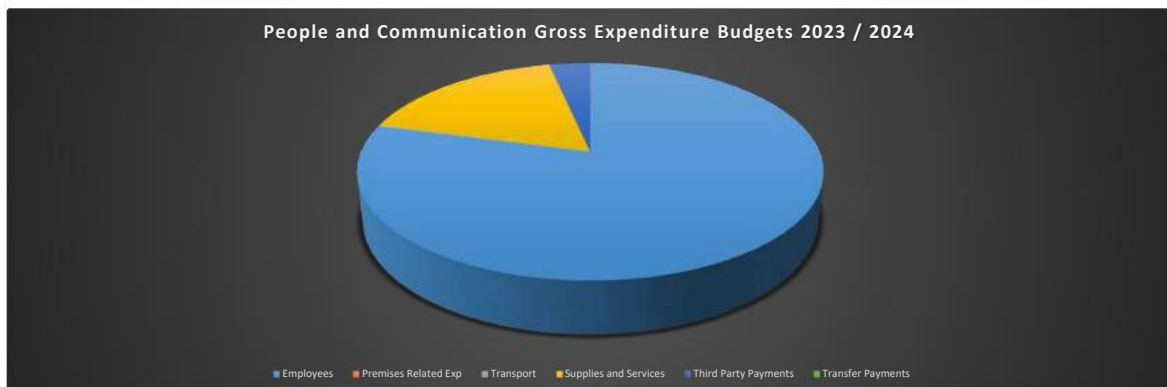
Customer & Digital Services Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024



Place, Arts & Economy							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 . (A)	Original Budget 2022/23 . (B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 . (C)	Original Budget 2023/24 . (D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2023/24 (D-B)
S1035	Christmas Illuminations	55,881	44,400	52,600	57,500	8,200	13,100
S1249	Events Management	272,708	281,600	339,000	414,200	57,400	132,600
S1297	Business Support	4,451	(939,300)	(120,000)	(833,700)	819,300	105,600
S1313	Culture, Tourism & Leisure Management	2,166	(37,300)	84,900	11,100	122,200	48,400
S1335	Royal Spa Centre	912,283	853,200	802,700	901,500	(50,500)	48,300
S1356	Catering Contract	31,396	(70,900)	(69,200)	(75,700)	1,700	(4,800)
S3550	Tourism	132,013	157,300	152,800	143,300	(4,500)	(14,000)
S4540	Development Control	287,683	255,600	757,700	904,400	502,100	648,800
S4600	Building Control	72,049	99,500	326,800	623,800	227,300	524,300
S6000	Projects	855,330	243,900	10,350,000	6,302,700	10,106,100	6,058,800
S6001	Policy & Development	916,847	1,343,500	1,584,200	1,140,700	240,700	(202,800)
S6002	Development Services Management	914	(19,900)	144,300	147,800	164,200	167,700
S6005	Strategic Arts	33,021	74,800	86,400	91,900	11,600	17,100
S6006	Collections & Engagement	958,386	1,514,200	1,082,400	1,235,600	(431,800)	(278,600)
S6007	Customer Services	303,040	(64,100)	420,900	465,700	485,000	528,800
S6030	Regeneration	60,032	88,400	23,300	24,200	(65,100)	(64,200)
S6031	Markets	(23,422)	(23,100)	(25,000)	(29,100)	(1,900)	(6,000)
S6098	Growth Hub	117,071	179,100	128,100	128,000	(51,000)	(51,100)
S6100	Planning	589,982	(1,400)	(11,200)	39,000	(9,800)	40,400
Total Place, Arts & Economy		5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
Employees		5,249,637	5,589,100	5,467,300	5,771,100	(121,800)	182,000
Premises Related Exp		767,500	780,900	862,700	1,136,400	81,800	355,500
Transport		40,779	54,300	54,300	44,700	0	(9,600)
Supplies and Services		715,714	796,000	771,400	834,900	(24,600)	38,900
Third Party Payments		1,327,589	1,426,400	1,557,100	1,258,700	130,700	(167,700)
Transfer Payments		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		8,101,219	8,646,700	8,712,800	9,045,800	66,100	399,100
Direct Income							
Government grants		(431,997)	0	(20,000)	0	(20,000)	0
Other Grants & Contributions		(252,495)	(100,000)	(98,300)	(74,900)	1,700	25,100
Fees and Charges		(4,222,116)	(5,708,900)	(4,783,900)	(5,432,150)	925,000	276,750
Sale of Goods		(359,371)	(407,500)	(400,800)	(368,300)	6,700	39,200
Interest		0	0	0	0	0	0
Rents		(300,652)	(471,300)	(392,300)	(452,250)	79,000	19,050
Total Direct Income		(5,566,630)	(6,687,700)	(5,695,300)	(6,327,600)	992,400	360,100
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		2,534,589	1,959,000	3,017,500	2,718,200	1,058,500	759,200
Support Charges							
Support Services		2,742,674	2,970,700	3,810,900	3,945,800	840,200	975,100
Capital Charges		1,649,717	1,394,400	9,320,600	5,067,200	7,926,200	3,672,800
Recharges		(1,345,150)	(2,344,600)	(38,300)	(38,300)	2,306,300	2,306,300
Total Support Charges		3,047,240	2,020,500	13,093,200	8,974,700	11,072,700	6,954,200
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		5,581,830	3,979,500	16,110,700	11,692,900	12,131,200	7,713,400

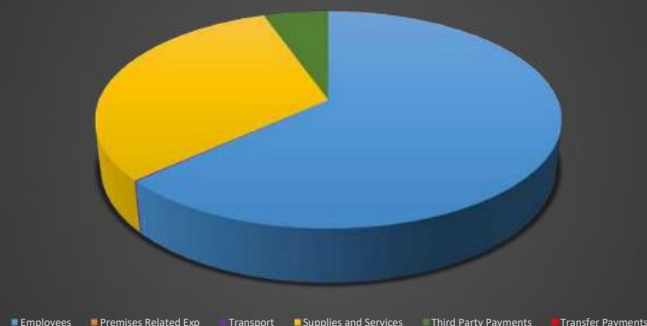


People and Communication							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 (.A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (.B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (.C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (.D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2023/24 (D-B)
S2060	Human Resources	2,641	259,900	86,400	0	(173,500)	(259,900)
S2340	Media Room	4,604	120,300	0	0	(120,300)	(120,300)
S3470	Media & Communications	1,164	1,900	0	0	(1,900)	(1,900)
S6033	Members Training	2,217	5,300	7,200	0	1,900	(5,300)
Total People & Communication		10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	1,124,509	1,063,700	1,490,800	1,231,400	427,100	167,700
	Premises Related Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Transport	157	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0
	Supplies and Services	188,950	255,400	513,600	270,200	258,200	14,800
	Third Party Payments	15,132	42,000	94,600	52,900	52,600	10,900
	Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		1,328,747	1,363,200	2,101,100	1,556,600	737,900	193,400
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(8,067)	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Grants & Contributions	(45,120)	(24,100)	(15,400)	0	8,700	24,100
	Fees and Charges	(20,589)	(30,300)	(2,300)	(30,300)	28,000	0
	Sale of Goods	(11,508)	(34,800)	(19,800)	(34,800)	15,000	0
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Income		(85,283)	(89,200)	(37,500)	(65,100)	51,700	24,100
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		1,243,464	1,274,000	2,063,600	1,491,500	789,600	217,500
Support Charges							
	Support Services	204,839	304,900	332,300	359,200	27,400	54,300
	Capital Charges	11,953	22,000	22,000	22,000	0	0
	Recharges	(1,449,630)	(1,213,500)	(2,324,300)	(1,872,700)	(1,110,800)	(659,200)
Total Support Charges		(1,232,838)	(886,600)	(1,970,000)	(1,491,500)	(1,083,400)	(604,900)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		10,626	387,400	93,600	0	(293,800)	(387,400)

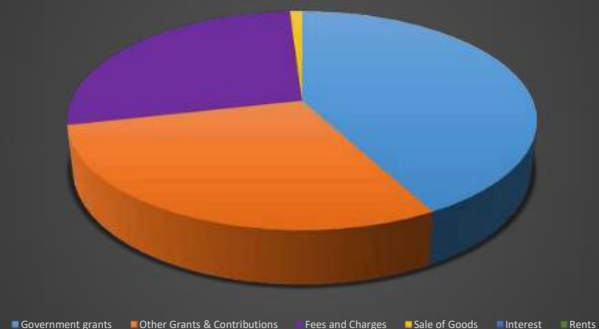


Finance							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22 (.A)	Original Budget 2022/23 (.B)	Latest Budget 2022/23 (.C)	Original Budget 2023/24 (.D)	Variance 2022/23 (C-B)	Variance 2023/24 (D-B)
S1410	Finance Management	(112,876)	480,300	956,700	3,173,300	476,400	2,693,000
S1417	Procurement	2,295	(15,800)	12,300	0	28,100	15,800
S1418	Exchequer	1,605	(34,500)	0	0	34,500	34,500
S1425	Financial Services	426,223	118,900	0	0	(118,900)	(118,900)
S1578	Audit & Risk	72,581	77,100	0	0	(77,100)	(77,100)
S2600	Revenues & Customer Services Man (2)	0	(18,300)	0	0	18,300	18,300
S3050	Revenues	575,358	946,000	0	0	(946,000)	(946,000)
S3400	Payment Channels	82	18,900	0	0	(18,900)	(18,900)
Total Finance		965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	2,852,510	1,956,100	2,437,700	3,666,900	481,600	1,710,800
	Premises Related Exp	2,614	0	0	0	0	0
	Transport	1,960	8,100	6,000	6,900	(2,100)	(1,200)
	Supplies and Services	715,509	205,400	417,300	1,822,100	211,900	1,616,700
	Third Party Payments	392,487	186,600	283,600	310,900	97,000	124,300
	Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		3,965,080	2,356,200	3,144,600	5,806,800	788,400	3,450,600
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(1,699,474)	(214,400)	(288,400)	(214,400)	(74,000)	0
	Other Grants & Contributions	(155,153)	(188,800)	(128,900)	(148,700)	59,900	40,100
	Fees and Charges	(392,986)	125,300	140,300	140,300	15,000	15,000
	Sale of Goods	(4,090)	(7,700)	(4,500)	(4,500)	3,200	3,200
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Income		(2,251,703)	(285,600)	(281,500)	(227,300)	4,100	58,300
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		1,713,377	2,070,600	2,863,100	5,579,500	792,500	3,508,900
Support Charges							
	Support Services	1,555,008	1,693,000	895,200	743,800	(797,800)	(949,200)
	Capital Charges	78,640	38,600	29,300	200,100	(9,300)	161,500
	Recharges	(2,381,758)	(2,229,600)	(2,818,600)	(3,350,100)	(589,000)	(1,120,500)
Total Support Charges		(748,110)	(498,000)	(1,894,100)	(2,406,200)	(1,396,100)	(1,908,200)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		965,267	1,572,600	969,000	3,173,300	(603,600)	1,600,700

