



# **Statement of Accounts 2024-25**

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# NARRATIVE REPORT

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## Introduction

This Statement of Accounts presents the overall financial position of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2025. It has been produced in compliance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code), based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). IFRS are made up of a combination of many individual accounting standards.

This document also includes information relating to the Derbyshire Pension Fund, which the Council administers on behalf of its own staff, local authorities and other admitted bodies.

## Basis of Preparation and Presentation

When preparing the accounts, an authority should have regard to whether the information is material to the “true and fair” view of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the authority and to the understanding of users.

Information is material if omitting it, or misstating it, could influence decisions that users make on the basis of financial information about a specific authority.

The Accounting Policies of the Council have been prepared in accordance with IFRS, as adopted by the Code and the Update. Where there is no specific guidance in the Code or the Update, the Council has developed its own Accounting Policies, which are aimed at creating information which is relevant to the decision-making needs of users and reliable, in that the financial statements:

- represent fairly the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the entity;
- reflect the economic substance of transactions, other events and conditions and not merely the legal form;
- are neutral i.e. free from bias;
- are prudent; and
- are complete in all material respects.

The Council’s Accounting Policies outline how the Council should account for all income, expenditure, assets and liabilities held and incurred during the 2024-25 financial year.

The Accounting Policies of the Council are updated annually to reflect any changes in IFRS, including changes in International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), HM Treasury guidance, CIPFA guidance or any other change in statute, guidance or framework impacting on the Council’s accounts. The Accounting Policies of the Council, as far as possible, have been developed to ensure that the accounts of the Council are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable.

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### Explanation of the Accounting Statements which follow

- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) – This shows the cost of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.
- Balance Sheet (BS) – This shows the value of all assets and liabilities. Reserves are matched against net assets and liabilities.
- Cash Flow Statement (CFS) – This statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council.
- Movement in Reserves (MiRS) – This shows the movement on the different reserves held, analysed into ‘usable reserves’ (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure) and ‘unusable’ reserves.
- Notes to the Accounts – Not a statement, however they provide supplementary information.

### Performance

Local authorities may present their breakdown of services within the CIES based on how they are organised and funded. The Council therefore presents its CIES on the basis of how it reports its management accounts during the financial year, with eight operating and reporting segments, primarily based on Cabinet Member Portfolios. The Council has nine Cabinet Member Portfolios, structured into four departments. These portfolios are Adult Care, Children’s Services and Safeguarding, Clean Growth and Regeneration, Corporate Services and Budget, Education, Health and Communities, Highways Assets and Transport, Infrastructure and Environment, and Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change. However, for operational and reporting purposes the Children’s Services and Safeguarding and Education portfolios are combined.

### Revenue Expenditure

#### Overall Council Expenditure

The Council set its net budget requirement for 2024-25 on 14 February 2024 and originally planned to spend £714.769m, with funding coming in the form of Government non-ring-fenced grants of £272.661m, Council Tax of £410.111m, business rates collected locally of £21.020m and the use of Earmarked Reserves of £10.977m.

In 2024-25 the Council has spent £741.397m, against a final net budget of £741.684m. The increase in net budget is because of additional general grant income of £21m, of which £10.624m relates to Bus Services Improvement Plan Grant and £5.407m to Business Rates Relief Grant, and £4m more business rates income than expected, plus additional net transfers from Earmarked and General Reserves of £2m.

The table below summarises the Council’s revenue outturn for 2024-25, compared to controllable budget, highlighting the Cabinet Member Portfolio net overspend and the Corporate net underspend. This has resulted in a net overall Council underspend of £0.287m for 2024-25. The underspend for 2024-25 is after one-off support from the use of £18.879m of the Council’s Earmarked Reserves, of which £10.977m was planned in the Revenue Budget approved by Council in February 2024. A further £7.902m of

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drawdowns from General and Earmarked Reserves were used to support Adult Social Care and Health (£4.390m), Children's Services (£0.286m), CST (£1.642m) and Place (£1.584m) during 2024-25.

	Final Net Budget £m	Actual £m	Outturn £m
<b>Controllable:</b>			
Adult Care	305.592	326.719	21.127
Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education	161.136	188.472	27.336
Clean Growth and Regeneration	1.620	1.209	(0.411)
Corporate Services and Budget	76.972	72.327	(4.645)
Health and Communities	12.411	9.886	(2.525)
Highways Assets and Transport	58.413	51.093	(7.320)
Infrastructure and Environment	51.771	51.547	(0.224)
Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change	10.692	10.267	(0.425)
<b>Portfolio Outturn</b>	<b>678.607</b>	<b>711.520</b>	<b>32.913</b>
Risk Management	16.928	0.000	(16.928)
Debt Charges	52.730	43.122	(9.608)
Interest and Dividends Receivable	(3.844)	(13.811)	(9.967)
Levies and Precepts	0.383	0.383	0.000
Corporate Adjustments	(3.120)	0.183	3.303
<b>Total Outturn Position</b>	<b>741.684</b>	<b>741.397</b>	<b>(0.287)</b>
<b>Transfers to / from reserves:</b>			
RCCO - Capital Funded from Revenue	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	32.468	32.468	0.000
Transfer from Earmarked Reserves	(44.822)	(44.822)	0.000
Use of General Reserves	(4.869)	(4.869)	0.000
Contribution into General Reserve	3.966	4.253	0.287
	<b>728.427</b>	<b>728.427</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Financed By:</b>			
Council Tax	(410.111)	(410.111)	0.000
Revenue Support Grant	(16.755)	(16.755)	0.000
Business Rates	(24.639)	(24.639)	0.000
Business Rates Top-up	(102.132)	(102.132)	0.000
Business Rates Relief Grant	(29.524)	(29.524)	0.000
New Homes Bonus	(0.843)	(0.843)	0.000
Other General Revenue Grants	(133.919)	(133.919)	0.000
PFI Grant	(10.504)	(10.504)	0.000
	<b>(728.427)</b>	<b>(728.427)</b>	<b>0.000</b>

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Spending on schools is funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The Council received £434.083m in 2024-25. Note 38 sets out the DSG grant in more detail. The Council also has responsibility for Public Health funding. A total of £51.221m was received in 2024-25, in the form of ring-fenced grants from Government, comprising the main Public Health Grant of £47.364m and other grants of £3.857m, to pay for Public Health services. There was an overspend against the balance of the grants of £0.208m. The outturn table shows the positions net of the impact of these grants, other ring-fenced grants and income from other third parties and their associated spend.

Of the overall £0.287m underspend in 2024-25, the significant variances (summarised in the earlier table) are set out below.

### **Portfolio Expenditure**

#### Adult Care

The £21.127m overspend on the Adult Care portfolio related mainly to expenditure on care packages being more than budget because of increased costs, market challenges (contract prices) and demand, one-off grant funding no longer being available, and a shortfall in the delivery of the new Community Charge (non-residential care income) efficiency. The overspend was partially mitigated by underspends on block contracts, working age residential and day care services and direct home care. Also, there was some additional one-off funding (£1.8m) provided by Public Health, the use of specific grant contingency amounts and underspends applied to offset the overspend.

#### Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education

The £27.336m overspend on the Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education portfolios is after the allocation of a £10m contingency budget to Early Help and Safeguarding Placements, thus reducing the net overspend for 2024-25 in this service area to £13m (rather than £23m). The overspend in this service area occurred primarily on agency residential placements (£11.4m overspend) and on semi-independent living placements (£3.3m overspend). Steps were taken to contain spend despite continued demand pressures and scarcity of placements. The Children in Care and Care leavers programme is focussing on securing long-term financial sustainability through achieving sufficiency of accommodation to ensure children are cared for in the right home at the right time.

There was an overspend of £4.130m in Education Services for 2024-25; £2.8m of this overspend was due to the continued pressures in Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) assessment and Education Psychology services, where there continued to be a high demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Also, the Education Improvement Service overspent by £0.5m. Work was undertaken to remove the service pressures left by the removal of grant funding and schools academisation within this service area. A target contribution of £2m to overheads for grant and traded services was assigned to this service area but there was a shortfall in contributions of £0.8m (Derbyshire Adult Community Education £0.4m, Sports and Outdoor Education £0.4m). On the plus side, the catering service's income exceeded direct costs by £1.17m, achieving 95% of its target £1.2m contribution to overheads.

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Home to School Transport was another service area where there was an overspend for 2024-25 (£6.757m). The increased number of children with EHCPs impacted on the number eligible for Council funded home to school transport. Numerous work streams within Education Services took place to mitigate costs and a specialised transport task force was put in place to develop robust commissioning systems.

### Corporate Services and Budget

The £4.645m net underspend on the Corporate Services and Budget portfolio was largely due to underspends in three service areas. Legal Services held significant levels of vacancies and had lower spend on external barristers than forecast. People and Organisational Change held significant levels of vacancies and strict cost control measures were in place to reduce expenditure. Property also underspent because of lower utility charges across all the council sites than budgeted for and the receipt of windfall income.

### Highways Assets and Transport

The £7.320m underspend on the Highways Assets and Transport portfolio was achieved through holding vacancies and from income exceeding budget in Public and Community Transport and Fleet Services. Maintenance works at the depot, which were due to be funded through revenue, were capitalised and this resulted in savings against the repairs and maintenance budget.

### **Corporate Expenditure**

There was an underspend of £33.200m on corporate budgets in 2024-25, the corporate budgets being:

- Risk Management
- Debt Charges
- Interest and Dividend Income
- Levies and Precepts
- Corporate Adjustments

There was a £16.928m underspend on the Risk Management budget. The budgeted contingency exceeded the required allocation for the Local Government pay award and other pay related pressures by £5.7m. Further underspends included the receipt of £3.6m of additional income in respect of the Council's share of the gain on the 2024-25 Derbyshire Business Rates Pool. This arose as a result of the business rates growth exceeding the Baseline Funding Level (BFL) at an average across the district councils of 12.5%. Any income above the BFL can be retained by the Council and district councils in the pool. The Council also received £7.7m of additional non-ringfenced grants that had not been announced when the 2024-25 Revenue Budget was approved by Council on 14 February 2024, the largest of which was an uplift in the Business Rates Relief grant of £5.3m.

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The Debt Charges budget was underspent by £9.608m in 2024-25. Reductions in expenditure of £11.7m were achieved because of a change to the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for the repayment of debt principal and the reprofiling of the capital programme, which reduced the level of borrowing required. This was offset by £1.8m additional interest payable on short term loans that were taken to manage the cashflow over the year.

There was a favourable variance of £9.967m on the Interest and Dividends budget in 2024-25, which was achieved through having higher than forecast working capital balances and higher levels of interest income earned on funds held than budgeted.

There was an overspend of £3.303m on Corporate Adjustments in 2024-25. This was due to a £1.1m expected credit loss in respect of interest receivable on a loan advanced to an organisation which is now in doubt due to economic conditions. It is also due to a £2.2m adjustment in respect of interest on schools' balances; the Council is compensated for this loss through additional interest on balances and therefore has nil effect on the financial position of the Council.

### **Council Reserves and Commitments**

The Council's General Reserve was £39.566m at 31 March 2025. This is after an agreed release of £30.000m from Earmarked Reserve balances to the General Reserve, which was reported to Cabinet on 30 January 2025, and after a subsequently agreed transfer of £27.134m of this balance back to the RCCO Earmarked Reserve, used to support Revenue Budget management, from where it originated. The original transfer to General Reserve was intended to mitigate a forecast 2024-25 overspend at Q3 and support the General Reserve balance at an appropriate level but was ultimately not required.

Portfolio ring-fenced commitments of £3.319m were proposed against this General Reserve balance in the Council's Performance Monitoring and Revenue Outturn 2024-25 Report.

The balance on the General Reserve, before commitments, is 5.5% of the Council's Net Budget Requirement for 2025-26 and is considered to be appropriate. The minimum level of General Reserve for an organisation the size of the Council is around 3% of a council's net spending. When the 2024-25 budget was approved at Council in February 2024 it was commented that the General Reserve for the Council cannot fall below £25m.

Considering the current challenges of the Council's overall financial position, it was not proposed to allocate portfolio underspends to departmental Earmarked reserves for 2024-25, beyond these ring-fenced commitments. Any decisions on the use of departmental Earmarked reserves containing underspends will continue to be subject to appropriate approvals by the relevant Cabinet Member in consultation with the Director of Finance.

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Reviews of Earmarked Reserves will continue, and any available balances will be returned to the General Reserve, and, if appropriate, reallocated to other Earmarked Reserves. This enables the Council to refocus the balances it is holding, based on its latest assessment of the most significant and immediate financial risks. The next review of Earmarked reserve levels is scheduled to be reported in January/February 2026.

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows a deficit on provision of services of £60.500m. This is different to the outturn position shown above as it includes both cash transactions and non-cash items, such as depreciation. Loss on disposal of non-current assets, which includes asset values in respect of eleven schools converting to academies during the year, comprises £30.302m of the deficit.

### **Cost of Living Support**

The Council has responded to the impact of the rising cost of living being experienced by Derbyshire residents.

For 2024-25, the Council was again awarded Household Support Fund grants by the UK Government, to support local households facing financial hardship in relation to rising food, energy and essential living costs. The Council continued to take a blended approach to distributing the grant, working cross-Council, with District and Borough council partners and the voluntary sector, to help ensure the funding reached those who needed it most. By 31 March 2025, the Council and partners had successfully distributed £10.691m (2023-24: £10.760m) of Household Support Grant funding to households in need.

During 2024-25, £2.372m (2023-24: £2.305m) of the grant was distributed via one-off grocery vouchers to those eligible for benefit-related free school meals, care leavers and children in receipt of additional early years childcare funding because of a low household income. A further £2.832m (2023-24: £3.096m) was distributed to pensioners and Adult Social Care clients in low-income households, and District and Borough councils used £1.893m (2023-24: £1.873m) of the grant to address homelessness prevention, welfare and other associated emergency housing needs locally. Cash grants were awarded to low-income families and care leavers by children's professionals, and unpaid carers and vulnerable pensioners were supported to access crisis help by partner agencies. £2.325m (2023-24: £2.276m) of the additional grant funding allowed the Council to respond to increased demand on the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund (DDF). The DDF made 19,990 (2023-24: 25,146) Emergency Cash Payment / Crisis Payments awards to residents, to help with food and heating during the year, and supported an additional 918 (2023-24: 913) households with Exceptional Pressure Grants / Essential Item Grants / Re-settlement Grants (for instance, for re-settlement when facing domestic abuse, or to ease exceptional pressure on a family).

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The Council's communications team continued to share information about the cost of living support available to residents, both locally and nationally, including promoting take up of free school meals, and in-house Welfare Rights Service support. In 2024-25, the take up of free school meals across the county remained steady at 77% (2023-24: 77%), maintaining the progress that had been made. Evaluation undertaken during 2024-25 of the work done by the Council to support and promote safe, affordable, lending options in Derbyshire through community banks and credit unions demonstrated an increase of 1,940 new credit union and community bank members, 50% above the national trend.

The Welfare Rights Service supported 23,682 (2023-24: 25,383) residents with income maximisation advice during 2024-25 – leading to 8,414 (2023-24: 9,496) benefit claims or appeals being made.

### **Homes for Ukraine Response**

Following the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the UK Government implemented the Homes for Ukraine (H4U) scheme to provide homes for families fleeing the conflict.

To date, just over 1,700 H4U guests have arrived in Derbyshire, with 210 of those arriving in 2024-25. This remains the highest guest population in the region and one of the highest, per head of population, in the UK. Under H4U, local authorities initially received core funding of £10,500 to support each guest, dropping to £5,900 for guests arriving in 2023-24 and 2024-25. In addition, funding is also received to provide monthly thank-you payments to host households. In the last twelve months, the Council has claimed £0.741m of core funding and £1.555m for the provision of thank-you payments.

The H4U funding has allowed the Council to set up the infrastructure to deliver the scheme, including the processing of DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks, environmental inspections of host properties, safeguarding screening, the delivery of safe and well checks and rematching, where host placements have broken down. To date, emergency payments of £0.407m have been made to guests to support them when they initially arrive, with total service costs, over three years of £5.483m; this includes enhanced payments to support hosts, including a payment uplift for all hosts, to £700 per month. This has supported hosts to maintain placements, and attracted private landlords to participate in the scheme. To date, the service has supported 272 host arrangements, which is unchanged from 2023-24. The ongoing priority of the scheme is to respond to the longer-term support needs of guests, for example, obtaining independent accommodation and employment and to support the work of voluntary sector groups in the community.

### **Capital Expenditure**

In 2024-25 the Council's capital expenditure not related to IFRS 16 application decreased by £52.880m compared to the previous year. The Council had planned to spend £207.731m, as set out in the Council's Estimate of Capital Expenditure in the Council's Capital Strategy reported to full Council but actual expenditure not related to IFRS 16 application was only £106.630m, a significant decrease on the previous year's spend.

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The 2024-25 decrease in actual capital expenditure not related to IFRS 16 application, compared to 2023-24, was mainly due to reduced spend on the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre (DDWTC), which was £61.388m in 2023-24 (comprising £56.930m in respect of the Council's payment for its share of the DDWTC's Estimated Fair Value and £4.458m securing, managing and preserving the site), but £2.813m in 2024-25 (for securing, managing and preserving the site). The decrease in 2024-25 actual capital expenditure not related to IFRS 16 application compared to planned expenditure was mainly due to slippage on various schemes, along with some major projects completing in previous years and new projects still at the feasibility stage, which meant that actual expenditure was much less than expected.

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
IFRS 16 Application Adjustment	-	34.732
Capital Expenditure	165.544	106.630
<b>Total</b>	<b>165.544</b>	<b>141.362</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>		
Grants and Contributions	71.665	65.830
Loans	91.286	67.025
Capital Receipts	2.593	8.507
<b>Total</b>	<b>165.544</b>	<b>141.362</b>

Previously, the Council funded some capital projects using revenue contributions but due to service pressures on revenue funds, and to enable the Council to provide flexibility in managing its budget savings, the Council has changed its approach regarding allocating funding to capital projects. To replace the revenue contributions no longer being used, the Council has had to use other methods of funding, namely internal borrowing/short-term borrowing and available capital receipts.

### **Assets and Liabilities**

The value of Property, Plant and Equipment Assets (PPE) has decreased by £39.047m, partly because of the transfer of assets into the Right of Use class upon the adoption of IFRS 16 Leases and also because of a decrease in the amount of Assets Under Construction year on year.

Current and Non-Current Investments have decreased by £69.485m and Cash and Cash Equivalents have decreased by £5.476m from the previous year.

Current and Non-Current Debtors have decreased by £7.682m.

Creditors and Current and Non-Current Provisions have decreased by £27.697m.

Current and Non-Current Borrowing have increased by £0.674m. The Council has not entered into any long-term debt since September 2010.

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The Council's pensions' position has changed from a total net pensions liability of £65.001m at 31 March 2024, to a total net pensions liability of £56.986m at 31 March 2025. At 31 March 2025, there was a total net Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) surplus reported by the Actuary of £657.286m (31 March 2024: £282.049m surplus). The increase in LGPS surplus at 31 March 2025 has arisen mainly because of gains arising from changes to the financial assumptions used to measure LGPS scheme liabilities in the actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2022 and the return on LGPS scheme assets in 2024-25. However, Accounting Standards impose a limit on the maximum amount of surplus which can be recognised in the Balance Sheet, known as an asset ceiling restriction. The Actuary calculated an LGPS scheme asset ceiling restriction of £677.303m (31 March 2024: £305.259m restriction). After this adjustment, there is a total net pensions liability in the accounts, including Teachers Pensions, of £56.986m (31 March 2024: £65.001m total net pensions liability).

This asset ceiling restriction has contributed to an overall decrease in the Council's Unusable Reserves.

### Cashflow

The Council's cashflow in 2024-25 highlights a large increase in payments related to the provision of services, which is reflective of price and wage inflation and high demand for Council services, especially in Adult and Childrens Social Care and to support children with Education, Health and Care Plans (ECHPs). On 11 March 2025, the funds held for and on behalf of East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) were released. The Council has continued to rely on utilising reserves to meet some shortfalls in funding for operating costs, albeit at a reduced level than previous years. The use of reserves and the payment of funds to EMCCA is reflected by the Council raising cash to maintain adequate working capital by redeeming investments.

The net cash outflow from Operating Activities decreased by £64.921m in 2024-25. There were increases in Other Operating Payments (non-employee) of £114.485m and Payments to and on behalf of employees of £17.128m. These increases in net cash outflows were partly offset by an increase in cash inflows from Council Tax of £23.104m, Business Rates of £10.917m, and Revenue Grants and Other Income of £168.799m. Interest payments increased by £6.014m and Interest and Dividends Received increased by £0.298m in 2024-25.

The net cash inflow from Investing Activities decreased by £105.628m in 2024-25. Purchases of Investments increased by £175.639m and Capital Grants received decreased by £34.411m. These increases in net cash outflows were partly offset by an increase in Investments Redeemed of £46.496m in 2024-25, an increase in Proceeds from the Sale of Non-Current Assets of £7.171m and an increase in the Purchase of Non-Current Assets of £50.754m.

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The net cash outflow from Financing Activities decreased by £26.802m in 2024-25. Repayment of borrowing reduced by £202.190m. This decrease in net cash outflows was partly offset by a decrease in the inflows from new short-term loans by £116.020m and a net receipt on behalf of East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) in 2023-24 changed to a net payment in 2024-25 which was a movement of £56.420m.

### **Council Funding**

Core Spending Power measures the core revenue funding available for local authority services, including Council Tax and locally retained business rates.

For 2024-25 the Government set out public spending allocations for one year only, with an average 7.5% increase in core spending power including £1.8bn of additional grants previously announced and £0.6bn of further additional grants announced in January 2024, mainly for social care. For 2025-26 the Government again set out public spending allocations for one year only, with an average real-terms 3.5% increase in core spending power including £2bn of additional settlement grant funding. The FYFP assumes that there is no reduction in the Council's general grant funding.

For 2024-25 and 2025-26, the Council increased Council Tax by 4.99% (an ASC Precept increase of 2.00% and a basic Council Tax increase of 2.99%), which is equal to the maximum 4.99% allowed without holding a referendum.

The 2025-26 Council Tax increase of 4.99% is in recognition of Adult Social Care pressures and the substantial increase in general budget pressures the Council is experiencing. Increasing Council Tax by 4.99% will raise around an additional £20.836m in Council Tax income in 2025-26 and future years to support the Council's vital services. A 4.99% Council Tax increase is forecast in the Council's in each subsequent year from 2026-27 to 2029-30. The Council will always attempt to keep Council Tax rises as low as possible. However, pressures will continue to emerge over the medium term; in particular additional costs around pay, and inflationary pressures, were largely absent over the last ten years or so prior to 2022-23. The need to manage these, and other pressures, will be challenging and as a result future Council Tax increases cannot be easily forecast with a high degree of certainty, and it is possible that predictions expressed in the initial FYFP will prove inadequate and may need to be revised upwards.

Better Care Fund (BCF) allocations and additional allocations of improved BCF will also continue to contribute to supporting Adult Care services.

In the event that more schools convert to academy status, there will be a loss of funding through the Dedicated Schools Grant matched by a reduction in expenditure on schools, however it could result in a potential loss of income from services the Council trades with schools.

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### **Borrowing**

Given the continued uncertainty of future local government funding, the Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability, without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). Usable reserves and working capital are the underlying resources available for investment. The Council's recent strategy is to maintain borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing. The Council therefore has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme but minimal investments. The Council will require additional borrowing of up to £333m by March 2028 according to its CFR forecasts at February 2025.

CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities recommends that the Council's total debt should be lower than its highest forecast CFR over the next three years. The Council expects to comply with this recommendation for the three years 2025-26 to 2027-28.

Short-term interest rates are currently higher than in the recent past but are expected to fall in the coming year and it is therefore likely to be more cost effective over the medium-term to either use internal resources, or to borrow short-term loans instead. The risks of this approach will be managed by keeping the Council's interest rate exposure within the limit set in the Council's treasury management prudential indicators. By doing so, the Council is able to reduce net borrowing costs (despite foregone investment income) and reduce overall treasury risk. The benefits of internal and short-term borrowing will be monitored regularly against the potential for incurring additional costs, by deferring borrowing into future years. The Council's treasury management advisors will assist the Council with this 'cost of carry' and breakeven analysis. Its output may determine whether the Council borrows additional sums at long-term fixed rates in 2025-26.

The Council has previously raised the majority of its long-term borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) but will consider long term loans from other sources including banks, pensions and local authorities, and will investigate the possibility of issuing bonds and similar instruments, in order to lower interest costs and reduce over-reliance on one source of funding, in line with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield; the Council intends to avoid this activity in order to retain its access to HM Treasury's PWLB lending facility.

Alternatively, the Council may arrange forward starting loans during 2025-26 or 2026-27, where the interest rate is fixed in advance, but the cash is received in later years. This would enable certainty of cost to be achieved without suffering a cost of carry in the intervening period. In addition, the Council may borrow further short-term loans to cover unplanned cash flow shortages.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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### Provisions and Contingencies

Movements in provisions and contingencies are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts. There have been no material changes to policy or to amounts during the year.

### Reserves

The Council's Usable Reserves, which include General and Earmarked Revenue Reserves, have increased by £3.200m, to £389.054m.

The General Reserve balance has decreased by £0.616m from 31 March 2024, to £39.566m at 31 March 2025. The adequacy of the Council's General Reserve balance is considered earlier in the Narrative Report.

During 2024-25, the Earmarked Reserves balance has decreased by £12.354m, to £192.814m at 31 March 2025. Earmarked Reserves are held for specific purposes and are regularly reviewed by Cabinet as part of the budget monitoring cycle. A more detailed analysis is available in Note 29 to the Accounts.

The Unapplied Capital Grants Reserve has increased by £10.233m, to £133.990m at 31 March 2025. This reserve holds the grants and contributions received towards capital projects, but which have yet to be applied to meet capital expenditure. The majority of the increase in the Unapplied Capital Grants Reserve in 2024-25 is due to grants being received but not yet allocated to projects, for example contributions from developers, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Basic Need grants, along with grants for the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and other Highways grants.

The Capital Receipts Reserve has increased by £5.937m, to £22.683m at 31 March 2025. This is money set aside to meet capital expenditure and has been used mainly to fund Markham Vale, Disabled Facilities adaptations, the County Hall redevelopment, Staveley Waterside and Glossopdale Replacement school, which was previously funded from borrowing. The reserve has increased in 2024-25, primarily because of the sale of assets surplus to the Council's requirements, as the Council is reviewing its approach to property and asset management, by way of rationalisation and modern ways of working. This is providing the potential to increase capital receipts by selling properties, including some Homes for Older People (HOPS), Peak Buildings, several offices, for example, Chatsworth Hall and Long Close, and other various community, business and resource centres, which will assist with the future funding of the Capital Programme.