Finance Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024

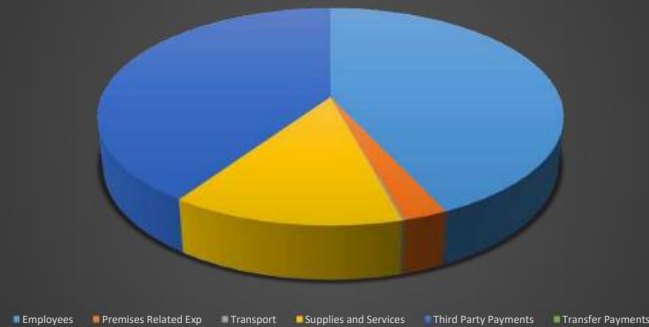


Finance Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024

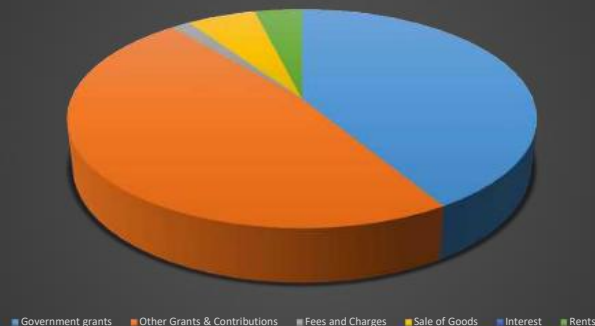


Housing Services - GF							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	Latest Budget 2022/23	Original Budget 2023/24	Variance 2022/23	Variance 2023/24
		(.A)	(.B)	(.C)	(.D)	(C-B)	(D-B)
S1001	Community Development	1,082,350	477,500	467,600	506,900	(9,900)	29,400
S1590	Homelessness - Housing Advice	(112,628)	1,080,000	1,202,000	1,197,300	122,000	117,300
S1605	Housing Strategy	265,711	328,700	431,600	246,000	102,900	(82,700)
S1610	Other Housing Property	370,473	40,300	106,100	107,300	65,800	67,000
S1615	Contributions to HRA	39,400	12,700	19,200	21,000	6,500	8,300
S1630	Private Sector Housing	419,730	472,200	876,400	922,600	404,200	450,400
S2110	Community Partnership	270,548	283,800	220,800	211,900	(63,000)	(71,900)
S3465	Chase Meadow Community Centre	11,605	100	0	0	(100)	(100)
Total Housing Services - GF		2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
Employees		1,645,691	1,669,600	1,889,400	1,958,900	219,800	289,300
Premises Related Exp		395,441	103,200	106,800	117,000	3,600	13,800
Transport		1,446	6,800	6,800	7,500	0	700
Supplies and Services		988,213	883,500	1,182,800	618,900	299,300	(264,600)
Third Party Payments		1,552,651	1,170,700	1,589,600	1,842,400	418,900	671,700
Transfer Payments		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		4,583,443	3,833,800	4,775,400	4,544,700	941,600	710,900
Direct Income							
Government grants		(1,351,209)	(390,700)	(1,066,800)	(1,062,100)	(676,100)	(671,400)
Other Grants & Contributions		(1,323,894)	(1,239,900)	(1,324,400)	(1,221,900)	(84,500)	18,000
Fees and Charges		(56,392)	(16,700)	(16,700)	(40,500)	0	(23,800)
Sale of Goods		(272,353)	(143,800)	(143,800)	(143,800)	0	0
Interest		0	0	0	0	0	0
Rents		(121,332)	(100,200)	(100,200)	(100,200)	0	0
Total Direct Income		(3,125,180)	(1,891,300)	(2,651,900)	(2,568,500)	(760,600)	(677,200)
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		1,458,263	1,942,500	2,123,500	1,976,200	181,000	33,700
Support Charges							
Support Services		1,509,849	1,227,600	2,340,800	2,377,700	1,113,200	1,150,100
Capital Charges		837,664	240,100	126,100	125,800	(114,000)	(114,300)
Recharges		(1,458,587)	(714,900)	(1,266,700)	(1,266,700)	(551,800)	(551,800)
Total Support Charges		888,926	752,800	1,200,200	1,236,800	447,400	484,000
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		2,347,189	2,695,300	3,323,700	3,213,000	628,400	517,700

Housing Services - GF Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024

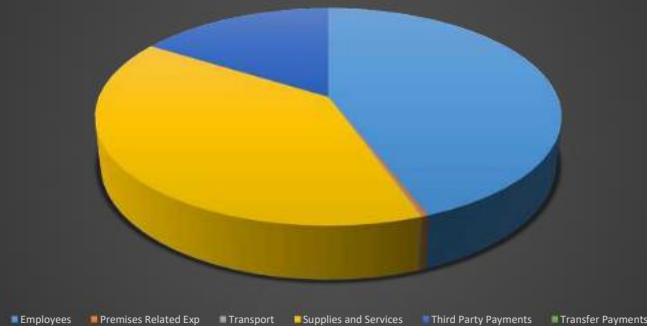


Housing Services - GF Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024

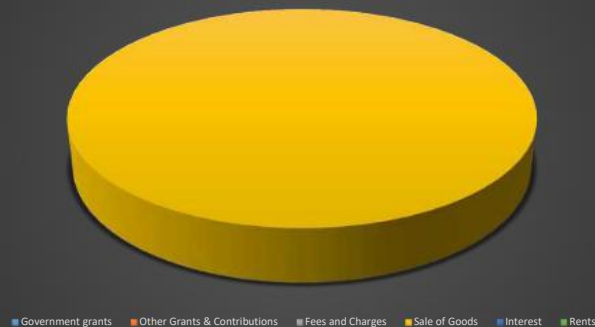


Strategic Leadership							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	Latest Budget 2022/23	Original Budget 2023/24	Variance 2022/23	Variance 2023/24
		(.A)	(.B)	(.C)	(.D)	(C-B)	(D-B)
S1261	Commonwealth Games 2022	159,974	332,500	528,500	49,800	196,000	(282,700)
S2000	Chief Executive's Office	24,629	110,100	0	249,400	(110,100)	139,300
S2010	Corporate Projects	5,275,669	24,100	185,500	0	161,400	(24,100)
S2200	Committee Services	56,321	51,000	8,400	0	(42,600)	(51,000)
S2220	Democratic Representation	853,439	1,296,400	0	0	(1,296,400)	(1,296,400)
S2240	Elections	394,511	454,100	371,700	593,300	(82,400)	139,200
S2800	Law & Governance Management (2)	0	0	0	0	0	0
S3350	Corporate Support Team	2,042	(2,800)	0	0	2,800	2,800
S3600	Economic Development	36,578	1,800	0	0	(1,800)	(1,800)
S4871	Legal Services	58,312	27,300	23,500	0	(3,800)	(27,300)
S6014	NS Programme Team	280,507	420,800	90,500	399,700	(330,300)	(21,100)
S6032	Climate Change	209,962	565,200	332,400	0	(232,800)	(565,200)
S6035	Transformation	100,665	100,000	0	0	(100,000)	(100,000)
Total Strategic Leadership		7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)
SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS							
Direct Expenditure							
	Employees	2,027,186	1,705,400	1,672,400	1,643,200	(33,000)	(62,200)
	Premises Related Exp	60,936	7,400	7,400	9,200	0	1,800
	Transport	4,563	6,700	6,700	6,100	0	(600)
	Supplies and Services	793,722	786,000	1,008,400	1,465,400	222,400	679,400
	Third Party Payments	845,988	738,400	1,464,600	599,700	726,200	(138,700)
	Transfer Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Expenditure		3,732,396	3,243,900	4,159,500	3,723,600	915,600	479,700
Direct Income							
	Government grants	(255,241)	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Grants & Contributions	(231,378)	(52,000)	(139,500)	0	(87,500)	52,000
	Fees and Charges	(12)	0	0	0	0	0
	Sale of Goods	(46,779)	(3,100)	(3,100)	(3,100)	0	0
	Interest	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rents	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Direct Income		(533,409)	(55,100)	(142,600)	(3,100)	(87,500)	52,000
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		3,198,987	3,188,800	4,016,900	3,720,500	828,100	531,700
Support Charges							
	Support Services	876,759	1,495,900	556,200	519,900	(939,700)	(976,000)
	Capital Charges	4,857,288	15,300	3,200	60,400	(12,100)	45,100
	Recharges	(1,480,425)	(1,319,500)	(3,035,800)	(3,008,600)	(1,716,300)	(1,689,100)
Total Support Charges		4,253,622	191,700	(2,476,400)	(2,428,300)	(2,668,100)	(2,620,000)
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		7,452,608	3,380,500	1,540,500	1,292,200	(1,840,000)	(2,088,300)