After adjusting for non-cash items, the Council's General and Earmarked Reserves remain above the minimum levels for an organisation the size of the Council. These levels are key to the delivery of the Council's objectives over the medium term as a means of helping to manage significant potential liabilities and the general reduction in resources. All such risks are regularly reviewed and appear alongside mitigating actions, on the Council's Strategic and Departmental Risk Registers. The Council formally reviews its reserves at least annually, as set out in the Council's Reserves Policy. The last review was reported to Council in February 2025.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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### **Property, Plant and Equipment and Heritage Assets (PPE)**

#### **Prior Period Adjustments**

In February 2025, the Council received its External Auditor's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Report advised that an issue in the Council's Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, specifically that the calculations did not include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings, had been identified.

The External Auditor issued the Council's audit report on 28 February 2025, which included a disclaimer of opinion. This meant that the Council's External Audit Report did not express an opinion on the financial statements and no assurance was provided. It was necessary for the External Auditor to issue this disclaimer of opinion because amendments to the Account and Audit Regulations meant that there was a new statutory deadline of 28 February 2025 for publication of the Council's financial statements, known as a 'backstop'. As a result of the backstop, the Council did not have time to revise its DRC calculations and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 and the External Auditor did not have time to obtain sufficient audit evidence in this area and was therefore unable to conclude on the impact of the issue, and correspondingly did not provide any assurance on these balances in the Council's Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Subsequently, the Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, to include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for 2023-24. Overall Council Property Plant and Equipment (PPE) and Heritage Assets buildings assets values were overstated by £524.199m at 31 March 2024, equivalent to 32.0% of the Council's net assets at that date.

The misstatements resulting from this issue have a material impact on the Council's CIES and Balance Sheet for 2023-24. The Council has therefore, in line with the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice requirements, presented a CIES and Balance Sheet which reflect the required material retrospective restatements. Full details of the impact of these restatements are given below.

#### **Pensions**

#### **Liability**

Under International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS19), the Council is required to show the total future costs of pension liabilities for the Local Government Pension Scheme. This is a notional figure, as the Council's budget is constructed on the basis of actual contributions payable.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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The IAS19 notional cost of the LGPS scheme for 2024-25 is £59.230m and for Teachers Pensions is £1.922m. The actual contributions made for the year were £62.167m and £4.374m respectively, resulting in a net adjustment to the revenue position of £5.389m. In addition, there were actuarial gains on both schemes, amounting to £372.300m and £2.370m respectively. Overall, this would have resulted in an improvement of £380.059m in the Council's Balance Sheet position, from a total net pensions asset of £240.258m at 31 March 2024, to a total net pensions asset of £620.317m at 31 March 2025. However, Accounting Standards impose a limit on the maximum amount of surplus which can be recognised in the Balance Sheet, known as an asset ceiling restriction. The limit depends on factors unique to each employer and the Actuary has reflected this by carrying out additional calculations. The Actuary calculated an LGPS scheme asset ceiling restriction of £677.303m (31 March 2024: £305.259m restriction). After this adjustment, there is a total net pensions liability in the accounts, including Teachers Pensions, of £56.986m.

There were gains arising from changes to the demographic and financial assumptions used to measure LGPS scheme liabilities in the actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2022, in addition to the return on LGPS scheme assets in 2024-25.

The overall net pensions position is offset by a matching unusable reserve, ensuring there is no impact on the level of Council Tax. There is currently a surplus between the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources that the Council has set aside to meet them. The Funding Strategy adopted by the Pension Fund will ensure that an appropriate level of funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

### **Events After the Balance Sheet Date**

There were no significant events between the balance sheet date and the approval of these financial statements which would require further disclosure or adjustment of the statements.

### **Organisation and Governance**

The Council is composed of 64 Elected Members who are democratically accountable to the residents of their electoral division. Members follow a Code of Conduct, to ensure high standards in the way they undertake their duties. The Cabinet consists of the Leader of the Council and eight Members. The Cabinet is responsible for guiding the Council in the formulation of the corporate plan of objectives and key priorities, which is referred to in more detail, under Strategy and Resource Allocation, below. Within the policy framework, budgets and major plans are approved by the full Council and the Cabinet has executive responsibility for the implementation of the Council's key goals and objectives.

The Governance, Ethics and Standards Committee promotes and maintains high standards, assists Members in observing the Code of Conduct and advises the Council on matters related to the Code of Conduct. The Council also operated five Improvement and Scrutiny Committees during 2024-25, which support the work of the Cabinet and the Council as a whole.

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All Members meet together as the Council. Meetings are generally open for the public to attend, except where confidential matters are being discussed.

More information on the Council's Governance Framework is included in the Council's Annual Governance Statement, which is included at the end of these accounts.

### **East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA)**

The East Midlands Devolution Deal, which covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham, was signed in August 2022. The new East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA) became a legal entity in late February 2024 and held its inaugural meeting in March 2024. The Council is one of the constituent councils which form part of EMCCA. Elections took place on 2 May 2024 and an East Midlands Mayor was elected. Devolution will result in the East Midlands receiving £1.14 billion more funding over 30 years, to invest in the region.

Until 31 March 2024, the Council acted as the Accountable Body for EMCCA for both its capital programme and revenue capacity funding. During the financial year 2023-24, EMCCA received £32.972m in grant income and spent £7.030m in expenditure. This income and expenditure was accounted and administered independently from the Council's accounts and therefore, does not form part of the main statements which appear later in this Statement of Accounts. This is in accordance with the principles set out in the Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice, where the Council is acting as an intermediary and is therefore following the agent principle as set out in Section 2.6.2.1 of the Code. More details are included in Note 36, Trust Funds and Other Funds.

### **Local Enterprise Partnership**

D2N2 was the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. It played a central role in deciding local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and create local jobs. It was a locally owned partnership between the public and private sectors and in April 2019 became incorporated in line with new Government guidelines. It was managed by a Board made up of the constituent councils, including Derbyshire County Council and private sector representatives. From April 2019 the Council became the single accountable body for all D2N2 LEP funds. As Accountable Body, the Council was responsible for overseeing the proper administration of financial affairs within the LEP with regard to public funds.

In February 2022, the Government published its Levelling Up White Paper. The White Paper set in motion some changes to the roles and functions of LEPs. For areas seeking a Devolution Deal, LEPs were instructed to integrate into the Combined Authority. The D2N2 LEP transitioned into EMCCA throughout 2024-25 and closed as a company on 2 April 2025, with all staff transferred across and all contracts novated. The Council's role as Accountable Body has now ended.

During 2023-24 and 2024-25 the D2N2 LEP's income and expenditure was accounted and administered independently from the Council's accounts and therefore, does not form part of the main statements which appear later in this Statement of Accounts.

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### **Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited, Concertus (Derbyshire) Limited and PSP (Derbyshire) LLP**

Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited (VDL) and Concertus (Derbyshire) Limited (CDL) are private limited companies in which the Council has a 49% stake, with the aim of providing cleaning and caretaking services and property design and consultancy, respectively. VDL and CDL are run as Joint Venture companies with the other shareholders being part of Suffolk Group Holdings Limited, whose ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is Suffolk County Council. During 2024-25, income of £0.062m was receivable from VDL (2023-24: £0.065m), of which £0.015m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.005m). During 2024-25, CDL income receivable was £0.094m (2023-24: £0.027m), of which £0.031m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.003m). During 2024-25, expenditure of £10.756m was payable to VDL and Vertas (Derbyshire) Traded Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary (2023-24: £11.609m), of which £0.614m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.062m). During 2024-25, expenditure of £4.517m was payable to CDL and Concertus Derbyshire Traded Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary (2023-24: £6.024m), of which £0.005m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2023: £0.035m).

PSP (Derbyshire) LLP (PSPD) is a limited liability partnership (LLP) formed between the Council and PSP Facilitating Limited (PSPF), under the provisions of the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000. The purpose of PSPD is to help the Council unlock value from its land and property. There were no transactions with the company during 2024-25 (2023-24: £nil).

### **Strategy and Resource Allocation**

#### **Performance Overview**

The Council Plan 2024-25 identified five focused priorities to direct effort and resource:

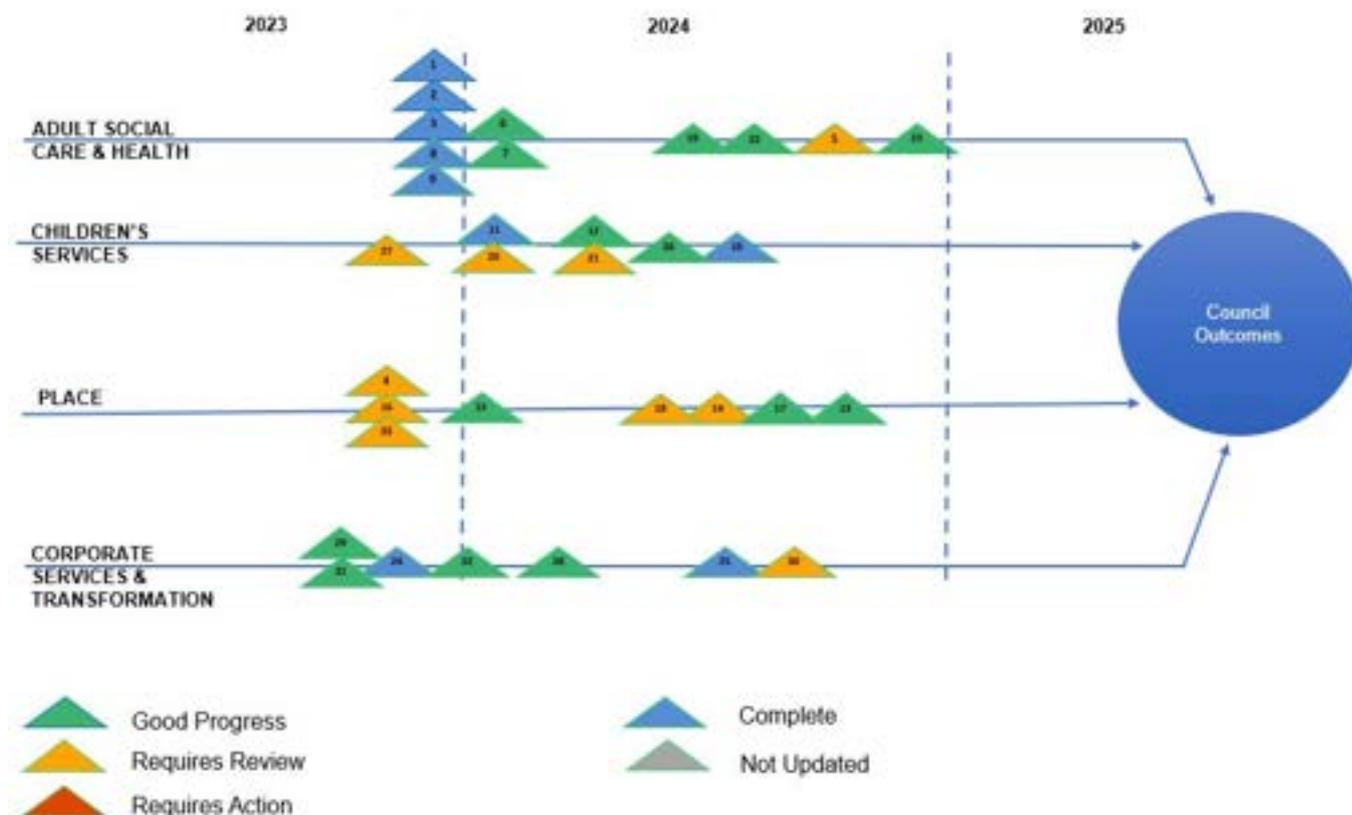
- Resilient, healthy and green communities
- Happy, Safe and Healthy People
- A Strong, Diverse, and Clean Economy
- Great Places to Live, Work and Visit
- High Quality Public Services

For each priority 'Strategic Objectives' were identified, setting out what the Council aimed to achieve over the year, supported by key measures which enabled the Council to monitor the progress made.

To ensure effective monitoring, and to facilitate appropriate actions, performance was reported in context, with accompanying financial information, on a quarterly basis. Reports were made publicly available on the Council's [website](#), following submission to Cabinet.

## NARRATIVE REPORT

Of the 33 Strategic Objectives in the Council Plan, 9 were completed, 14 showed good progress and 10 'required review'.



Progress of the Strategic Objectives is tracked and visualised using the base plan above.

The year-end position is shown with the ratings based on the progress against the expected year end positions. Each symbol represents a Strategic Objective for the department, with the position on the line reflecting the timescale for when the bulk of activity will commence. The symbol numbers refer to the Strategic Objective in the 2024-25 Council Plan and the reference in the more detailed [quarterly reporting](#). The issues and actions for those rated review can be seen below, with the SO- prefix acting as a reference.

The Council successfully delivered a wide range of services throughout 2024-25, with the following being a selection of key achievements:

- Awarded 19,990 Crisis Payments (previously known as Emergency Cash Payments), totalling over £1.660m, to support families in need via the Derbyshire Discretionary Fund.
- Supported more people with learning disabilities to move from residential care to community settings, helping them to increase their independence and involvement in communities.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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- Provided safe, stable homes for over 1,000 children in the Council's care and helped more children in care to return to live with their birth families, or to find other loving, permanent family homes.
- Strengthened support to families in crisis to reduce admissions to care and reunify families where it is safe to do so. The Council is currently working with over 200 families across Derbyshire, and at the end of the year, the number of children in care was 2% lower than the same point the previous year.
- Supported people to live independently for as long as possible, ensuring they remain a part of their local community, with over 23,500 people supported in 2024-25.
- Completed over 9,700 Health and Wellbeing MOTs, to address health and wellbeing needs, including stop smoking, weight management and physical activity.
- Successfully supported entrepreneurs to start and develop their small businesses, through the Business Start Up support scheme, resulting in 288 businesses being supported over the year. Over 100 apprentices have also been supported into various sectors of training in Derbyshire.
- Implemented the Council's £47m Bus Service Improvement Plan, which enhanced service frequency and extended hours. This led to a significant increase in bus passenger numbers and high satisfaction rates, with Derbyshire achieving a ranking of fifth out of all council areas in a national bus passenger satisfaction survey. Additionally, 57 electric buses were introduced as part of green transport initiatives.
- Worked with the EMCCA to maximise the benefits of the devolution deal, with Derbyshire benefiting from early funding announcements such as the £0.260m East Midlands Investment Zone grant and approximately £13m of revenue funding to support various aspects of the regeneration pipeline.
- Delivered the Council's £120m highways investment programme, supporting the maintenance and improvement of over 3,380 miles of roads, and other highways infrastructure.
- Supported Derbyshire schools with significantly better than national performance for the proportion of Derbyshire pupils achieving grades 4-9 in English and Maths at GCSE.
- Achieved a good or better rating by Ofsted for all the Council's children's homes, with 55% rated as outstanding compared to a national average of 14%.
- Responded to major flooding events across Derbyshire and continued flood resilience work to enable local people to be better protected from the impact of flooding.
- Achieved an overall 'good' Ofsted rating for Children's Services, with 'good' ratings across all four categories and particular praise for the Council's 'passionate and skilled' workforce.
- Achieved a 'good' rating from the Care Quality Commission in 2024, with the report highlighting that 'People who were using their services generally gave good

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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feedback, higher than the England average and felt well supported by staff who went out of their way to put people's needs first'.

- Achieved over £29.5m in budget savings, whilst responding to increased demand, particularly in adult and children's social care.

There are 10 strategic objectives which were rated as "required review", reflecting the complexity of the challenges being addressed, the impact of increased service demand, pressures on budgets and capacity, as well as delays in Government funding and changes to Government policy. Actions planned or undertaken to address performance, where required, are set out in the performance report, linked above. Key challenges for the Council are set out below.

- There were three Strategic Objectives (SO-20, SO-21 and SO-27) which were rated as 'requiring review' within Children's Services. Key areas related to effective strategic partnerships (SO21) and driving system/service improvements to better support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) (SO-20). The Local Area Partnership SEND inspection that took place in September 2024 highlighted that substantial improvements were needed across the partnership. The concerns highlighted through the inspection are areas that the Council was already working on and it was agreed that a greater pace for improvement was required. A clear and robust impact and action plan was developed, which will support improvements in this service area including improving the proportion of new Education, Health and Care Plans issued within timescale, which is currently significantly below target. The programme is extensive and supported by an appointed independent chair leading a partnership SEND Board. Locally, the leadership structure within the Council's Schools and Learning Division was reviewed and new Assistant Director posts appointed, to help resilience and drive improvement plans. Whilst progress is being made, there is increasing demand for statutory assessment and limited resource to meet the growing demand across the SEND service.
- The delivery of the Children's Services Financial Strategy was also rated as requiring action (SO-27). Progress was made on the department's savings plans. £9.656m of the target £10.271m savings proposals were delivered. Savings proposals that could not be delivered or replaced (£0.615m) related to the savings objectives for home to school transport and SEND. A variety of work was undertaken to review operating models in the Council's Schools and Learning Division and embed new structures. However there remained considerable overspend in this area and further work is needed during the next medium term financial planning cycle to meet the significantly rising demand in SEND and review if the revised structures are fit for purpose. Children's social care change work was undertaken during the period, focusing on placement moves and growth in placement sufficiency, to provide a wider variety of care home arrangements for children. Opportunities to utilise capital investment to grow sustainable services were progressed through Cabinet, particularly in the area of SEND capital and inclusive schools' provision. In addition, plans commenced for a 5-year strategy to grow internal children's home capacity and further work will be progressed to improve commissioning opportunities. Regular meetings are undertaken between

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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Senior Leaders in Children's Services and finance colleagues, to understand the detail of the financial position and the potential for savings opportunities/ efficiencies in progress.

- Supporting people to live their best lives independently at home (SO-05) continued to remain under review. The Council has seen a decline in the number of people accessing Direct Payments compared to 2023-24. Additional opportunities to increase uptake are being explored.
- The impact of high demand for services and budget pressures, alongside recruitment and retention challenges in relation to professional roles such as Social Workers and Occupational Therapists, continued to put pressure on Adult Social Care services and waiting lists. In Quarter 1 of 2025-26, the Council is rolling out a pilot of a Digital Care and Support Planning tool, which is anticipated to reduce the administrative time Social Care Workers undertake following an assessment.
- The delivery of a safe, effective, efficient and innovative Highways Service is rated as requiring review (SO-18). Responding to ever changing weather conditions remained a challenge, particularly where that impacted on the road condition of the highway network. The Council has invested £120m over the past 3 years in maintaining and improving its highways network, which is more funding than ever before. This included a highly targeted approach to repairing defects, as well as proactive resurfacing and surface dressing schemes. Following a thorough review of the Council's preventative workstreams, the Council has categorised its carriageway defect response into three distinct types. This strategic move has allowed the Council to make significant progress in addressing the number of high-priority outstanding defects by ensuring that the Council used the right fix the first time. The winter weather posed some challenges that continued to impact response times, nonetheless, there were marked improvements. Additionally, the prospect of additional investment from EMCCA will allow further preventative maintenance.

### Outlook and Risks

#### Funding

In a seventh continuous single-year settlement the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2025-26 set out allocations for one year only at a local authority level. Single-year settlements constrict the flexibility of local authorities to balance budgets across the medium term. A multi-year settlement provides local authorities with some certainty, supporting medium-term financial planning and financial sustainability. The local government sector has implored Government for a multi-year settlement. The Council will continue to lobby Government by responding to appropriate consultations in support of both a fair funding and multi-year settlement for the Council.

The Council's FYFP is reviewed and updated at least annually. It was last formally updated during the annual budget setting process for 2025-26, earlier in 2025. A number of risks regarding the assumptions made in developing the FYFP were highlighted in the Revenue Budget Report, these being:

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- **Achievement of Savings** – There is a reliance on the achievement of a programme of budget savings. If the planned savings are not delivered alternative savings will need to be delivered.
- **Service Pressures** – There is a commitment to support budget growth where necessary, and in particular within adult’s and children’s social care. However, if current trends continue regarding placements and NHS discharges, and there is inadequate funding to support this, there will be further pressures on budgets in later years. Analysis is underway to consider how to mitigate these demand pressures, which has the potential to help control some of these financial pressures, but they are unlikely to be effective in the short-term. Demographic growth continues to affect Adult Social Care costs. Predictions show that the Council will experience further annual growth, with significant additional annual costs estimated over the period of the FYFP. Demand for services will be required to be managed to protect the financial standing of the Council.
- **Pay** – The FYFP for 2025-26 assumes a 2.5% bottom-loaded increase, with a 2% differential, assuming that the minimum pay point increases by 4.5%. This is equal to an average 4.55% increase on the Council’s pay budget overall for the basic pay award and allowances increases. The increase in 2026-27 is assumed to be 2.2% bottom-loaded and from 2027-28 onwards increases are assumed to be 2% bottom-loaded, based on the current expectation that inflation will slowly decrease and that NLW increases will drive up the bottom pay point on the Local Government pay scale. The Council has requested that Government gives support to local authorities to address the serious issue of substantial and increasing pay award pressures. The Council has no choice but to fund nationally agreed pay awards. It was estimated in the FYFP that the 2025-26 pay award and employer National Insurance contributions increase will directly cost the Council around £20m in 2025-26. The Council’s forecast increase in direct costs of over £6m in employer National Insurance contributions will only be partly funded by an Employer National Insurance Contributions Increase Funding Grant.
- **Economic Climate** – Annual UK headline consumer price inflation (CPI) has trended downwards from its very high 2023 peak of 10.4% in February 2023. Although the lowest point of 1.7% occurred in September 2024 it has since risen. Inflation remains a concern and means there is the potential for reductions in the Council’s income for discretionary services.
- **Borrowing Costs** - Temporary borrowing costs during 2025-26 have been estimated based on interest rate forecasts from the Council’s Treasury Management advisors and other industry experts in November and December 2024. These forecasts assume that the Bank of England base rate will reduce slowly over 2025 to an estimated 4.25% by December 2025. Current market conditions are beginning to indicate that base rate reductions may not happen during 2025 as expected which may expose the Council to additional borrowing costs in excess of the 2025-26 budget estimates. Emerging forecasts suggest that could present additional financial risk of around £1m during 2025-26, although this remains highly uncertain.

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- **Spending Reviews** – The 2025-26 Local Government Finance Settlement failed to announce a multi-year settlement, constricting the flexibility of local authorities to balance budgets across the medium term. 2025-26 was the seventh continuous single-year settlement at local authority funding levels. The local government sector has implored Government for a multi-year settlement and indications are that this will be received for 2026-27 onwards. A multi-year settlement provides local authorities with some certainty, supporting medium-term financial and service planning, and financial sustainability. There is a risk that the Government's investment in the Covid-19 pandemic and in increasing social care funding in recent years may result in further austerity measures in future years, during the period of the FYFP, when savings will be required to repay the debt incurred by Government. However, the FYFP assumes that there is no reduction in the Council's general grant funding.
- **Fair Funding and Business Rates Reviews** – The reviews have been delayed for a number of years and the planned implementation was again postponed. A transparent, fair funding system is required, which reflects need and ability to fund services locally. The Council has previously requested that Government urgently reviews the local government funding system to ensure that the system reflects the needs of local councils, including significant cost pressures relating to social care, which are due to increased demand and increases in cost. The funding system should also reflect the increase in cost across the sector that are a result of inflation and nationally agreed pay awards. The review of the funding system is also needed to ensure that historic resource equalisation flaws in the current funding methodology are addressed. The FYFP is predicated on the basis that mainstream funding continues as it is now, pending the outcome of the Government's current Funding Reform consultation, which aims to place local government in a more sustainable position. The Government now plans to implement a Fair Funding Review from April 2026.
- **Public Health Grant** – the Council's allocation for 2025-26 was published alongside the Final Settlement. At some point it is expected that the funding for Public Health will form part of revised funding mechanisms for local authorities following funding reviews.
- **East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA)** - The East Midlands Devolution Deal, which covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham, was signed in August 2022 and is referred to earlier in this Narrative Report. The new East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA) became a legal entity in late February 2024 and held its inaugural meeting in March 2024. The Council is one of the constituent councils which form part of EMCCA. Elections took place on 2 May 2024 and an East Midlands Mayor was elected. Devolution will result in the East Midlands receiving £1.14 billion more funding over 30 years, to invest in the region.

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### Expenditure

The MTFP approved in February 2025 included an estimated ongoing savings requirement by the end of 2029-30 of £96.385m, of which £46.288m have been identified. The Council introduced a programme management approach to the delivery of savings in 2024-25. This has improved the delivery and monitoring of savings proposals across the organisation. Further to annual budget savings identified for 2025-26 at the last update of the FYFP in February 2025, significant budget preparation work has again taken place. The Council has developed a programme of further savings proposals to contribute towards the estimated increased funding gap over the medium term. In headline terms the Council has now identified measures which should help achieve 47% of the budget gap over the period of the last formally approved FYFP.

This is a worsened relative position than was reported in the Revenue Budget Report 2024-25, when measures had been identified to meet the whole budget gap over the period of the FYFP. This worsened position has resulted from a substantial increase in demand and inflationary service and corporate pressures despite additional identified annual budget savings across the period of the FYFP and further planned service pressure mitigations. To maintain the financial standing of the Council it is vital that these savings proposals, if approved, are delivered. If the savings proposals are not approved and delivered, alternative savings will be required in 2025-26 and future years.

There is also uncertainty around the variables used as part of the budget-setting process for 2025-26. Planning has been based on what is known at this time. Without a multi-year Settlement the medium to longer-term outlook remains unclear. All local authorities in the UK are faced with another period of substantial uncertainty. The Government's Local Government Department Expenditure Limit (DEL) is unprotected. It is planned to increase by 1.1% in 2025-26. Without knowing what the individual funding allocations are likely to be beyond 2025-26, particularly following planned Funding Reform, there is uncertainty as to whether there will be further austerity measures from 2026-27. In developing the FYFP and estimating the funding gap and required savings, the Council has assumed that there is no significant change to its Government funding from 2025-26 across the period of the Five Year Financial Plan.

Significant consultation and planning timeframes are required to achieve many of these savings. Delays in agreeing proposals could result in overspends by departments, which would then deplete the level of General Reserve held by the Council, decreasing its ability to meet short term, unforeseeable expenditure. As detailed already, the Council cannot afford to be in this position and compensating savings will be required to be found if the proposed savings are not delivered.

In many cases the proposals will be subject to consultation and equality analysis processes. Including potential cost savings in this report no assumptions have been made as to the outcome of those consultations or the outcome of final decisions which have yet to be made. With regard to the savings proposals which have not yet been considered by Cabinet for approval to consult, the necessary consultation exercises will be undertaken, and any equality implications will be assessed before final decisions are made.