Strategic Leadership Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024



Strategic Leadership Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024

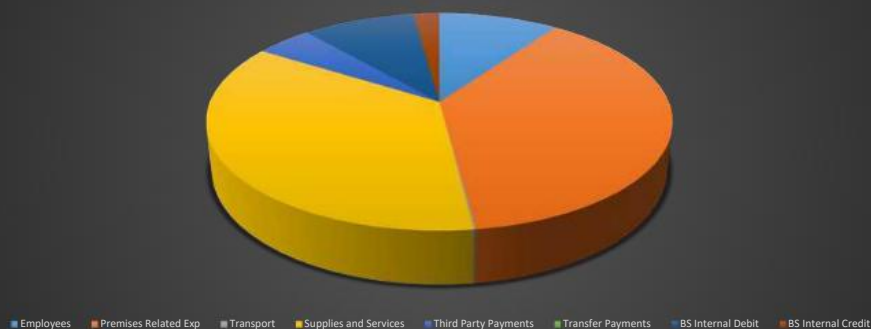


Housing Revenue Account - Summary							
Housing Services - Housing Revenue Account		Actuals	Original Budget	Latest Budget	Original Budget	Variance	Variance
		2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	20223/24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
		A	B	C	D	C - B	D - B
Expenditure							
10-0-6999-10000-62104	PPM Non-Op	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64500	Housing Repairs Supervision	698,432	942,000	942,000	942,000	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62111	HRA Repairs and Maintenance	6,228,207	6,350,100	7,705,500	8,424,500	1,355,400	2,074,400
10-0-6999-10000-62201	Electricity	36	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62202	Gas	14	3,000	3,000	12,000	0	9,000
10-0-6999-10000-62204	Wood Fuel - Bio-Mass boiler	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62400	Rates	44,984	50,600	50,600	50,600	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62401	Council Tax	281,586	145,100	145,100	145,100	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-62500	Water Rates	48,183	42,300	42,300	42,300	0	0
	Premises	7,301,442	7,533,100	8,888,500	9,616,500	1,355,400	2,083,400
10-0-6999-10000-65105	Debt Recovery Agency Costs	0	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64503	Grants-Revenue	810	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64950	Contributions To Provisions	0	77,200	77,200	77,200	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-64951	Bad Debts Provision	(31,782)	402,600	402,600	402,600	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-67001	Inter department Charges	0	0	119,400	0	119,400	0
	Supplies & Services	(30,971)	483,900	603,300	483,900	119,400	0
	Consultants Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Third Party Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-67000	Supervision & Management - General	2,810,027	2,602,800	3,557,800	4,376,200	955,000	1,773,400
	Supervision & Management - Special	3,348,872	3,726,100	4,633,000	4,864,100	906,900	1,138,000
	Support Services	6,158,898	6,328,900	8,190,800	9,240,300	1,861,900	2,911,400
10-0-6999-10000-68100	Depreciation on Equipment	5,604,451	6,206,500	6,206,500	6,206,500	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-68101	Depreciation on Council Dwellings	497,509	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-68102	Depreciation on Other HRA Properties	47,597	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-68200	Loss On Impairment/Revaluation Of Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Capital Charges	6,149,557	6,206,500	6,206,500	6,206,500	0	0
	Gross Expenditure	19,578,926	20,552,400	23,889,100	25,547,200	3,336,700	4,994,800
Income							
10-0-6999-10000-43000	Fees+Charges General	0	(2,000)	0	0	2,000	2,000
10-0-6999-10000-43021	Other Licences	(745)	(4,200)	(4,200)	(4,200)	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43016	Heating Charges	(580,590)	(574,100)	(206,000)	(209,500)	368,100	364,600
10-0-6999-10000-43034	Service Charges	(20,000)	0	0	0	0	0
	Service Charges Supporting People	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Water Charges Supporting People	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43001	Service Charges Leasehold	(6,737)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-10000-43500	Rents-Others	(1,082,287)	(1,883,500)	(353,700)	(353,700)	1,529,800	1,529,800
10-0-6999-10000-43501	Rents-Housing	(25,736,608)	(26,341,100)	(26,341,100)	(28,185,000)	0	(1,843,900)
10-0-6999-10000-43502	Rents-Shared Ownership	(54,422)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(107,000)	0	(7,000)
10-0-6999-10000-43503	Rents-Garages	0	0	(764,900)	(767,900)	(764,900)	(767,900)
10-0-6999-10000-43504	Use and Occupation - Homeless	0	0	(33,000)	(33,000)	(33,000)	(33,000)
10-0-6999-10000-43505	Rents-Affordable	0	0	(731,800)	(783,100)	(731,800)	(783,100)
10-0-6999-10000-43506	Recharges - Water	0	0	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)
10-0-6999-10000-43507	Recharges - Heating & Lighting	0	0	(335,700)	(335,700)	(335,700)	(335,700)
10-0-6999-10000-69002	General Fund	(39,400)	(38,700)	(38,700)	(38,700)		
	Gross Income	(27,520,789)	(28,943,600)	(28,943,600)	(30,852,300)	0	(1,908,700)
	Net Income from Services	(7,941,864)	(8,391,200)	(5,054,500)	(5,305,100)	3,336,700	3,086,100
10-0-6999-40010-49003	Interest-Balances	(15,100)	(304,200)	418,200	1,374,000	722,400	1,678,200
10-0-6999-40013-69101	Capital Charges - Adj	0	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	0	0
	Net Operational Income	(7,956,964)	(8,795,400)	(4,736,300)	(4,031,100)	4,059,100	4,764,300
Appropriations							
10-0-6999-10000-68000	Reversal of Notional Interest	14,585,100	14,357,000	0	0	(14,357,000)	(14,357,000)
10-0-6999-10000-68001	Reversal of Notional Interest	(14,585,100)	(14,357,000)	0	0	14,357,000	14,357,000
10-0-6999-40009-68002	External Interest	4,765,564	4,765,600	4,765,600	4,765,600	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69000	Approp HRA Resource Equiv to Depn to MRR	(6,149,557)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69013	Approp from CAA to Offset HRA Resources	6,149,557	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40003-69001	Capital financing	3,273,754	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40003-69310	Cap Fin-Rev Contr to Cap Outlay(GF+HIP)	0	119,600	119,600	119,600	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69002	Cont from Reserves	464,636	73,400	73,400	73,400	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69014	Contrib HRA Capital Invest Reserve (Dr)	3,893,321	4,220,700	281,000	(652,400)	(3,939,700)	(4,873,100)
10-0-6999-40002-49321	Recognised gains/losses -asset sales	2,221,225	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40008-69011	F Assets sales b/s val trf to I & E a/c	(2,221,225)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-69001	Capital financing	(3,177,863)	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40017-49002	Cont from Reserves	(650,300)	(100,000)	(219,400)	(100,000)	(119,400)	0
10-0-6999-40008-49008	rec gains/losses - fa - reversal	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40014-69007	NCA Impair/Revals Losses charged to rev	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40002-69011	F Asset sales trf from I & E to CAA a/c	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40001-69200	employee benefits accruals (cr)	9,139	0	0	0	0	0
10-0-6999-40016-49200	Net IAS19 Charges for Retirement Benefits	(1,251,006)	(878,800)	(878,800)	(1,490,200)	0	(611,400)
10-0-6999-40006-69102	Employers Contribis payable to Pension Fd	421,950	402,000	402,000	928,800	0	526,800
10-0-6999-40012-69302	Pensions Interest+Rate of Return Assets	169,070	165,700	165,700	359,100	0	193,400
	Transfer (To) / From HRA Reserves	(38,700)	(27,200)	(27,200)	(27,200)	0	0
	Balance Brought Forward	(1,482,900)	(1,513,100)	(1,513,100)	(1,540,300)		
	HRA Balance Carried Forward	(1,521,600)	(1,540,300)	(1,540,300)	(1,567,500)	0	0