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Throughout the process it will be essential to ensure that the Council continues to meet its statutory and contractual obligations.

Over the course of the FYFP, where departmental ongoing savings required to meet the budget gap are subsequently determined to be unachievable, or are determined to be unachievable up to the full extent of the departmental allocation each year, mitigations and alternative savings delivery must be brought forward by that Department in that same year, to ensure that each Department fulfils its commitment and obligation to deliver savings to the values and profile.

### **Reserves**

When the 2024-25 budget was approved by Council in February 2024, the recommended optimal level of the General Reserve was £25m. The Council's General Reserve was £39.566m at 31 March 2025. Outturn positions for 2022-23 and 2023-24 resulted in the Council utilising £54.789m and £58.763m of reserves in those two years, respectively. In 2024-25 the Council underspend was £0.287m, after one-off support from the use of £18.879m of the Council's Earmarked Reserves, of which £10.977m was planned in the Revenue Budget approved by Council in February 2024. The Council's 2025-26 Revenue Budget does not include the planned use of any reserves.

Whilst the Council maintains an adequate level of General Reserve, any in-year budget overspends and failure to achieve the level of budget savings required in order to balance the budget would see a reduction in the balance of the General Reserve and would lead to issues around financial sustainability that would require urgent, radical savings rather than the planned process that minimises the impacts of reductions as far as possible. During 2024-25 expenditure was kept under tight control. The Council introduced a programme management approach to the delivery of savings in 2024-25, which is continuing in 2025-26. This has improved the delivery and monitoring of savings proposals across the Council. The level of the General Reserve is forecast to be around £25m over the period of the FYFP.

### **Budget Pressures**

The Council's significant budget pressures are considered further below:

#### **Children's Social Care**

As an upper tier authority, the Council is responsible for providing children's social care services. These services include child protection and safeguarding, care for looked after children and aftercare, support for vulnerable children and their families.

Nationally the number of children in care has risen significantly over the past decade, creating unprecedented demand pressures on children's services. The national picture is being reflected in Derbyshire. As at 30 November 2024 there were 1,032 children in the care of the Council, a 23% increase on the number five years ago.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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The costs of caring for looked after children have also been rising. Average placement costs for children in the Council's care have risen 79% over the last five years.

Residential care is the most expensive form of care. Locally and nationally, the proportion of children in residential care has increased, largely due to councils struggling to source suitable alternatives such as foster care.

These pressures, exacerbated by the impact of high inflation and cost of living increases on placement costs, are expected to continue to grow for the foreseeable future. The Council, along with many other local authorities in the country, continue to express concern regarding substantial increases in the cost of children's social care, urging Government to provide additional funding for the service.

### **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG Deficit)**

The Council has a net cumulative deficit on the DSG of £44.847m at 31 March 2025. The DSG income and expenditure does not form part of the Council's general fund revenue budget, but any surplus or deficit on the DSG funding held by the Council forms part of the Council's reserves. Whilst previously any deficit on these balances was funded by the Council, temporary regulations introduced in 2020 require that these balances are held separately. These regulations are now due to expire on 31 March 2028, at which point any deficit on the DSG balances will need to be funded by the Council. The Government intends to set out plans for reforming the SEND system and that this will inform any decision regarding the removal of temporary regulations.

The main pressures for the Council, as with most local authorities, continues to be in respect of High Needs Block budgets. The December 2024 DSG announcement provides for an increase in High Needs funding of £10.822m (9.3%), however given an estimated overspend of £30m for 2024-25, which will result in a forecast accumulated deficit of £47m, and further demand and inflation pressures, it is likely that spend will continue to exceed income in 2025-26. The funding announcement also included a significant increase in the Early Years Block budgets of £34.091m (45%). These budgets primarily relate to funding for Early Years and Childcare providers and the increase reflects the Government's expansion of free childcare provision.

Deficit balances that exist at the point a school becomes an academy may be left with the Council to fund. This is the case for 'sponsored' academies. Sponsored academies are those where conversion is a result of intervention, or where the school is not considered to be strong enough without the aid of a sponsor.

### **Schools and Learning**

Whilst expenditure on school-related activity would normally be expected to be met from within the allocated DSG, there are some statutory duties relating to education which are funded from the Council's revenue funding.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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These include Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Educational Psychology (EP) Services and Home to School Transport (HST). SEND and EP Services have seen an unprecedented rise in demand, resulting in significant increases in assessments and Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs), with both increasing by more than 60% in the last three years. The rise in demand has resulted in additional expenditure pressures. Transport cost increases and growing numbers of pupils eligible for Council-funded transport have led to significant increases in spend on HST, in particular SEND HST. Net costs have risen by 87% in the last five years and these budgets continue to be under pressure.

### **Adult Social Care**

Demographic growth continues to affect Adult Social Care costs. Growth predictions show that the Council is subject to approximate annual increases of up to £5m in relation to older people demography, with a further £4m for working age adults including children transitioning to adulthood. These additional costs of up to £9m each year are predicted to continue for at least the next five years.

During the last few years, the National Living Wage has increased annually by between 2% and 10%. For 2024-25 the increase was 9.8%, and for 2025-26, the increase was 6.7%. This directly impacts on the contract fees the Council pays to care providers. If this level of increase is to continue it will cost the Council up to an additional £10-£22m each year over the medium term.

There are growing pressures around supporting timely hospital discharge from the NHS to assist with system flow. The need to assist with moving people swiftly has resulted in increased placements into residential homes rather than into care at home, with the risk of associated long term cost implications for the likely significant number of individuals who are not able to regain their independence and return home. Action is being taken on a system level to better understand these challenges and to identify improved outcomes for people whilst supporting hospital flow.

### **Waste Disposal**

The volume of waste managed by the Council has a significant financial implication. This is monitored throughout the year to inform future year volumes. Waste Landfill tax, landfill site gate fees and contractual payments for the operation of Household Waste Recycling Sites and Waste Transfer Stations are subject to price rises in line with a basket of indexation factors set out in the contracts. There are also statutory increases of 3% in the cost per tonne of recycling credits.

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## NARRATIVE REPORT

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The Council and Derby City Council remain engaged in a project to develop the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre (DDWTC) in Sinfin, Derby, to deal with waste that residents in Derby and Derbyshire do not or cannot recycle. The facility, which was due to open in 2017, was built on the councils' behalf by Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd (RRS), which was a partnership between national construction firm Interserve and waste management company Renewi plc. The contract with RRS was terminated on 2 August 2019, following the issuing of a legal notice by the banks funding the project. Alternative contractual arrangements for the management and disposal of the County's waste were put in place following termination.

Following termination, the councils commissioned a significant amount of work under a Continuity Services Contract (CSC), to assess the condition of the DDWTC through detailed and comprehensive condition surveys and documentation gap analyses. These condition surveys helped the councils to understand the facility, what the potential rectification works may be, and their potential cost. In October 2021, the information available from the surveys was used as part of a formal Option Appraisal process, which identified two viable options for further evaluation. The councils continued to preserve the DDWTC, to prevent deterioration of the facility pending completion of a Full Business Case (FBC) and subsequent decisions regarding its future use.

The FBC was completed in January 2023, and demonstrated a clear strategic, economic and financial advantage to undertaking works to rectify defects in the facility and bring into use. This recommendation was approved by both councils on 2 February 2023. Following approval of the FBC, work commenced in preparation for the procurement of a suitably experienced contractor(s) for the rectification and operation of the DDWTC. During 2023-24 this work continued, including the completion of a rigorous market testing exercise and the development of procurement documentation. Preservation of the facility has been maintained throughout and is ongoing at the time of writing.

During 2024-25 the councils entered into a new long-term Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA3) to govern the project and protect their respective interests in the asset. Following the completion of this agreement, a formal procurement was launched to select a contractor to rectify and operate the DDWTC. An initial pre-qualification phase of the procurement was completed in February 2025 and produced a short-list of three bidders who were subsequently invited to participate in competitive dialogue. The process of competitive dialogue is expected to continue with contract award anticipated towards the end of the financial year 2025-26.

### **Extreme and Adverse Weather**

The impacts of extreme and adverse weather carry a high risk of financial uncertainty over the long term and will require coordinated effort by all public bodies, including the Government. The Council, and Derbyshire's communities, are already being impacted by more frequent and intense extreme weather events such as heatwaves, heavy rainfall, storms and wind events, and long periods without rainfall or with high levels of rainfall. These impacts include flooding of the highway network, damage to infrastructure, overheating in care homes and schools, impacts on the wellbeing of the workforce, and damage to habitats and biodiversity.

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## **NARRATIVE REPORT**

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The severity and frequency of these impacts is predicted to increase further, worsening current levels of vulnerability and risk and introducing new areas of risk and associated costs within Council service areas. Work is underway to reduce these risks through activities such as changing asset management procedures, adapting Public Health approaches during extreme weather events, and building resilience through nature-based solutions such as tree planting.

In order to build further resilience to these impacts, coordinated action is needed across service areas and sufficient funding is needed to implement the necessary adaptation measures.

Mark Kenyon BA(Hons) FCPFA  
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

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## STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

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### **The Council's Responsibilities**

The Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that one of its Officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that Officer is the Director of Finance, as Section 151 Officer;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

### **The Section 151 Officer's Responsibilities**

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts, in accordance with the appropriate CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgments and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code, the Update and the Regulations;
- kept proper accounting records which were up-to-date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities;
- ensured that events after the balance sheet date have been considered;
- assessed the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- used the going concern basis of accounting on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future; and
- maintained such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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## AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS FOR ISSUE

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### **Certificate of Section 151 Officer**

I certify that the accounts give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2025 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

Mark Kenyon BA(Hons) FCPFA  
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)  
24 February 2026



The Statement of Accounts were approved by the Audit Committee on 24 February 2026.

Councillor Paul Parkin  
Chair of the Audit Committee



## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	Note	Restated 2023-24			2024-25		
		Gross Exp £m	Gross Inc £m	Net Exp £m	Gross Exp £m	Gross Inc £m	Net Exp £m
Adult Care		551.113	(193.382)	357.731	564.399	(210.824)	353.575
Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education		792.367	(511.429)	280.938	831.749	(558.889)	272.860
Clean Growth and Regeneration		3.877	(2.258)	1.619	4.371	(2.462)	1.909
Corporate Services and Budget		59.512	(26.308)	33.204	60.298	(27.548)	32.750
Health and Communities		73.504	(62.589)	10.915	74.515	(64.040)	10.475
Highways Assets and Transport		90.645	(16.399)	74.246	93.771	(15.690)	78.081
Infrastructure and Environment		65.035	(9.638)	55.397	65.586	(7.271)	58.315
Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change		12.692	(1.134)	11.558	11.230	(0.950)	10.280
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>		<b>1,648.745</b>	<b>(823.137)</b>	<b>825.608</b>	<b>1,705.919</b>	<b>(887.674)</b>	<b>818.245</b>
Other Operating Expenditure	6			63.422			29.818
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	7			9.259			18.255
Taxation and Non- Specific Grants	8			(794.326)			(805.818)
<b>Deficit on Provision of Services</b>				<b>103.963</b>			<b>60.500</b>

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## COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

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<b>Items that will not be Reclassified to Deficit on Provision of Services</b>			
Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	13 14	(49.855)	(32.783)
Loss on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	13 14	495.862	23.356
Remeasurement of Net Pension Liability/ (Asset)	48	104.072	(2.626)
<b>Other Comprehensive Expenditure/ (Income)</b>		<b>550.079</b>	<b>(12.053)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Expenditure/ (Income)</b>		<b>654.042</b>	<b>48.447</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

The Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, used to value some Property Plant & Equipment assets, and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for the year ended 31 March 2024. Accordingly, these financial statements include restatement of the prior year affected amounts. Full details of the impact of these restatements on the financial statements are given in Note 4.

## BALANCE SHEET

Restated 31 Mar 2024 £m			31 Mar 2025 £m
1,447.588	Property Plant & Equipment	13	1,408.541
22.096	Heritage Assets	14	23.190
0.000	Right-of-Use Assets	17	41.218
0.190	Intangible Assets	18	6.974
75.109	Non-Current Investments	21	55.461
1.332	Non-Current Debtors	20	1.297
<b>1,546.315</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>1,536.681</b>
49.837	Current Investments	21	0.000
7.165	Assets Held for Sale	19	6.485
2.158	Inventories	22	2.162
130.176	Current Debtors	23	122.529
78.319	Cash and Cash Equivalents	24	72.843
<b>267.655</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>204.019</b>
(147.827)	Current Loans and Borrowing	21	(151.955)
(195.143)	Current Creditors	25	(164.705)
(1.686)	Current Provisions	26	(2.014)
<b>(344.656)</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(318.674)</b>
(236.284)	Non-Current Borrowing	21	(232.830)
(8.689)	Non-Current Provisions	26	(11.102)
(65.001)	Non-Current Net Pension Liability	27	(56.986)
(44.689)	Other Non-Current Liabilities	27	(66.917)
<b>(354.663)</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(367.835)</b>
<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,054.191</b>
385.854	Usable Reserves <sup>34</sup>	12	389.054
728.797	Unusable Reserves	30	665.137
<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>		<b>1,054.191</b>

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## BALANCE SHEET

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The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

The Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, used to value some Property Plant & Equipment assets, and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for the year ended 31 March 2024. Accordingly, these financial statements include restatement of the prior year affected amounts. Full details of the impact of these restatements on the financial statements are given in Note 4.

The Council has adopted IFRS 16 Leases for the first time in 2024-25. The new standard has been applied retrospectively, but with the cumulative effect recognised at 1 April 2024. Details of the impact on the Council's balance sheet are provided in Note 45.

I certify that the Balance Sheet position gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Derbyshire County Council as at 31 March 2025.

Mark Kenyon BA(Hons) FCPFA  
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)



24 February 2026

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Restated 2023-24 £m			2024-25 £m
<b>(103.963)</b>	<b>Net Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services</b>		<b>(60.500)</b>
53.194	Adjustments for non cash movements	43	65.521
(30.584)	Adjustments for investing activities	43	(21.453)
	Net cashflow from:		
<b>(81.353)</b>	<b>Operating Activities</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>(16.432)</b>
156.483	Investing Activities	40	50.854
(66.700)	Financing Activities	41	(39.898)
<b>8.430</b>	<b>Movement in Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>(5.476)</b>
69.889	Cash & Cash Equivalents at the start of the year	24	78.319
<b>78.319</b>	<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>72.843</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

The Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for the year ended 31 March 2024. Accordingly, these financial statements include restatement of the prior year affected amounts. Full details of the impact of these restatements on the financial statements are given in Note 4.

## MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT

	Note	Restated General Reserve	Earmarked Reserves	Unapplied Capital Grants	Capital Receipts Reserve	RESTATED TOTAL USABLE RESERVES	RESTATED UNUSABLE RESERVES	RESTATED TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>2024-25</b>								
<b>Balance at 31 March 2024</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(385.852)</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>	<b>(1,114.647)</b>
IFRS 16 Application Adjustment		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	12.010	12.010
<b>Balance at 1 Apr 2024</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(385.852)</b>	<b>(716.785)</b>	<b>(1,102.637)</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during 2024-25</b>								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	CIES	<b>60.500</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>60.500</b>	<b>(12.053)</b>	<b>48.447</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	12	(47.532)	0.000	(10.233)	(5.936)	(63.701)	63.701	0.000
Net Transfer to Reserves		(12.353)	12.353	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
(Increase)/Decrease in 2024-25		0.615	12.353	(10.233)	(5.936)	(3.201)	51.648	48.447
<b>Balance at 31 March 2025 carried forward</b>		<b>(39.566)</b>	<b>(192.814)</b>	<b>(133.990)</b>	<b>(22.683)</b>	<b>(389.053)</b>	<b>(665.137)</b>	<b>(1,054.190)</b>
<b>2023-24</b>								
<b>Balance at 31 March 2023</b>		<b>(32.714)</b>	<b>(272.371)</b>	<b>(82.411)</b>	<b>(12.456)</b>	<b>(399.952)</b>	<b>(1,368.737)</b>	<b>(1,768.689)</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during 2023-24</b>								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	CIES	<b>103.963</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>103.963</b>	<b>550.079</b>	<b>654.042</b>
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	12	(44.226)	0.000	(41.346)	(4.291)	(89.863)	89.863	0.000
Net Transfer to Reserves		(67.204)	67.204	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
(Increase)/Decrease in 2023-24		(7.467)	67.204	(41.346)	(4.291)	14.100	639.942	654.042
<b>Balance at 31 March 2024 carried forward</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(385.852)</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>	<b>(1,114.647)</b>

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## **MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT**

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The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements. The Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for the year ended 31 March 2024. Accordingly, these financial statements include restatement of the prior year affected amounts. Full details of the impact of these restatements on the financial statements are given in Note 4.

The IFRS 16 application adjustment is explained at Note 45.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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The values held within the proceeding Notes to the Accounts may vary slightly when compared to the main Statements or other notes. This is due to amounts being rounded. It is not expected that a difference would be in excess of £10,000 in any single case.

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Accounting Policies for the Council have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as adopted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code). Where there is no specific guidance in the Code or the Update, the Council has developed its own Accounting Policy which is aimed at creating information which is:

- relevant to the decision making needs of users; and
- reliable, in that the financial statements:
  - represent fairly the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the entity;
  - reflect the economic substance of transactions, other events and conditions and not merely the legal form;
  - are neutral i.e. free from bias;
  - are prudent; and
  - are complete in all material respects.

The Policies outline how the Council will account for all income, expenditure, assets and liabilities held and incurred during the 2024-25 financial year.

The Accounting Policies of the Council are updated annually to reflect any changes in IFRS, including changes in International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), HM Treasury guidance, CIPFA guidance or any other change in statute, guidance or framework impacting on the Council's accounts. The Accounting Policies have been updated to reflect changes in respect of IFRS 16 Leases.

The Accounting Policies of the Council, as far as possible, have been developed to ensure that the accounts of the Council are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable.

### 2. CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS WHEN APPLYING THE ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

#### **Derby & Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre (DDWTC)**

The Council and Derby City Council remain engaged in a project to develop the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre (DDWTC) in Sinfin, Derby, to deal with waste that residents in Derby and Derbyshire do not or cannot recycle. The facility, which was due to open in 2017, was built on the councils' behalf by Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd (RRS), which was a partnership between national construction firm Interserve and waste management company Renewi plc. The contract with RRS was terminated on 2 August 2019, following the issuing of a legal notice by the banks funding the project. Alternative contractual arrangements for the management and disposal of the County's waste were put in place following termination.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Following termination, the councils commissioned a significant amount of work under a Continuity Services Contract (CSC), to assess the condition of the DDWTC through detailed and comprehensive condition surveys and documentation gap analyses. These condition surveys helped the councils to understand the facility, what the potential rectification works may be, and their potential cost. In October 2021, the information available from the surveys was used as part of a formal Option Appraisal process, which identified two viable options for further evaluation. The councils continued to preserve the DDWTC, to prevent deterioration of the facility pending completion of a Full Business Case (FBC) and subsequent decisions regarding its future use.

The FBC was completed in January 2023, and demonstrated a clear strategic, economic and financial advantage to undertaking works to rectify defects in the facility and bring into use. This recommendation was approved by both councils on 2 February 2023. Following approval of the FBC, work commenced in preparation for the procurement of a suitably experienced contractor(s) for the rectification and operation of the DDWTC. During 2023-24 this work continued, including the completion of a rigorous market testing exercise and the development of procurement documentation. Preservation of the facility has been maintained throughout and is ongoing at the time of writing.

### 2023-24 (Prior Year) Critical Judgements

The Inter Authority Agreement 2 between the Council and Derby City Council, relating to the Service Agreement for the Provision of Waste Management Services, stipulated that the councils shall agree the terms on which the County shall be permitted to continue to deliver residual waste to the DDWTC at Sinfin. The agreement provided that in the event the parties failed to reach such agreement and/or the Council was prevented from continuing to use the facility, Derby City Council would reimburse the Council for its share of any investment in the facility. In January 2024, following a failure to agree such terms, the Council raised an invoice to Derby City Council for £93.940m plus VAT, for repayment of its investment in the DDWTC.

Following the issuance of the invoice, the councils entered into dialogue to seek resolution. Notwithstanding the Council's invoice to Derby City Council, rectification and operation of the facility remained the Council's preferred option. Considering this and given the value of the invoice relative to the resources available to Derby City Council, it was considered more likely than not that a non-financial settlement would be reached to enable the rectification project to progress and the invoice to be cancelled. Efforts to pursue such an outcome through dialogue, including application of the contractual dispute resolution procedure and ultimately facilitated mediation, were ongoing from February 2024 through August 2024. The probability of settlement of the invoice was not assessed as meeting the criteria required by IFRS 15 and therefore the income and corresponding debtor (excluding VAT) were not recognised in the Council's financial statements at 31 March 2024.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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On 21 August 2024, the invoice was cancelled. Following a period of constructive dialogue, the councils successfully addressed the key issues that led to the dispute. Agreement on the terms of a new Inter Authority Agreement have been reached in full, which means both organisations can move forward in partnership with the confidence and certainty required to successfully complete the project. Both councils remained committed to the original decision, made in February 2023, to progress option one: fix and operate the existing plant with positive engagement from the waste industry which confirmed there was capability, capacity and appetite in the market to deliver the project. The councils were to move forward with the procurement exercise to rectify defects at the facility and bring it into use.

Cancellation of the invoice following the prior year end of 31 March 2024 had no impact on the net financial performance or position reported in the Council's primary financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. In the Balance Sheet it would have reduced Current Debtors by £18.788m (VAT in Note 21) but this would have been offset by an increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 22) of £18.788m (VAT paid to HMRC).

During 2023-24 the Council and Derby City Council were in continuing negotiations to pay an 'Estimated Fair Value' (EFV) for the plant, taking into account all of the costs of rectifying ongoing issues at the plant and the costs of providing the services to meet the agreed contract standards. If an agreed EFV could not have been reached through negotiation, it would have needed to be resolved through formal dispute resolution processes. The councils agreed the EFV with RRS in July 2023, with the Council paying £56.930m as part of its share of the £93.500m sum paid to RRS's administrators. The payment made to RRS's administrators in 2023-24 was in full and final settlement of the matter.

### 2024-25

During 2024-25 the councils entered into a new long-term Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA3) to govern the project and protect their respective interests in the asset. Following the completion of this agreement, a formal procurement was launched to select a contractor to rectify and operate the DDWTC. An initial pre-qualification phase of the procurement was completed in February 2025 and produced a short-list of three bidders who were subsequently invited to participate in competitive dialogue. The process of competitive dialogue is expected to continue through to September 2025 with contract award anticipated towards the end of the financial year 2025-26.

The Council has considered the accounting treatment for the DDWTC and it has been determined that it will continue to be recognised on the balance sheet at 31 March 2025 as an Asset under Construction in Property Plant and Equipment (Note 13) due to the asset not yet having been brought into service. The Council has incurred capital expenditure of £2.813m during 2024-25 (£4.458m during 2023-24) securing, managing and preserving the site.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### School Non-Current Assets

The Council has applied judgement regarding the extent of control exercised over the following schools, run under various arrangements, to determine whether associated non-current assets are included on the Council's Balance Sheet.

Where non-current school assets are either interpreted as controlled directly by the Council (Community Schools) or indirectly, via the school's governing body (Foundation Schools), then these assets are included on the Council's Balance Sheet. However, non-current school assets in respect of Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools are only included on the Council's Balance Sheet where the Council owns or retains substantive rights over the assets and the future economic benefits/service potential of school assets flows to the Council.

### 3. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED AND NOT YET APPLIED

At the balance sheet date, the following interpretations, new standards and amendments to existing standards have been published but not yet adopted by the Code:

- IAS 21 The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rate (Lack of Exchangeability) issued in August 2023. The amendments to IAS 21 clarify how an entity should assess whether a currency is exchangeable and how it should determine a spot exchange rate when exchangeability is lacking, as well as require the disclosure of information that enables users of financial statements to understand the impact of a currency not being exchangeable.
- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts issued in May 2017. IFRS 17 replaces IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts and sets out principles for recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts.

The Council has concluded that these amendments have a limited application and will not impact on the Council's accounts in the year in which they are adopted.

- Changes to the measurement of non-investment assets within the 2025-26 Code include adaptations and interpretations of IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets. These include setting out three revaluation processes for operational property, plant and equipment, requiring indexation for tangible non-investment assets and a requirement to value intangible assets using the historical cost approach. These have the same effect as requiring a change in accounting policy due to an amendment to standards, which would normally be disclosed under IAS 8. However, the adaptations also include a relief from the requirements of IAS 8 following a change in accounting policy.

The Council at this time is unable to estimate the impact on the 2025-26 accounts of the use of indexation for valuation expedience for operational property plant and equipment, as the types of indices are yet to be decided. The index decision, however, will be made in the context that the purpose is to ensure asset values are adjusted for price and market movements year on year, which should ensure that there is a reasonable estimate of movement in the value of an asset from the prior period.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 4. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS

In February 2025, the Council received its External Auditor's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Report advised that an issue in the Council's Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, specifically that the calculations did not include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings, had been identified.

The External Auditor issued the Council's audit report on 28 February 2025, which included a disclaimer of opinion. This meant that the Council's External Audit Report did not express an opinion on the financial statements and no assurance was provided. It was necessary for the External Auditor to issue this disclaimer of opinion because amendments to the Account and Audit Regulations meant that there was a new statutory deadline of 28 February 2025 for publication of the Council's financial statements, known as a 'backstop'. As a result of the backstop, the Council did not have time to revise its DRC calculations and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 and the External Auditor did not have time to obtain sufficient audit evidence in this area and was therefore unable to conclude on the impact of the issue, and correspondingly did not provide any assurance on these balances in the Council's Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Subsequently, the Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, to include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for 2023-24. Overall Council Property Plant and Equipment (PPE) and Heritage Assets buildings assets values were overstated by £524.199m at 31 March 2024, equivalent to 32.0% of the Council's net assets at that date.

The misstatements resulting from this issue have a material impact on the Council's CIES and Balance Sheet for 2023-24. The Council has therefore, in line with the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice requirements, presented a closing 2023-24 Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024, along with a 2023-24 CIES, which reflect the required material retrospective restatements. Full details of the impact of these restatements are given below.

#### **Effect on Financial Statements**

To correct the previously reported overstated Council Property Plant and Equipment (PPE) and Heritage Assets buildings asset values, the Council has restated the prior year information for the £508.169m overstated position of Property Plant and Equipment assets and the £16.030m overstated position of Heritage Assets at 31 March 2024.