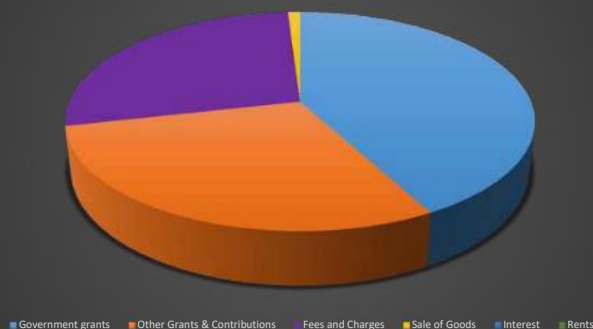
Housing Revenue Account - Service Analysis						
HOUSING SERVICES - HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT	Actuals	Original Budget	Latest Budget	Original Budget	Variance	Variance
	2021/22	2022/23	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24
	£ A	£ B	£ C	£ D	£ C - B	£ D - B
6999-10000 Housing Revenue Account	(0)	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Services						
6010-10000 Housing & Property Services Management	18,695	(9,800)	120,000	(82,600)	129,800	(72,800)
6011-10000 Business Development & Change	24,409	282,700	100,800	134,400	(181,900)	(148,300)
6011-20065 H&PS Service Improvement	94,713	99,900	105,300	126,900	5,400	27,000
6011-59061 Consultancy Services Developments & Improv	0	0	(111,700)	0	(111,700)	0
6012-10000 Housing & Void Repairs Team	506,192	457,500	526,900	587,100	69,400	129,600
6013-10000 Housing Lettings Team	2,417	268,700	2,200	2,300	(266,500)	(266,400)
6014-20040 Housing Services (dept. wide costs)	214,645	181,100	38,900	39,500	(142,200)	(141,600)
6014-20112 Housing Services Recharges a/c	(1,010,721)	(3,421,700)	(1,743,400)	(1,885,000)	1,678,300	1,536,700
6014-20126 Housing Strategy & Development Mgt	115,572	956,800	340,800	397,000	(616,000)	(559,800)
6014-59064 Development Consultancy	0	0	100,000	0	100,000	0
6015-10000 Landlord Services	(19,063)	1,036,000	411,500	622,600	(624,500)	(413,400)
6015-20073 Housing Financial Inclusion	700	3,200	2,600	2,700	(600)	(500)
6015-20074 Housing Income Recovery	123	0	41,000	43,300	41,000	43,300
6015-20091 Lettings Incentive Scheme	3,086	21,200	24,500	25,400	3,300	4,200
6016-10000 Sustaining Tenancies Mgt	1,327	4,700	400	400	(4,300)	(4,300)
6017-10000 Tenant Development	45,894	41,500	33,500	34,500	(8,000)	(7,000)
6017-20049 Engagement Grants	0	800	800	800	0	0
6017-20064 H&PS Business Support	19,921	41,500	4,900	5,000	(36,600)	(36,500)
6017-20133 Tenants Insurance	4,091	(600)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(1,400)	(1,400)
6017-20176 Tenant Panel	740	0	0	0	0	0
6017-59062 EMR Housing Tenant Survey	0	0	6,200	0	6,200	0
6035-20074 Housing Income Recovery	(24,277)	224,700	33,100	(8,200)	(191,600)	(232,900)
6036-20221 Housing Technical Admin	1,536	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer to HRA Summary	0	188,200	36,300	44,100	(151,900)	(144,100)
Supervision & Management General						
6017-20050 Events & Consultations	0	6,300	7,300	7,700	1,000	1,400
6017-20199 Leasehold Management	13	0	0	0	0	0
6021-10072 Shakespeare Avenue Garage site	351	0	0	0	0	0
6021-10073 Spa View Garage site	244	0	0	0	0	0
6021-10089 1 Warwick Street site	15,478	0	0	0	0	0
6021-10091 Turpin Court Garage site	2,250	0	0	0	0	0
6021-10109 Fallow Hill	276	0	0	0	0	0
6021-59063 Shakespeare Road Garage Site	0	0	5,500	0	5,500	0
6022-10000 Housing Supervision & Mgt (S&M) General	3,320,540	3,367,500	4,369,700	4,583,900	1,002,200	1,216,400
6022-20081 HRA Shops and Commercial Props	20,041	14,600	15,900	15,900	1,300	1,300
6023-10000 HRA Stock Condition+Structural Surveys	28,650	200,000	231,300	240,600	31,300	40,600
6024-20080 HRA PV Panels	(81,152)	(74,100)	(73,200)	(72,900)	900	1,200
6024-20114 RHI Renewable Heat Initiative	0	(20,900)	(20,900)	(20,900)	0	0
6025-10000 Right to Buy Admin	36,729	41,100	56,800	61,200	15,700	20,100
6026-10000 Shared Ownership	5,451	3,400	4,300	4,500	900	1,100
Transfer to HRA Summary	3,348,872	3,537,900	4,596,700	4,820,000	1,058,800	1,282,100
Supervision & Management Special						
6001-10000 Housing Central Heating	1,575	2,300	1,900	2,000	(400)	(300)
6001-10025 Acorn Court, LS	26,732	28,800	41,700	92,000	12,900	63,200
6001-10026 CH Chandos Court, LS	46,545	45,800	66,100	148,200	20,300	102,400
6001-10027 CH James Court, Wk	16,799	16,000	21,900	56,300	5,900	40,300
6001-10028 CH Radcliffe Gardens, LS	30,814	25,400	29,600	106,500	4,200	81,100
6001-10029 CH Tannery Court, Ken	33,126	31,900	45,100	74,100	13,200	42,200
6001-10030 CH Yeomanny Close, Wk	21,600	24,100	33,500	81,700	9,400	57,600
6001-10081 Utility charges Sayer Court, LS	273,157	36,400	46,200	73,600	9,800	37,200
6002-10000 Community Centres	52,918	41,100	45,100	60,100	4,000	19,000
6003-10000 Building & Estate Management	325,833	385,400	515,700	569,900	130,300	184,500
6009-10000 Housing Fire Safety & Climate Change Team	0	0	210,800	299,100	210,800	299,100
6018-10000 Housing Support Team	63,191	2,100	65,300	65,300	63,200	63,200
6018-20138 Very Sheltered Cleaning	0	0	0	0	0	0
6019-10000 Communal Areas	478,521	506,600	580,300	658,400	73,700	151,800
6020-10000 Open Spaces	497,866	599,100	488,800	514,700	(110,300)	(84,400)
6020-20250 Tree Works	0	0	63,400	65,900	63,400	65,900
6027-10000 Sheltered Housing	1,350	0	0	0	0	0
6027-10020 Beauchamp House	29,236	28,400	33,500	35,600	5,100	7,200
6027-10088 William Wallsgrove House	0	6,900	7,900	9,800	1,000	2,900
6027-20174 Supported Housing Scheme	3,817	0	0	0	0	0
6028-20014 Warwick Response Business Mgt	66,757	38,700	46,400	46,400	7,700	7,700
6029-10000 Warwick Response	0	0	0	0	0	0
6029-20029 Warwick Response Control Centre	1,177,775	1,105,300	1,578,700	1,750,700	473,400	645,400
6029-20094 Lifeline Private WDC customer income	(347,248)	(331,000)	(371,000)	(341,300)	(40,000)	(10,300)
6029-20153 Help on call LLAT	0	0	0	0	0	0
6029-20154 Help on call MSWLT	0	0	0	0	0	0
6029-20178 WDC Lifeline Equip	0	0	0	0	0	0
6033-10000 Very Sheltered Cleaning - General	0	0	0	0	0	0
6033-20138 Very Sheltered Cleaning	9,663	9,500	6,900	7,200	(2,600)	(2,300)
Transfer to HRA Summary	2,810,027	2,602,800	3,557,800	4,376,200	955,000	1,773,400
Housing Repairs						
6005-20048 RepM Electrical repairs	687,209	574,000	664,600	725,500	90,600	151,500
6005-20060 RepM Gas/Heating Maintenance	640,715	750,000	868,200	947,900	118,200	197,900
6005-20077 RepM HRA Asbestos works	352,516	400,000	463,000	505,500	63,000	105,500
6007-20055 RepR Fire Prevention Works	0	0	0	0	0	0
6007-20139 RepR Void Repair Contract	1,341,345	1,200,000	1,396,400	1,566,900	196,400	366,900
6007-20245 RepR Decant Repairs	0	0	0	0	0	0
6007-20039 RepR Day to Day Repairs Contract	2,020,875	1,900,100	2,199,100	2,458,300	299,000	558,200
6007-20059 RepR Garages: Responsive Repairs	143,616	160,000	69,200	(30,800)	(90,800)	(190,800)
6004-20106 RepM Painting & Decorations	414,867	595,000	688,700	751,900	93,700	156,900
6005-20045 RepM Door Entry & Security Maintenance	137,183	100,200	115,700	126,300	15,500	26,100
6005-20090 RepM Legionella Testing	8,362	10,000	11,900	13,000	1,900	3,000
6004-20055 RepM Fire Prevention Works	258,542	400,000	926,300	1,031,100	526,300	631,100
6005-20079 RepM HRA Paths and Surfacing	82,666	100,000	115,700	126,200	15,700	26,200
6005-20078 RepM HRA Lift Maintenance	81,576	100,000	115,700	126,300	15,700	26,300
6005-20082 RepM HRA Stairlift Maintenance	49,138	50,000	58,300	63,600	8,300	13,600
6006-20120 RepM Shop Maintenance	6,500	10,800	12,700	12,800	1,900	2,000
6005-20177 RepM Warwick Plant Maintenance	27	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer to Summary	6,225,135	6,350,100	7,705,500	8,424,500	1,355,400	2,074,400

Housing Services - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)							
Service Area Code	Service Area's	Actuals 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	Latest Budget 2022/23	Original Budget 2023/24	Variance 2022/23	Variance 2023/24
		(.A)	(.B)	(.C)	(.D)	(C-B)	(D-B)
S6099	Tenancy Management	(15,154)	1,060,400	479,600	694,000	(580,800)	(366,400)
S7000	Housing Revenue Ac	(0)	0	0	0	0	0
S7010	Hsg Sup+Man General	(13)	(194,500)	(43,600)	(51,800)	150,900	142,700
S7020	Housing Business Support	(680,504)	(2,283,800)	(1,263,700)	(1,448,500)	1,020,100	835,300
S7030	Housing Services Management	18,695	(9,800)	120,000	(82,600)	129,800	(72,800)
S7040	Business Development	119,122	382,600	94,400	261,300	(288,200)	(121,300)
S7060	Maintenance	506,192	457,500	526,900	587,100	69,400	129,600
S7070	Independent Living	51,662	587,600	86,400	40,500	(501,200)	(547,100)
S7410	Warwick Response	897,285	813,000	1,254,100	1,455,800	441,100	642,800
S7430	Homelessness	34,403	35,300	41,400	45,400	6,100	10,100
S7450	Utilities	450,349	210,700	286,000	634,400	75,300	423,700
S7460	Community Centres	52,918	41,100	45,100	60,100	4,000	19,000
S7635	Building & Estates Service	(1,434,954)	(1,100,100)	(1,837,400)	(2,494,800)	(737,300)	(1,394,700)
S7900	Housing Repairs - Major	(3,505,835)	(3,260,100)	(3,453,900)	(3,695,300)	(193,800)	(435,200)
S7950	Housing Repairs - Responsive	3,505,835	3,260,100	3,664,700	3,994,400	404,600	734,300
Total Housing Services HRA		1	0	0	0	0	0
Subjective Analysis							
Direct Expenditure							
Employees		3,650,455	3,665,300	3,997,000	4,511,300	331,700	846,000
Premises Related Exp		13,623,726	13,790,500	15,569,000	17,403,600	1,778,500	3,613,100
Transport		19,710	26,700	58,600	64,900	31,900	38,200
Supplies and Services		(11,731,414)	(11,313,300)	(14,594,700)	(16,416,300)	(3,281,400)	(5,103,000)
Third Party Payments		1,589,439	2,136,100	2,182,300	2,128,500	46,200	(7,600)
Transfer Payments		0	0	0	0	0	0
BS Internal Debit		11,401,236	9,140,600	5,200,900	4,267,500	(3,939,700)	(4,873,100)
BS Internal Credit		(3,537,472)	(815,300)	(212,300)	971,700	603,000	1,787,000
Total Direct Expenditure		15,015,679	16,630,600	12,200,800	12,931,200	(4,429,800)	(3,699,400)
Direct Income							
Government grants		(185,343)	(29,000)	(29,000)	(17,500)	0	11,500
Other Grants & Contributions		(40,840)	(41,600)	(41,600)	(14,200)	0	27,400
Fees and Charges		(1,199,344)	(1,152,200)	(1,187,300)	(1,186,400)	(35,100)	(34,200)
Sale of Goods		(236,593)	(193,900)	(171,100)	(183,300)	22,800	10,600
Interest		0	0	0	0	0	0
Rents		(26,873,385)	(28,324,600)	(28,324,500)	(30,229,700)	100	(1,905,100)
Total Direct Income		(28,535,505)	(29,741,300)	(29,753,500)	(31,631,100)	(12,200)	(1,889,800)
Net Direct (Income) / Expenditure		(13,519,826)	(13,110,700)	(17,552,700)	(18,699,900)	(4,442,000)	(5,589,200)
Support Charges							
Support Services		11,131,840	11,311,000	15,443,700	16,732,500	4,132,700	5,421,500
Capital Charges		6,149,557	6,206,500	6,206,500	6,206,500	0	0
Capital Charges Adjustment		0	0	0	0	0	0
Recharges		(3,761,570)	(4,406,800)	(4,097,500)	(4,239,100)	309,300	167,700
Total Support Charges		13,519,827	13,110,700	17,552,700	18,699,900	4,442,000	5,589,200
Net (Income) / Expenditure to Summary		1	0	0	0	0	0