The following demonstrates the effects on CIES line items for the financial year 2023-24. The CIES with the appropriate restatements for 2023-24 can be found on pages 33 and 34 of these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Effect on Line Items in the CIES 2023-24

		Originally Stated 2023-24 Gross Exp £m	Restated 2023-24 Gross Exp £m	Originally Stated 2023-24 Net Exp £m	Restated 2023-24 Net Exp £m	Restatement Amount £m
Adult Care		546.899	551.113	353.517	357.731	4.214
Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education		766.607	792.367	255.178	280.938	25.760
Corporate Services and Budget		59.182	59.512	32.874	33.204	0.330
Infrastructure and Environment		65.091	65.035	55.453	55.397	(0.056)
Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change		12.270	12.692	11.136	11.558	0.422
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>		<b>1,618.075</b>	<b>1,648.745</b>	<b>794.938</b>	<b>825.608</b>	<b>30.670</b>
Other Operating Expenditure	6			64.488	63.422	(1.066)
<b>Deficit on Provision of Services</b>				<b>74.359</b>	<b>103.963</b>	<b>29.604</b>
<b>Items that will not be Reclassified to Deficit on Provision of Services</b>						
Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	13			(123.678)	(49.855)	73.823
Loss on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	13			75.089	495.862	420.773
<b>Other Comprehensive Expenditure/ (Income)</b>				<b>55.483</b>	<b>550.079</b>	<b>494.596</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Expenditure/ (Income)</b>				<b>129.842</b>	<b>654.042</b>	<b>524.199</b>

The CIPFA Code requires that an authority presents a balance sheet at the beginning of the preceding period when an authority makes a retrospective restatement. The following demonstrates the effects on Balance Sheet line items for the financial year ended 31 March 2024. The restated (for the relevant line items) prior period Balance Sheets are provided, along with the current year information, on pages 35 and 36 of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Effect on Line Items in the Balance Sheet 31 March 2024

	Note	Originally Stated 31 Mar 2024 £m	Restated 31 Mar 2024 £m	Restatement Amount £m
Property Plant & Equipment	13	1,955.757	1,447.588	(508.169)
Heritage Assets	14	38.126	22.096	(16.030)
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>2,070.514</b>	<b>1,546.315</b>	<b>(524.199)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,638.850</b>	<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>(524.199)</b>
Unusable Reserves	30	1,252.996	728.797	(524.199)
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>		<b>1,638.850</b>	<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>(524.199)</b>

The following restatement is required for the Cash Flow Statement in 2023-24. The restated (for the relevant line items) prior period Cash Flow Statement is provided, with the current year information, on page 37 of the financial statements.

### Effect on Line Items in the Cash Flow Statement 2023-24

	Note	Originally Stated 2023-24 £m	Restated 2023-24 £m	Restatement Amount £m
<b>Net Surplus or (Deficit) on the Provision of Services</b>		<b>(74.359)</b>	<b>(103.963)</b>	<b>29.604</b>
Adjustments for non cash movements	43	22.524	53.194	(30.670)
Adjustments for investing activities	43	(29.518)	(30.584)	1.066

The following restatements are also required for the Movement in Reserves Statements for Unusable Reserves and for the General Reserve in 2023-24. The restated (for the relevant line items) prior period Movement in Reserves Statements are provided, with the current year information, on pages 38 and 39 of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Effect on Movement in Reserves Statement – Unusable Reserves 2023-24

	Note	Originally Stated Unusable Reserves £m	Restated Unusable Reserves £m	Restatement Amount £m
<b>2023-24</b>				
<b>Balance at 31 March 2023</b>		<b>(1,368.737)</b>	<b>(1,368.737)</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during 2023-24</b>				
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	CIES	55.483	550.079	(494.596)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	12	60.260	89.863	(29.603)
Net Transfer to Reserves		0.000	0.000	0.000
(Increase)/Decrease in 2023-24		115.743	639.942	(524.199)
<b>Balance at 31 March 2024 carried forward</b>		<b>(1,252.994)</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>	<b>(524.199)</b>

### Effect on Movement in Reserves Statement – General Reserve 2023-24

	Note	Originally Stated General Reserve £m	Restated General Reserve £m	Restatement Amount £m
<b>2023-24</b>				
<b>Balance at 31 March 2023</b>		<b>(32.714)</b>	<b>(32.714)</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Movement in reserves during 2023-24</b>				
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	CIES	74.359	103.963	(29.604)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	12	(14.622)	(44.226)	29.604
Net Transfer to Reserves		(67.204)	(67.204)	0.000
(Increase)/Decrease in 2023-24		(7.467)	(7.467)	0.000
<b>Balance at 31 March 2024 carried forward</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>0.000</b>

### Effect on Notes to the Financial Statements

The 2023-24 PPE and Heritage Assets disclosures in Notes 13 and 14 are restated where relevant, as are Notes 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 30 and 43.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 5. ASSUMPTIONS MADE AND OTHER ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

#### Property Plant and Equipment Valuation

The gross book value of Property, Plant and Equipment assets, excluding infrastructure assets, at 31 March 2025 is £1,012.097m (2024 restated, £1,070.481m), as disclosed in Note 13. When determining current value for the measurement and disclosure requirements in relation to the Council's Property, Plant and Equipment assets, the Council makes assumptions and estimations. Where direct observable market data is unavailable, judgement is required in order to determine a fair value and the Council uses relevant experts to ensure that appropriate valuation techniques are used. Typically, judgements include considerations such as uncertainty and risk where there is volatility in the property and construction industry following macro-economic influences such as the pandemic, supply and demand imbalances and inflation increases.

The method of valuation of the Council's portfolio of schools is the Depreciated Replacement Cost method, using a Modern Equivalent Asset (MEA). Where the build requirement is greater than the actual asset, the valuation is restricted to the actual size of the current asset.

Land and Buildings assets measured at current value are revalued on a five-year rolling basis by the Council's internal team of valuers. Each property is assessed on its own merits and the valuation is determined with due regard to any change or uncertainties which may affect the specific property. It is estimated that a theoretical 1% market drop applied across all properties valued in 2024-25 would equate to a valuation decrease of £3.454m, of which £0.242m would be expensed through the surplus/deficit on the provision of services, whilst a 1% increase would equate to a rise in valuations of £3.454m to the revaluation reserve.

The Council has continued to review its 20% rolling programme asset base at 31 March 2025, instead of 1 April 2024, updating land values and gross replacement costs.

#### Pension Scheme Liabilities

The gross Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) pension liability at 31 March 2025 is £2,104.888m (2024, £2,402.630m), as disclosed in Note 27. Estimation of the liability to pay pensions depends on several complex judgements relating to: the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on Pension Fund investments. The Council has engaged Hymans Robertson LLP as its Consulting Actuary to provide expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

The effect of changes in these estimates on the pension liability impacting on the net asset/liability of the Council are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Variations in the key assumptions will have the following impact on the liability:

- A 0.1% decrease in the real discount rate will increase the pension liability by £35.861m (2% increase in liability).
- A one year increase in Fund Member life expectancy will increase the pension liability by £84.196m (4% increase in liability).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- A 0.1% increase in the assumed level of salary increases will increase the pension liability by £1.797m (0% (rounded) increase in liability).
- A 0.1% increase in the assumed level of pension increases will increase the pension liability by £35.052m (2% increase in liability).

### Financial Instruments Fair Value Estimates

The Council's Financial Instruments are disclosed in Note 21. The fair value of the Council's other long-term loans (former Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans) of £8.733m (£10.000m nominal) at 31 March 2025 has been determined incorporating option pricing from Bloomberg. The fair value of all short-term investments (under one year) has been assumed to be their nominal value.

The impact of a 1% interest rate rise on the fair value of the Council's borrowing and investments at 31 March 2025 is a reduction of £19.104m in the net financial liability.

### 6. OTHER OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Restated 2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(0.715)	Trading Operations	(0.877)
0.373	Levies and Precepts	0.383
63.762	Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	30.302
0.002	Other Income and Expenditure	0.010
<b>63.422</b>		<b>29.818</b>

The surplus for the year from commercial trading operations was achieved with a gross expenditure of £0.859m (2023-24: £1.061m) offset against income of £1.736m (2023-24: £1.776m).

Loss on disposal of non-current assets has decreased in 2024-25, the main reason for this being a decrease in the asset value of schools that converted to academies during the year.

Movements on non-current assets, including disposals, are shown in Note 13.

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 7. FINANCING AND INVESTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
26.178	Interest Payable	29.156
(11.712)	Interest Receivable	(10.171)
(4.064)	Dividends Receivable	(3.640)
(0.489)	Financial Asset Fair Value Losses/(Gains)	(1.806)
0.805	Financial Asset Impairment Losses/(Gains)	1.588
0.160	Brokerage Fees	0.135
(1.619)	Net Pension Costs	2.994
<b>9.259</b>		<b>18.256</b>

Movements in the fair value of the Council's investments in pooled investment funds were included in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (FIIE) in 2018-19 for the first time. These funds have been recognised and measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL) in accordance with IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. However, any gains or losses have been reversed out to the Pooled Investments Adjustment Account, as required by the statutory temporary override that DLUHC has issued. The override was originally effective for financial years 2018-19 to 2022-23, was extended to 2024-25 and, for investments already in place at 1 April 2024, which applies to the Council's investments in pooled investment vehicles, was further extended up to and including 2028-29.

Gains and losses relating to the impairment of financial assets were included in 2018-19 for the first time. CIPFA guidance considers that conceptually debtors are a credit facility. Therefore, impairment losses relating to debtors and investments held at amortised cost are a loss of principal and recognition in FIIE is therefore the default treatment.

Interest payable has been itemised in the table below.

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
13.176	Interest Payable on Capital Borrowing	12.866
2.520	Interest Payable on PFI	4.914
0.453	Interest Payable on Lessee Leases	0.845
10.029	Interest Payable on Other Items	10.531
<b>26.178</b>		<b>29.156</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Interest receivable has been itemised in the table below.

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(11.525)	Interest Receivable on Investments	(9.982)
(0.004)	Interest Receivable on Transferred Debt	(0.003)
(0.074)	Interest Receivable on Finance Leases	(0.072)
(0.102)	Interest Receivable on Cash & Bank Balances	(0.113)
(0.007)	Interest Receivable on Other Items	(0.001)
<b>(11.712)</b>		<b>(10.171)</b>

### 8. TAXATION AND NON-SPECIFIC GRANT INCOME

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(387.349)	Council Tax	(411.568)
(15.714)	Revenue Support Grant	(16.755)
(23.365)	Business Rates	(24.510)
(97.774)	Business Rates Top-up	(102.132)
(25.851)	Business Rates Relief Grant	(29.524)
(10.504)	Private Finance Initiative Grant	(10.504)
(1.106)	New Homes Bonus	(0.843)
(119.652)	Other General Revenue Grants	(133.919)
(113.011)	Capital Grants	(76.063)
<b>(794.326)</b>		<b>(805.818)</b>

### 9. EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS

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

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Restated 2023-24				2024-25		
Expenditure/ (Income) chargeable to General Reserve Balance £m	Adjustments between funding and Accounting Basis £m	Net Expenditure in the CIES £m		Expenditure/ (Income) chargeable to General Reserve Balance £m	Adjustments between funding and Accounting Basis £m	Net Expenditure in the CIES £m
341.541	(16.190)	357.731	Adult Care	350.970	(2.605)	353.575
231.831	(49.107)	280.938	Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education	250.598	(22.262)	272.860
1.432	(0.187)	1.619	Clean Growth and Regeneration	1.411	(0.498)	1.909
29.487	(3.717)	33.204	Corporate Services and Budget	22.300	(10.450)	32.750
11.369	0.454	10.915	Health and Communities	10.378	(0.097)	10.475
56.788	(17.458)	74.246	Highways Assets and Transport	58.696	(19.385)	78.081
54.865	(0.532)	55.397	Infrastructure and Environment	57.428	(0.887)	58.315
10.128	(1.430)	11.558	Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change	9.552	(0.728)	10.280
<b>737.441</b>	<b>(88.167)</b>	<b>825.608</b>	<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>761.333</b>	<b>(56.912)</b>	<b>818.245</b>
(0.339)	(63.761)	63.422	Other operating expenditure	(0.484)	(30.302)	29.818
14.848	5.589	9.259	Financing and investment income and expenditure	8.451	(9.804)	18.255
(759.416)	34.910	(794.326)	Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure	(768.684)	37.134	(805.818)
<b>(7.466)</b>	<b>(111.429)</b>	<b>103.963</b>	<b>Deficit/(Surplus) on Provision of Services</b>	<b>0.616</b>	<b>(59.884)</b>	<b>60.500</b>
<b>32.716</b>			<b>Opening General Reserve Balance at 1 April</b>	<b>40.182</b>		
7.466			Add/(less) Surplus/(Deficit) on General Reserve	(0.616)		
<b>40.182</b>			<b>Closing General Reserve Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>39.566</b>		

The prior year restatements and reanalysis are explained at Note 4 / under the CIES.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

Restated 2023-24					2024-25			
Adjustments for capital purposes (Note a) £m	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b) £m	Other Differences (Note c) £m	Total Adjustments £m		Adjustments for capital purposes (Note a) £m	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments (Note b) £m	Other Differences (Note c) £m	Total Adjustments £m
(18.328)	2.138	0.000	(16.190)	Adult Care	(3.453)	0.848	0.000	(2.605)
(55.204)	6.097	0.000	(49.107)	Children's Services and Safeguarding and Education	(24.970)	2.708	0.000	(22.261)
(0.218)	0.031	0.000	(0.187)	Clean Growth and Regeneration	(0.512)	0.014	0.000	(0.499)
(5.312)	1.595	0.000	(3.717)	Corporate Services and Budget	(10.029)	(0.421)	0.000	(10.450)
(0.003)	0.457	0.000	0.454	Health and Communities	(0.052)	(0.045)	0.000	(0.097)
(18.066)	0.608	0.000	(17.458)	Highways Assets and Transport	(19.662)	0.277	0.000	(19.385)
(0.641)	0.109	0.000	(0.532)	Infrastructure and Environment	(0.858)	(0.029)	0.000	(0.887)
(1.742)	0.312	0.000	(1.430)	Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change	(0.841)	0.113	0.000	(0.728)
<b>(99.514)</b>	<b>11.347</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(88.167)</b>	<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>(60.377)</b>	<b>3.465</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(56.912)</b>
(63.761)	0.000	0.000	(63.761)	Other Operating Expenditure	(30.302)	0.000	0.000	(30.302)
4.820	0.000	0.769	5.589	Financing and investment income and expenditure	(10.477)	0.000	0.673	(9.804)
113.011	0.000	(78.101)	34.910	Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure	76.063	0.000	(38.929)	37.134
<b>(45.444)</b>	<b>11.347</b>	<b>(77.332)</b>	<b>(111.429)</b>	<b>Deficit/(Surplus) on Provision of Services</b>	<b>(25.093)</b>	<b>3.465</b>	<b>(38.256)</b>	<b>(59.884)</b>

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## **NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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### **A – Adjustments for Capital Funding and Expenditure Purposes**

Adjustment to General Reserve Balance to meet the requirements of generally accepted accounting practices, this column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the service lines and for:

- Other Operating Expenditure – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the statutory charges for capital financing i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and other revenue contributions are deducted from financing and investment income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.
- Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure – Capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

### **B – Net Change for the Removal of Pension Contributions and the Addition of Pension IAS19 Related Expenditure and Income**

Net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS19 Employee Benefits Pension Related Expenditure and Income:

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as permitted by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES.

### **C – Other Differences**

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

- For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure the other differences column recognises adjustments to General Reserve for the timing differences for premiums and discounts and gains/losses on pooled funds measured at FVPL.
- The charge under Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure represents the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for Council Tax and Business Rates that was projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices in the Code. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future surpluses or deficits on the district/borough council Collection Funds. It also represents the movement in the Earmarked Reserve balances.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 10. EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ANALYSED BY NATURE

	Restated 2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Employee expenses	591.295	608.898
Premises	44.561	38.426
Transport	39.049	40.652
Supplies and services	855.665	933.263
Capital depreciation, amortisation, impairment	118.177	84.687
Interest payments, brokerage fees, loan modification, financial asset impairment and fair value changes	25.036	32.068
Precepts and levies	0.373	0.383
Trading operations	(0.715)	(0.877)
Loss on disposal of assets	63.762	30.302
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,737.203</b>	<b>1,767.802</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Fees, charges and other service income	(254.811)	(262.534)
Interest and investment income	(15.776)	(13.811)
Income from Council Tax, business rates	(508.488)	(538.210)
Business rates relief grant	(25.851)	(29.524)
Government grants and contributions	(828.314)	(863.223)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(1,633.240)</b>	<b>(1,707.302)</b>
<b>Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>(103.963)</b>	<b>(60.500)</b>

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

### 11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council.

#### County Council Controlled Companies

MEGZ Limited is a private company limited by 9,751 ordinary shares, all of which are held by the Council. There are three directors of the company who are Members of the Council; all have been appointed by the Council. There were no transactions with the company during the financial year (2023-24: £nil).

#### Joint Venture Companies and Partnerships

Scape Group Limited is a private limited company. The Council holds 75,000 of its £1 ordinary shares (17% share). The Council had one director on the company board until 29 May 2024 who was an elected Member of the Council and was appointed by the

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Council. During 2024-25 the Council received dividends of £0.500m from Scape Group Limited (2023-24: £0.500m).

Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited (VDL) and Concertus (Derbyshire) Limited (CDL) are private limited companies in which the Council has a 49% stake, with the aim of providing cleaning and caretaking services and property design and consultancy, respectively. VDL and CDL are run as Joint Venture companies with the other shareholders being part of Suffolk Group Holdings Limited, whose ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is Suffolk County Council. The Council has Board representation at VDL and CDL with one director on the board of each company. Vertas Group Limited (Vertas) and Concertus Design and Property Consultants Limited (Concertus), subsidiary undertakings of Suffolk Group Holdings Limited, have day to day financial control of VDL and CDL, respectively. Financial Governance is maintained via the production of monthly Management Accounts information, which is supplied to Board members and to Finance Officers of the Council. VDL and CDL are assessable to Corporation Tax and VAT in accordance with current legislation. All taxation related matters of VDL and CDL, including Corporation Tax, VAT and Income Tax are managed by Vertas and Concertus. During 2024-25, income of £0.062m was receivable from VDL (2023-24: £0.065m), of which £0.015m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.005m). During 2024-25, CDL income receivable was £0.094m (2023-24: £0.027m), of which £0.031m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.003m). During 2024-25, expenditure of £10.756m was payable to VDL and Vertas (Derbyshire) Traded Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary (2023-24: £11.609m), of which £0.614m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.062m (revised to correct the 2023-24 accounts disclosure of £nil)). During 2024-25, expenditure of £4.517m was payable to CDL and Concertus Derbyshire Traded Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary (2023-24: £6.024m), of which £0.005m was outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2023: £0.035m).

PSP (Derbyshire) LLP (PSPD) is a limited liability partnership (LLP) formed between the Council and PSP Facilitating Limited (PSPF), under the provisions of the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000. The purpose of PSPD is to help the Council unlock value from its land and property. Decision making, ownership and profit share are 50/50 between the Council and PSPF. Financial Governance is maintained via a Members Agreement and a Procedure Agreement. All financial activities of PSPD are conducted by PSPF, including statutory compliance, audit, bank account management, VAT and other taxation matters, and all liaison with HMRC and other Government bodies. There were no transactions with the company during 2024-25 (2023-24: £nil).

Derbyco Project SPV Limited is a dormant private limited company with an issued share capital of 100 £0.01 ordinary shares, which was formed in respect of the treatment and disposal of non-hazardous waste. The shareholding is split 50/50 between the Council and Derby City Council. The Council has one director on the company board. There were no transactions with the company during the financial year (2023-24: £nil).

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Physical Activity Partnership is a partnership agreement between the Council and Active Partners Trust for the period from April 2024 to March 2029. In 2024-25, the Council provided the first of five years of annual funding to Active Partners Trust from core funding and the Public Health Grant, which comprised £0.144m for running costs and £0.499m to be allocated to delivery partners (2023-24: £nil). The partnership is required to be compliant with the Council's Financial Regulations. Intellectual Property is to be shared jointly between the partners. The Council provides all the funding. Losses relating to the partnership are shared in accordance with budget percentages. Decisions must be reached by consensus of partnership members. Reporting is required to the Council's Senior Management Team.

### Other Companies

The Derbyshire Environmental Trust Limited is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. One of the directors of the Trust is a Member who was appointed by the Council. Income transactions with this organisation in the year totalled £0.090m (2023-24: £0.087m). There were no expenditure transactions during the year (2023-24: £nil).

The Creswell Heritage Trust is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. One of the directors of the Trust until 26 September 2024 was a Member who was appointed by the Council. There were no income transactions with this organisation in the year (2023-24: £nil) and expenditure transactions totalled £0.007m (2023-24: £0.007m).

Derbyshire Learning and Community Partnerships Ltd is a private company limited by 16,000 ordinary shares. The Council has a 10% shareholding, with the other shareholders being Building Schools for the Future LLP (10%) and Equitix Derbyshire Limited (80%). The Council had one director on the board, who left the Council in 2022-23. The Council received no payments from the company in respect of its shareholding and stake in a subordinated loan from the Council to the company during 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.005m).

**Central Government** has significant influence over the general operations of the Council – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other organisations. Grants received from Government departments are set out in the subjective analysis in Note 10. Grant receipts are also disclosed in Note 8 and Note 39.

Typical transactions with Central Government bodies include, but are not restricted to, investments, National Insurance contributions paid and pension contributions paid. During 2024-25, income transactions excluding grants totalled £24.107m (2023-24: £19.152m), of these, £23.621m were with academy schools (2023-24: £18.749m). During 2024-25, expenditure transactions and financing transactions totalled £810.960m (2023-24: £253.369m) and included the following significant transactions:

Inland Revenue	£104.615m (2023-24: £108.186m)
Debt Management Office	£580.000m (2023-24: £35.000m)
Teachers' Pensions	£48.666m (2023-24: £42.346m)
Public Works Loan Board	£13.325m (2023-24: £17.276m)

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**Other Local Authorities** – typical transactions include, but are not restricted to, investments, borrowing, repayment of transferred debt, re-imburement of joint project costs and supplies of goods and services. During 2024-25, income transactions totalled £43.215m (2023-24: £34.674m (revised to correct the 2023-24 accounts disclosure of £53.462m)) and included significant transactions with Derby City Council totalling £20.774m (2023-24: £19.800m (revised to correct the 2023-24 accounts disclosure of £38.588m)). During 2024-25, expenditure transactions totalled £52.750m, excluding short term lending and repayment of borrowing with other local authorities (2023-24: £45.635m).

**Health Bodies** – typical transactions include, but are not restricted to, re-imburement of joint project costs and supplies of goods and services. During 2024-25, income transactions with health bodies in the year totalled £98.389m (2023-24: £89.967m) and included significant transactions with NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB of £96.619m (2023-24: £88.201m). Expenditure transactions totalled £39.342m (2023-24: £40.882m) and included transactions with Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust of £24.190m (2023-24: £22.060m).

**Members and Senior Officers** – Council Members and Senior Officers have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of Members' allowances paid in 2024-25 is shown in Note 32. During 2024-25, income transactions in which Members and/or Senior Officers had an interest totalled £100.177m (2023-24: £91.773m), of which £96.619m is in respect of NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB (2023-24: £88.201m), which has the Council's Director of Public Health on its Governing Body as a local authority representative. During 2024-25, works and services to the value of £21.621m (2023-24: £28.621m (revised to correct the 2023-24 accounts disclosure of £28.261m)), of which £10.756m is in respect of VDL and Vertas (Derbyshire) Traded Limited (2023-24: £11.609m) and £4.517m is in respect of CDL and Concertus Derbyshire Traded Limited (2023-24: £6.024m), were commissioned from companies in which Members and/or Senior Officers had an interest on behalf of the Council. There was £0.005m outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.035m). Contracts were entered into in full compliance with the Council's Standing Orders.

From May 2021 a Member was elected and served as Derbyshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, until May 2024. A Member was elected and served as Derbyshire's Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner from April 2023 until May 2024. During 2024-25, twelve Members (2023-24: twelve Members) served as Council-appointed members of the Derbyshire Combined Fire Authority. During 2023-24 and 2024-25, four Members served as Council-appointed members of the Peak District National Park Authority. During 2023-24 and 2024-25, one Member served as a Director of the D2N2 LEP, a company limited by guarantee; the D2N2 LEP transitioned into EMCCA throughout 2024-25 and closed as a company on 2 April 2025. During 2024-25, two Members served as the Council's representative to Belper Leisure Centre Limited (2023-24: two Members), a charitable company limited by guarantee.

**Derbyshire Pension Fund** – the Council is the administering authority for the Derbyshire Pension Fund (the Fund) under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Included in management expenses in 2024-25 are charges from the Council of £3.350m (2023-24: £3.360m), for expenses incurred in respect of oversight and governance of the Fund, for Fund administration and for the management of the Fund's in-house investments. At 31 March 2025 the Council owed the Fund £3.748m (31 March 2024: the Fund owed the Council £3.555m).

It has not been possible to apportion, on a reasonable basis, the costs and benefits of key management personnel between the Council and the Fund. However, Members' Allowances and Officers' Remuneration are disclosed in Notes 32 and 33.

**LGPS Central Limited** – LGPS Central Limited (LGPSC) has been established to manage investment assets on behalf of eight LGPS funds across the Midlands. It is jointly owned in equal shares by the eight administering authorities participating in the LGPSC Pool. The Fund is one of the shareholders.

The Council's Section 151 Officer, or their nominee, represents the Council on the LGPS Central Shareholders' Forum, with delegated authority to make decisions on any matters which require a decision by the shareholders of LGPS Central Limited. All decisions made by the Section 151 Officer or their nominee, using delegated powers, are reported to the Pensions and Investments Committee.

LGPSC leased office space from the Council. The lease commenced on 14 June 2018 and was for a duration of five years, with a break clause at 30 June 2021. In 2023-24, LGPSC notified the Council that it was not renewing the lease on expiry in June 2023. No rental income was received by the Council from LGPSC in 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.003m). There was no amount due at either 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2025.

**East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA)** – Until 31 March 2024, the Council acted as the Accountable Body for EMCCA for both its capital programme and revenue capacity funding. During 2024-25, £23.986m of grant income was receivable (2023-24: £0.028m) from EMCCA, £3.174m of interest was paid to EMCCA in respect of the cash and investments the Council held on EMCCA's behalf, and £0.108m of other income was receivable from EMCCA, of which £0.092m was outstanding at 31 March 2025.

**D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)** – The D2N2 LEP transitioned into EMCCA throughout 2024-25 and closed as a company on 2 April 2025, with all staff transferred and all contracts novated. The Council was the Accountable Body for the D