Housing Services - HRA Gross Expenditure Budgets 2023 / 2024



Housing Services - HRA Gross Income Budgets 2023 / 2024



General Fund Capital Programme						
General Fund Portfolio	Latest Budget 2022/23 .(A) £000	Proposed Expenditure 2022/23 .(B) £000	Proposed Expenditure 2023/24 .(C) £000	Proposed Expenditure 2024/25 .(D) £000	Proposed Expenditure 2025/26 .(E) £000	Total 2022/23 to 2025/26 .(A+B+C+D+E) £000
Strategic Leadership	1,111	1,526	75	0	0	2,713
Customer & Digital Services	647	179	1,643	544	618	3,631
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	21,895	13,225	16,996	3,305	0	55,421
Finance	138	140	0	0	0	277
Neighbourhood & Assets	14,119	13,868	624	80	80	28,772
Place, Arts & Economy	19,970	14,742	14,119	4,170	0	53,001
Housing Services - GF	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total General Fund Capital Programme Summary	57,880	43,680	33,456	8,099	698	143,814
Strategic Leadership Total	1,111	1,526	75	0	0	2,713
Bowling Greens - Commonwealth Games	20	20	0	0	0	40
Commonwealth Games - General	87	87	0	0	0	175
Commonwealth Games - Leamington Station	1,004	944	0	0	0	1,948
Commonwealth Games - Green Parks Enhancements	0	370	0	0	0	370
Commonwealth Games - Access & Transport to/from Victoria Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commonwealth Games cycleway upgrade	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warwick Station Fence	0	30	0	0	0	30
St. Mary's Church Tower Restoration	0	50	50	0	0	100
Railway Line Spur To Draycote Water (Sustrans)	0	25	25	0	0	50
Strategic Leadership Total	1,111	1,526	75	0	0	2,713
Customer & Digital Services TOTAL	647	179	1,643	544	618	3,621
AV Kit	0	22	0	0	0	22
Software/Digital-- Strategy Seed Funding	200	0	300	50	0	550
Software/Digital-- GIS	70	0	70	0	0	140
Desktop infrastructure	44	11	37	200	125	417
Voice of IP telephone system	0	8	67	0	0	75
Storage Area Network (SAN)	0	0	170	0	0	170
Network devices LAN & WAN	284	14	360	15	15	687
Infrastructure general	0	14	15	15	15	58
Transforming Our Workplace	0	10	0	0	0	10
Physical server replacement	0	0	46	15	0	61
Backup solution	0	0	100	0	0	100
Virtualisation Servers	0	0	10	0	0	10
Infrastructure replacement	0	0	60	0	0	60
Contact Centre	50	0	58	0	0	108
UPS	0	0	10	0	14	24
Recovery (Covid-19) ICT Provision of laptops etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recovery (Covid-19) ICT Remote Desktop Services (RDS)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recovery (Covid-19) ICT Security --firewall upgrades/servers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyber Security Posture	0	100	0	0	0	100
Mobile Phone Replacement	0	0	20	0	0	20
Relocation to Crown Hosting Site	0	0	50	0	0	50
Development, Building Control and LLPG Replacement.	0	0	250	50	0	300
Committee Services Software Replacement	0	0	20	0	0	20
Regulatory Services Software	0	0	0	200	50	250
Revenues and Benefits Replacement or Renewal (assumed max of £400k)	0	0	0	0	400	400
Customer & Digital Services Total	647	179	1,643	544	618	3,621
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	21,895	13,225	16,996	3,305	0	55,421
Castle Farm sports pitch drainage	73	0	73	0	0	146
Leisure Refurbishments	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whitnash Community Hub--move to Paddy's portfolio	0	0	0	0	0	0
AV system in Council Chamber at Town Hall	0	0	0	0	0	0
Local football facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outdoor Gym Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Victoria Park Play Area	0	355	0	0	0	355
Abbey Fields LC New Building	5,809	1,157	9,455	0	0	16,421
Castle Farm LC New Building	11,739	10,032	6,512	0	0	28,283
St. John's Playing Fields Basketball Court Extension and New Footpath	0	12	0	0	0	12
Pottertons Landscaping Works	0	9	6	0	0	15
Community Stadium project	111	40	256	0	0	407
Athletics Facility Relocation	0	238	0	0	0	238
Myton footpath/cycleway	0	147	0	0	0	147
CCTV replacement system	0	53	0	0	0	53
Health & Community Protection IT system	83	99	28	0	0	209
Pump Rooms Gardens restoration	0	2	0	0	0	2
Tach Brook Country Park	2,182	93	167	2,809	0	5,250
Skate park in St. Nicholas Park	39	0	39	0	0	78
Newbold Comyn Masterplan & Cycling Facilities	851	884	0	0	0	1,734
Play area improvement programme	100	15	260	0	0	375
Jephson Gardens Signage and Interpretation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spa Centre Lights and Radio Microphones	212	85	0	0	0	297
Victoria Park Tennis Facility	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Abbey Fields	497	0	0	497	0	993
Kenilworth Leisure Centre Sites Fit Out Costs Castle Farm	201	0	201	0	0	402
Castle Farm LC Demolition	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbold Comyn Pavilion Refurbishment	0	5	0	0	0	5
Safer Communities, Leisure & Environment	21,895	13,225	16,996	3,305	0	55,421
FINANCE	138	140	0	0	0	277
Rural & Urban Initiatives	100	100	0	0	0	200
Financial Management System	38	40	0	0	0	77
Finance Total	138	140	0	0	0	277

Neighbourhood & Assets						
LAD 2 - Green Homes Grant	1,250	0	0	0	0	1,250
Warwick Town Wall	100	100	0	0	0	200
Recycling and refuse containers	80	86	80	80	80	
Car park pay & display machines	18	30	0	0	0	48
Waste Contract Costs for Depot (Stratford Rd and one-off costs)	40	113	0	0	0	153
Sherbourne Resource Park Development Costs	2,067	2,975	544	0	0	5,586
Street Cleansing/Ground Maintenance Vehicles	8,609	0	0	0	0	8,609
Sherbourne Resource Park recycling bins and caddies	1,955	1,955	0	0	0	3,910
Frontline Vehicle Fleet (SDC/WDC)	0	8,609	0	0	0	8,609
Neighbourhood & Assets Total	14,119	13,868	624	80	80	28,366
Place, Arts & Economy						
Warwick Gates Community Centre Extension	0	0	0	0	0	0
Princes Dr Rail Bridge Refurb & Public Art Project	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd Warwick Sea Scouts' headquarters	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norton Lindsey Community Hub	34	0	0	0	0	34
St Mary's lands masterplan - cycleway	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenilworth Wardens relocation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenilworth School loan	11,881	11,881	0	0	0	23,763
Kenilworth School HIF Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenilworth School HIF grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Europa Way option to buy former farmhouse (Heathcote Farm)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leper Hospital regeneration	916	922	0	0	0	1,837
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	0	0	0	0	0	0
CFS Aeroproducts relocation to Warwick loan	100	100	0	0	0	200
HS2 Redesign of Stoneleigh Park Southern Accommodation Bridge	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Mary's Lands Masterplan - Hill Close Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenilworth Rugby Club Relocation Loan	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Mary's Lands Masterplan Main Entrance Improvements	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Mary's lands masterplan - maintenance & management plan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Future High Street	6,980	0	0	0	0	6,980
Future High Street-Town Hall	0	175	1,563	0	0	1,738
Future High Street- Spencer Yard	0	1,236	3,649	0	0	4,885
Future High Street- Former Stoneleigh Arms	0	150	2,860	0	0	3,010
Future High Street-Sorting office	0	100	5,040	4,170	0	9,310
Future High Street-Sustainable Movement	0	0	1,006	0	0	1,006
Cycle Improvements at Leamington Station	0	60	0	0	0	60
Lord Leycester Hospital	60	60	0	0	0	120
Villiers Street Land Purchase	0	58	0	0	0	58
Place, Arts & Economy Total	19,970	14,742	14,119	4,170	0	53,001
Housing Services - GF						
Jontek Control Centre software upgrade	0	0	0	0	0	0
Decarbonisation Grant (GF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Services - GF Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Housing Investment Programme (HIP) 2022/23 to 2031/32						
Housing Investment Programme (HIP) Financing:	Latest Budget 2022/23	Proposed Expenditure 2023/24	Proposed Expenditure 2024/25	Proposed Expenditure 2025/26	Proposed Expenditure 2026/27 - 2031/32	Total 2022/23 - 2031/32
	.(A) £000	.(B) £000	.(C) £000	.(D) £000	.(E) £000	.(A+B+C+D+E) £000
Capital receipts: UCR	50	50	50	50	300	500
Capital Receipts: One for One replacement	550	450	450	2,317	3,300	7,067
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	5,183	9,214	6,514	4,757	18,000	43,668
Major Repairs Reserve	7,093	6,865	6,465	6,247	37,610	64,279
S 106 Affordable Housing Contributions	793	0	0	0	0	793
Shared Ownership Sales Capital Receipts	535	2,162	812	478	955	4,942
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Turpin Court Garage Site	570	0	0	0	0	570
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Juniper Way	0	6,000	0	0	0	6,000
A Market Rate Cross Subsidy Capital Receipts - Cubbington Riding School	4,990	0	0	0	0	4,990
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	293	0	0	0	0	293
LAD 3 BEIS - Sustainable Warmth Grant - On Gas Delivery	5,793	0	0	0	0	5,793
BEIS WAVE 2 Grant Funding	0	1,094	1,094	547	0	2,734
HRA Additional Borrowing	14,451	21,067	22,895	8,166	16,512	83,091
Housing Revenue Account Related HIP Financing	40,301	46,901	38,280	22,561	76,676	224,719
General Fund Housing Financing:						
General Fund Additional Borrowing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Revenue Account Related HIP Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Housing Investment Programme Resources at:-	31/03/2022	31/03/2023	31/03/2024	31/03/2025	31/03/2026 to 31/03/2030	Total 31/03/22 to 31/03/30
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Capital Receipts: One for One replacement & Buy Back Allowance	97	687	1,277	1,867	2,400	6,327
HRA Capital Investment Reserve	29,206	21,023	13,809	9,295	22,691	96,024
Major Repairs Reserve	6,150	5,206	4,491	4,176	19,295	39,319
HRA Shared Ownership Capital Receipts from New Build Acquisitions	535	2,497	812	478	1,433	5,755
S 106 Affordable Housing Contributions	793	0	0	0	0	793
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Turpin Court	570	0	0	0	0	570
Homes England Affordable Homes Grant - Juniper Way	0	6,000	0	0	0	6,000
A Market Rate Cross Subsidy Capital Receipts - Cubbington Riding School	5,413	0	0	0	0	5,413
LAD 2 BEIS - Green Homes Grant - Midlands Energy Hub	293	0	0	0	0	293
Warmth Grant - On Gas Delivery & Private Sector Landlord Contributions	5,793	0	0	0	0	5,793
BEIS Social Housing Decarbonisation WAVE 2 Grant Funding	0	1,094	1,094	547	0	2,734
Total Housing Investment Programme Resources	48,849	36,507	21,483	16,362	45,819	169,020

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Excerpt from the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7 February 2023 in the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillor Milton (Chair); Councillors Ashford, Barton, Cullinan, J Dearing, Jacques, King, Kohler, Leigh-Hunt, Redford and Syson.

Also Present: Councillor Hales – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Resources, Councillor Mangat, Councillor Matecki – Portfolio Holder for Housing & Assets, and Councillor Tracey – Portfolio Holder for Transformation.

57. **Apologies and Substitutes**

- (a) An apology for absence was received from Councillor A Dearing.
- (b) Councillor Ashford substituted for Councillor Noone.

58. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

65. **Revisions to Scrutiny Arrangements**

The Committee considered a report which brought forward changes to the Scrutiny arrangements for the Council in recognition of the concerns that had been raised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer.

In May 2022, the Council agreed to move to a single Scrutiny Committee. This was a change from previous years when the Council had two Scrutiny Committees (one of which also acted as the Council's Audit committee). The two Committees undertook the scrutiny function from different perspectives.

The remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, before May 2022, was to review items to be considered by the Cabinet, to review past decisions, policy development, health and wellbeing issues, specific issues and problems within any service area. It was also able to scrutinise any other matter not otherwise delegated to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.

The remit of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee, before it was disbanded, was to provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment, independent scrutiny of the Authority's financial and non-financial performance to consider if it affected the Authority's exposure to risk and weakened the control environment, issues of an audit nature and to oversee the financial reporting process. The Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee would:

- review the robustness of business cases;
- promote value for money and good procurement practice;

- make recommendations on good financial management practices;
- keep the treasury management performance under review;
- approve the Statement of Accounts in accordance with regulation 10f of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003; and
- review specific Cabinet items and past decisions.

The remit of the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee covered a number of areas that were the responsibility of an Audit Committee role rather than scrutiny function. While there would always be some overlap between the work of Scrutiny Committees and the Audit Committee, it was advised against them being a single Committee by both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Centre for Governance & Scrutiny (CfGS).

The approach of combining the Audit Committee with an Overview & Scrutiny Committee risked conflicts of interest, spreading resources too thinly and losing clarity over both audit and scrutiny committees' important statutory functions. Both functions required distinct support and should be able to operate effectively independently. This aside, because the functions related to similar areas, there would be matters of common interest where it made sense to collaborate. Some examples were areas around mindset and culture, securing good governance risk, value for money and wider policy issues (including the impact of council strategy and financial management).

As a result, for the municipal year 2022/2023, Council approved a new structure around its Scrutiny function, with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's remit being changed, to add scrutiny of finances as well, and the creation of a new Audit & Standards Committee.

The close working relationship between these two Committees should be delivered through regular dialogue between the Chairs, who should look at sharing information and areas the respective Committees wished to look at. At present, there was a strong working relationship between the Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee and Overview & Scrutiny and this was an area that officers would continue to support into the next municipal year, including ensuring they would be invited to the other's briefings prior to their Committee meetings.

A system of "pre-scrutiny questions" was introduced and these questions and the respective answers were posted on the Council's website. This allowed more focussed questions to be raised at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's meetings and also reduced the number of Cabinet reports called in for scrutiny at meetings because simpler queries were answered outside of formal meetings. The introduction of Overview & Scrutiny Committee Procedure rule 21 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report also helped to decrease the number of Cabinet reports being scrutinised at meetings.

Despite this, concern was raised by Councillors and Senior Officers that some key strategic financial reports were not receiving robust scrutiny because of lack of time and capacity at meetings.

After consideration, the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee formed the view that four additional meetings should be added to the timetable of

meetings which would focus solely on reports on the Committee's work programme and not Cabinet matters, thereby creating more capacity to consider Cabinet reports at the meetings of the Committee just prior to a meeting of Cabinet.

The Chair also supported the continuation of the Fees and Charges Review Group and the Budget Review Group, and going forward, both these groups would be known by one title, the Budget Review Group. These groups were made from representatives of both the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee, with a representative from each political group from both Committees. Appendix 2 to the report gave proposals for Terms of Reference for this group.

Concerns were also raised by Councillors about the level of training they had received in respect of local government finance, and more specifically, understanding Warwick District Council's finances. It was planned that on 6 June 2023, a training session would be provided to all Councillors covering the basic elements of District Council budgets, with more detailed sessions on both finances and scrutiny provided at appropriate times. This would form part of the proposals to be considered by the Audit & Standards Committee later in February 2023 on a programme of mandatory training for all Councillors.

Members raised a concern that PABs were overlapping and undertaking scrutiny functions that might be better dealt with by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. PAB meetings were not public and there was not a requirement to publish minutes of meetings. The Chair stated that he would raise this concern again before the new Municipal Year.

In response to questions from Members, the Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer explained that:

- He would circulate to Members the relevant parts of the Council's Constitution relating to both the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee in respect of their roles in the scrutiny of finance and risk.
- The responsibility for organising meetings of PABs was the sole responsibility of the Chairmen of each PAB. He would raise the issue Councillor Ashford had raised about the Planning PAB not having met with the Chair of that PAB and the Portfolio Holder, but it was possible that because the remit of PABs was narrow, there may not yet have been any business to discuss.
- Whilst the scrutiny of Annual Governance Statement fell under the remit of the Audit & Standards Committee, if the Overview & Scrutiny Committee had a concern about the role undertaken by PABs and felt that this should form part of the Annual Governance Statement, this could be notified to the Audit & Standards Committee via the strong working relationship between the Chairs of both Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Audit & Standards. (The Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee informed Members that he saw a draft version of the Annual Governance Statement before it was considered by Audit & Standards Committee. He would ensure the concerns raised would be fed into the process.)

- Various options had been considered when preparing the report because it was recognised that there was such a tight timeframe between the pre-scrutiny questions and the Group meetings. Officers had inadequate time to respond to the questions ahead of Group meetings, and Councillors had inadequate time to digest the responses that had been received. One option considered had been to move the meeting of Cabinet to the following week which would allow more flexibility for when Overview & Scrutiny met. But other considerations in the timetabling of all committee meetings presented an obstacle, such as the need for Planning Committee to meet every four weeks. There were operational considerations that formed a barrier as well because the Town Council also used the Chamber for its meetings. The Democratic Services Manager advised caution and to wait to find out the direction the new Council would wish to take before making any changes to scheduling.
- It was good practice that going forward from the start of the 2023/24 municipal year, the Chairs of both the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee would be members of the Budget Review Group whilst they remained in the position of Chair of those committees. They should also represent the seat of their political group on the Budget Review Group to maintain political proportionality.

Resolved that:

- (1) from the municipal year 2023/2024, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has four additional meetings (once a quarter);
- (2) the remit of the Budget Review Group as set out at Appendix 2 to the report, is supported and, subject to support from the Audit & Standards Committee, is recommended to Council for Annexing to the Constitution, subject to:

the Chairs of both the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee being members of the Budget Review Group but will represent the place allocated to their political group to maintain political proportionality; and
- (3) the Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Committee will ensure that the concerns raised by Members on PABs are communicated appropriately and that relevant concerns raised by the Committee are fed into the Annual Governance Statement process prior to its consideration by Audit & Standards Committee.

Audit & Standards Committee

Excerpt from the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 February 2023 at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors K Dickson (Chair); Davison, R Dickson, Illingworth, King, Luckhurst, Margrave, Russell, and Wright.

Also Present:

Independent Persons: Mr Tomkinson and Ms Pyke

Parish/Town Council Representative: Councillor Smart

Portfolio Holder for Resources: Councillor Hales

Officers: Sophie Vale (Committee Services Officer); Graham Leach (Democratic Services Manager & Deputy Monitoring Officer); Andrew Rollins (Head of Finance); Richard Barr (Audit & Risk Manager).

34. **Apologies and Substitutes**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ashford and Murphy.

35. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

42. **Training Programme for Councillors**

The Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which brought forward proposals for endorsement by Council in February 2023 in respect of training for all Councillors.

It was recognised that in both 2015 and 2019 District Elections, over half of the Councillors returned by the electorate were new to both the Council and role of a Councillor. Training and development of the new Council, including those returning to the Council, presented a significant challenge to ensure the Council could operate effectively and provide the necessary strategic direction.

While attendance at training had been reasonably good, it was considered that some areas should be mandatory for Councillors to attend due to them providing core skills and awareness of their roles and responsibilities. This was supported by the Strategic Programme Advisory Board (PAB) who identified that the Code of Conduct, Information Governance, Safeguarding and basic training on the Council finances should be mandatory for all Councillors. The Safeguarding training was also recommended by the Children's Champions of the Council. The finance training had also been raised as an area of concern by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Audit & Standards Committee, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer. Information Governance was considered mandatory due to the significant sanctions that could be imposed on the Council and that it provided a building block to good governance and work with the community.

After discussions with Group Leaders, the Leader also included Equality, Diversity & Inclusion training as mandatory for Councillors. Overall,

making equality, diversity, and inclusion training mandatory for Councillors was essential for promoting cultural competence, addressing systemic inequalities, and fostering a more inclusive and equitable society.

There would also be the usual required training for Licensing & Regulatory and Planning Committee members ahead of them determining applications. Training would also be provided on recruitment and selection (for Employment Committee members) as necessary before they considered any relevant cases.

The Strategy PAB recognized that previously, some allowance had been made in respect of mandatory training. However, they were now of the view that these areas were so important, no allowance should be made for any Councillor not to attend. They were also of the opinion that sanctions should be applied if Councillors did not engage with these sessions.

The Code of Conduct, adopted by this Council read as follows:

"8. Complying with the Code of Conduct

As a Councillor:

I undertake Code of Conduct training provided by my local authority.

"It is extremely important for you as a councillor to demonstrate high standards, for you to have your actions open to scrutiny and for you not to undermine public trust in the local authority or its governance."

The guidance associated with the Code went on to say:

"8.1 I undertake Code of Conduct training provided by my local authority.

Councillors should be competent for the work they undertake, and this includes the way in which you conduct yourself when carrying out your role as a councillor. Training helps to develop such competence, ensuring that you understand the Code of Conduct and how it applies to you.

As a councillor you are responsible for your own actions and will be held personally responsible if you breach your local authority's Code of Conduct. Therefore, it is essential that, where you are offered the opportunity by your local authority, you equip yourself with sufficient knowledge of the code to ensure that you comply with it at all times."

While this appeared to focus on the Code of Conduct, the opening statement was about being competent for the work. It could also be considered that failure to engage in training the Council had said was mandatory could be considered as bringing the Council into disrepute.

It was recognised that the sanctions available under the Code of Conduct were limited and therefore work had been undertaken with Group Leaders, for them to make a commitment to taking action through their political group procedures if Councillors within their Group were not meeting the expected standards in respect of training or the Code of Conduct.

The initial training programme was set out within the report, at Appendix 2, with further dates highlighted as "keep free for training". The overall plan was that the initial and mandatory training sessions would be in person, allowing for new Councillors to be set up with IT, followed by

more general training to be held online and recorded, so the Members could access it at a later date if they wished to review the course. In addition to this, there would be online courses available to Members, including those provided by the Local Government Association (LGA).

The Committee should note the proposal from the Strategy PAB for a training session on Saturday 13 May 2023 (which would be mandatory), of Safeguarding and Information governance. The view of the Strategy PAB was that to provide this at an early stage starting at 10am, with lunch provided, and finishing by no later than 3.30pm, provided an opportunity for socializing for Councillors, and removed the need for two evening sessions of training.

There were areas of training which needed to be built into the plan, for example, the role and importance of the Audit & Standards Committee, in respect of understanding but also promotion of these core values of good governance. In this instance, it was likely to be with an informal discussion ahead of their first meeting, with the Committee meeting starting later to allow for this, followed by more detailed training throughout the year.

The Committee should also be aware that the Chief Executive would be holding one last event on 11 April 2023 for all Candidates on the role of a Councillor and the challenges faced. As this was online and after the close of nominations, this should see significant attendance. Once nominations have closed, all candidates would also be provided the Calendar of meetings and the outline training programme. This would (if agreed by the Committee) also set out the expectations in respect of mandatory training.

The Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer clarified that discretion would be allowed, in discussion with Group Leaders, for those Members who could not attend the training sessions for valid reasons.

In response to questions from Members and Independent Persons, the Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer explained that:

- in respect of paragraph 1.4 in the report, there was not as much detail included within that because the Council's Constitution already set out the mandatory training for specific Committee roles under the Council Procedure Rules. The mandatory training discussed in this report were new areas for consideration;
- he would update the Audit & Standards Committee with attendance records quarterly instead of annually;
- in respect of recommendation 2, this provided, in his view, clarification to Members that failure to attend mandatory training could be seen as a breach of the code of conduct. He would still expect a complaint of sorts to be made, so it would not change the existing Standards Matters procedure;
- in respect of recommendation 4c, this was about keeping the Audit & Standards Committee informed but it could be removed if Members did not want it to be included as a recommendation;
- there was a Code of Conduct which the Council had adopted, and that Councillors had agreed to adhere to. There was also guidance associated with that code which was quoted in the report at

paragraph 1.7. The adopted procedures outlined the potential sanctions for breaching the code, which were limited under current legislation to things such as apologies or recommendations from a Hearing Committee for removal of a Councillor from a committee. However, these sanctions were last resorts as the emphasis was always, and would always be, placed on resolving complaints informally as soon as possible. He suggested that Warwick District Council had a great record for resolving matters at an early stage. All matters would be considered on a case-by-case basis and would take a while. He emphasised that there would be discussion with Group Leaders throughout this process as, in the case of a concern or complaint being raised, Group Leaders could take action within their group;

- in terms of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) training scheduled for 16 March 2023, it was his decision to include the briefing on the Trees Call to Action Project to reduce the number of evening meetings for Members. He was assured that this briefing would only take 15 minutes;
- although Members might have had training on subjects such as EDI and safeguarding elsewhere previously, they were still required to complete the training at the Council as every organisation needed assurance that it had provided appropriate training, and the Council did not necessarily know the quality of the training that might have been provided by other organisations; and
- the Calendar of Meetings and outline of the training programme could not be provided to candidates before the close of nominations as officers were unsure of who the candidates would be. There had been low attendance at the 'Becoming a Councillor' sessions held by the Chief Executive earlier this year. However, he would be happy to share them to political party contacts after Council. He also noted that after the close of nominations, all candidates and agents would be emailed with details of meetings and training events.

It was proposed by Councillor Illingworth and seconded by Councillor King that the recommendations in the report should be approved, but that the following amendments would be made:

- That the wording in Recommendation 2 be changed to '*could*' instead of '*would*' to reflect the point clarified by the Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer regarding breaches of the Code of Conduct; and
- That the Audit & Standards Committee be given records of the training and committee attendance for all Councillors every quarter, rather than every year.

Recommended to Council that

- (1) all Councillors must attend mandatory training in respect of the Code of Conduct, Finance, Safeguarding, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion and Information Governance;
- (2) the provision within the Code of Conduct in respect of training be highlighted and the

failure to attend mandatory training could be considered as a breach of the Code;

- (3) training attendance and committee attendance records for all Councillors be reported to Group Leaders and the Audit & Standards Committee quarterly, and that these will be publicly available on the Council's website;
- (4) the Audit & Standards Committee supports the following and recommends to Council that it:
 - a) endorses the agreement of Group Leaders in respect of behaviour of Group Members as set out at Appendix 1 to the report;
 - b) confirms the expectation that all Group Leaders after the election sign up to this protocol; and
 - c) supports the Audit & Standards Committee being notified at its first meeting of the new Municipal year if Group Leaders have or have not signed up to the protocol.
- (5) the outline of the training to be provided to Councillors after the election in May 2023 and the wider aims of training for the first year as set out at Appendix 2 to the report, be noted; and
- (6) the Monitoring Officer be delegated authority, in consultation with Group Leaders and Chair of the Council, to set any further courses over the next four years as mandatory attendance, where it is considered appropriate.

43. Returning Officer & Delegations

The Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which sought a recommendation to Council on 27 February 2023 in respect of delegations to the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for the Council.

As part of the preparations for the Council Elections in May 2023, the Electoral Services Manager identified within the Constitution that there was no specific reference to the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) being the Council's Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer or providing them delegated authority to move polling places (the legal definition of the place where a polling station was located).

While this was implied within the role and contract of the Head of Paid Service, it was advisable for this to be defined within the Constitution for public record.

In respect of the delegation for moving polling places, this was considered a practicable step for allowing changes in between formal reviews, for

places which might become either no longer available or temporarily not available shortly before an election.

It was proposed by Councillor King and seconded by Councillor Russell that the recommendations be approved.

Recommended to Council that the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) be confirmed as Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer and any other electoral officer related roles, to include keeping Polling Districts and Polling Places under regular review and amending any such arrangements where there is an operational need, prior to the next compulsory review of Polling Places and Polling Districts, and Article 12 of the Constitution be updated to reflect this.

45. **Urgent Item – Budget Review Group**

The Committee considered a report from Democratic Services which brought forward arrangements for the Council in recognition of the concerns that had been raised by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and both the Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer.

In May 2022, the Council agreed to move to a single Scrutiny Committee. This was a change from previous years where the Council had two Scrutiny Committees (one of which also acted as the Council's Audit committee). The two Committees undertook the scrutiny function from different perspectives.

The remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, before May 2022, was to review items to be considered by the Cabinet, to review past decisions, policy development, health and wellbeing issues, specific issues, and problems within any service area. It would also be able to scrutinise any other matter not otherwise delegated to the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee.

The remit of the Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee, before it was disbanded, was to provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment, independent scrutiny of the authority's financial and non-financial performance to the extent that if affected the authority's exposure to risk and weakened the control environment, issues of an audit nature and to oversee the financial reporting process. The Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee would:

- review the robustness of business cases;
- promote value for money and good procurement practice;
- make recommendations on good financial management practices;
- keep the treasury management performance under review;
- approve the Statement of Accounts in accordance with regulation 10f of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003; and
- review specific Cabinet items and past decisions.

The remit of the Finance & Audit Scrutiny Committee covered a number of areas that were the responsibility of an Audit Committee role rather than scrutiny function. While there would always be some overlap between the

work of Scrutiny Committees and the Audit Committee, it was advised against them being a single Committee. This was advised against by both the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Centre for Governance & Scrutiny (CfGS).

The approach of combining the Audit Committee with an Overview & Scrutiny Committee risked conflicts of interest, spreading resources too thinly and losing clarity over both Audit and Scrutiny committees' important statutory functions. Both functions required distinct support and should be able to operate effectively independently. This aside, because the functions related to similar areas, there would be matters of common interest where it made sense to collaborate. Some examples were areas around mindset and culture, securing good governance risk, value for money and wider policy issues (including the impact of Council strategy and financial management).

As a result, for the municipal year 2022/2023, Council approved a new structure around its Scrutiny function, with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's remit being changed, to add scrutiny of finances as well, and the creation of a new Audit & Standards Committee.

The close working relationship between these two Committees should be delivered through regular dialogue between the Chairs, who should look at sharing information and areas the respective Committees might wish to look at. At present, there was a strong working relationship between the Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee and Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and this was an area that officers would continue to support into the next municipal year, including ensuring they were invited to the other's briefings prior to their Committee meetings.

Councillors were aware of the introduction of pre-scrutiny questions, the answers to which were available via the website. These helped to further focus and enhance debates at Committee. This had also reduced the number of Cabinet items being considered as simpler queries were answered outside of the formal Committee meeting.

This aside, concern had been raised by Councillors and Senior Officers that some key strategic financial reports were not receiving robust scrutiny due to lack of time and capacity at the meeting.

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee had considered these points and came to the view that in order to provide additional capacity within Overview & Scrutiny Committee meetings, before Cabinet, the most sustainable approach would be to have four additional meetings a year which would solely focus on reports to the Committee and not on Cabinet matters, therein creating more capacity at meetings of Scrutiny the night before Cabinet.

In addition to this, at its meeting in February, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, supported the continuation of the Fees & Charges Review Group and the Budget Review Group (although now a single Group called the Budget Review Group). Currently, these were composed of representatives of the Audit & Standards Committee and Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with a representative of each political group from both Committees.

The use of this Group had a number of benefits through sharing skills and knowledge across the Committees, while allowing focus on specific topics. They were an experiment for this municipal year but had now been built into the Calendar of Meetings for 2023/24. To enhance understanding of their role and the associated responsibilities, a brief terms of reference

had been supported by Overview & Scrutiny Committee and was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

Councillors had also raised concerns about the level of training received in respect of local government finance and more specifically, understanding Warwick District Council finances. This was considered a particularly important area for Councillors to understand, due to their legal responsibilities in respect of the over £100million a year that the Council was responsible for.

To that end, post-election on 6 June 2023, there would be a training session for all Councillors covering the basic elements of the District Council budgets, where money came from to fund services and key terminology. This would then be built upon throughout the year with more detailed sessions at appropriate times on other areas, for example, key considerations in setting fees and charges and the art of Treasury Management. Due to the importance of this area, this would be included in a proposal for mandatory training for all Councillors to be considered by the Audit & Standards Committee in February.

The Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee had been made aware of views from fellow Councillors that a work plan would be valuable for the Committee to ensure the workload could be monitored and no key items were missed.

The Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer drew Members' attention to a slight rewording of the remit of the Budget Review Group for clarity. The first sentence of the Terms of Reference would now read as follows:

"The Group will meet the evening before Cabinet and will be responsible for reviewing the following papers:"

The Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer also explained that normally, the Annual Treasury Management Report would go to Cabinet in February with the Budget report. However, this time it would be going to the March meeting instead. He then stated that the Annual Treasury Management Report was within the remit of the Audit & Standards Committee, and therefore, as it had not had a chance to consider it before Cabinet, Members would have the opportunity to ask questions in the pre-meeting scrutiny questions for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer would liaise with the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee about Members of the Audit & Standards Committee attending the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee if they had specific points or questions to raise regarding the Annual Treasury Management Report.

In response to a question from Members, the Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer stated that the intention would be to appoint the Budget Review Group at the first meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Audit & Standards Committee in the next municipal year, so that Members had ample time to understand and prepare for the Budget review. He explained that, in terms of training, the Training Plan approved at this meeting set out mandatory training for finance which would help Members understand complicated papers such as the Budget. This training would then be built and improved upon over time.

It was proposed by Councillor R Dickson and seconded by Councillor Illingworth that the recommendations be approved, subject to the revision of Appendix 1 to the report.

Recommended to Council that the remit of the Budget Review Group, as set out at Appendix 1 to the report be annexed to the Constitution, subject to the following revision:

The Group will consider the Annual Treasury Management Strategy (if it is reported to Cabinet in February)

and the revised wording is as follows: *"The Group will meet the evening before Cabinet and will be responsible for reviewing the following papers:*

Resolved that it be noted that officers will draft a workplan for the Committee for it to consider at its first meeting of the new municipal year.

(The meeting ended at 7.24pm)

CHAIR
13 March 2023

Fees & Charges Review Group

Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 2 November 2022 in the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Cullinan, Davison, R Dickson, King, Margrave, Milton, Redford, Syson and Wright.

Also Present: Councillor Hales, Portfolio Holder – Resources.

1. Appointment of Chair

Councillor Milton was appointed to Chair the meeting.

2. Apologies and Substitutes

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

4. Cabinet Agenda (Non-Confidential items and reports) – Thursday 3 November 2022

Item 4 – Fees and Charges

The fees and charges review meeting:

1. Thanked officers for their work on report and responses to the volume of questions that came through.
2. Recognised that the Council was dependent on the professional judgement of Officers and Portfolio Holders on Fees & Charges and that there was no perfect solution.
3. Recognised the potential financial challenges faced by the community over the next 12 months and it was keen that services remained accessible to them.
4. Recognised the overall financial challenge for the Council and this was one of three strands of the budget, the others being the government and Council Tax setting.
5. Recognised the challenges faced with elasticity of demand in that if fees were reduced in one area it may (or may not) result in increased demand that equated to extra income (above that anticipated from the proposed higher fee) from increased usage.
6. Asked that Officers looked at opportunities to reduce the impact of the increases on sports facilities by keeping any increase below 15% to increase demand, especially being mindful of the legacy of the

Commonwealth Games.

7. Asked Officers and Portfolio Holders to look for additional sources of income around potential sponsorship of works or assets or their maintenance.

(The meeting ended at 7.05pm)

CHAIR OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
7 March 2022

CHAIR AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE
21 February 2023

Budget Setting Review Group

Record of the meeting held on Wednesday 8 February 2023 in the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa at 6.00pm.

Present: Councillors: Cullinan, Davison, J Dearing, R Dickson, Jacques, King, Kohler and Wright.

Also Present: Councillor Hales, Portfolio Holder – Resources.

5. Appointment of Chair

Councillor Davison was appointed to Chair the meeting.

6. Apologies and Substitutes

There were no apologies for absence.

7. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

8. Cabinet Agenda (Non-Confidential items and reports) – Thursday 9 February 2023

Item 5 - Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Budget Review Group supported the recommendations, in doing so recognising the administration burden for the Council of chasing the demand for any percentage of Council Tax to be paid against the balance of lost income.

The Group encouraged the Cabinet to ensure the message on eligibility was communicated clearly and simply to all residents and targeted to those who the Council considered to be eligible.

The Group welcomed the assurance from the Portfolio Holder to provide, to District Councillors, a one page eligibility sheet so they could help direct/filter enquiries.

The Group highlighted that any communication that was issued should highlight the process for making a claim, including an in person option.

The Group requested that all members be provided with a breakdown of the number of properties within each Council Tax Band to supplement the Table as set out in paragraph 1.4 in the report.

Item 6 - Council Tax Support Fund

The Group supported the recommendations in the report

Item 8 - HRA Budget and Rent Setting

The Group supported the recommendations in the report.

The Group were concerned that while the HRA was on target for delivering its plans for 2023/24, in the following financial years the Council may have to reduce the ambitions in terms of development, decarbonising, decent home standards and support to customers, because of the impact in rental income reduction. While at this time there was not a proposal for cuts, if the restrictions on rent continued there may be a need to.

The Group welcomed the agreement that the Head of Housing would share contact details of the Housing Team Financial Inclusion Officers with all Councillors to help them filter and direct cases.

Item 7 - General Fund Revenue and Capital Budget

The Group did not take a formal view on supporting or not the budget proposals.

The Group raised a number of points that the Cabinet and Council should take into consideration when finalising the budget and Council Tax setting for the 2023/24 financial year:

- The Council only had sufficient reserves for about two years (23/24 and 24/25) to sustain projected deficit of £3.5million
- The change management strategy, from 24/25 onwards, was a key with proposing a positive budget effect of £1.5million recurring reducing the demand on Council reserves
- Not increasing Council tax had a net adverse effect on the budget of just under £300,000 per annum for the Council
- Assumptions had been in the budgeting on a lower anticipated number of new homes and inflation based on OBR, Government, and advisors
- The budget assumed no government funding in 2024/25 but the Chancellor had indicated (with no detail or figures) that this would not be the case
- CEAP reserve of £500k per annum had not been increased to allow for inflation and would be used to fund £70k work on biodiversity (as set on Cabinet agenda)
- There was no further news on the business rate retention reset proposal

The Group noted that:

- Further details of the proposed £160k for Abbey Fields Cycle route would be shared with all Councillors
- There was an error on the totalling in Appendix 5b and a revised one would be circulated to all Councillors
- Officers would share the split of right to buy receipts between the one to one budget and any purpose capital budget
- Officers would share with all Councillors the assumptions and calculations that lead to the MTFS forecasts

(The meeting ended at 7.05pm)

CHAIR OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
7 March 2022

CHAIR AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE
21 February 2023

Terms of Reference Budget Review Group

The Group will meet the evening before Cabinet and will be responsible for reviewing the following papers

Annual Fees & Charges

Setting of the General Fund Budget

Setting of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Annual Treasury Management Strategy (if it is reported to Cabinet in February)

Their purpose will be to review the reports and pass comment on the strategic financial robustness of them.

The reports will be subject to pre meeting questions process as used for all Cabinet papers.

The Group will be composed of a Councillor from each Political group on the Council from each of the Audit & Standards and Overview & Scrutiny committee.

The Chairs of the respective Committees must be on the group but will form the representative of their Group from the respective Committee

The Leader of the Cabinet will permit the Chair of this meeting to represent the views of the Group in line with the rights provided to the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee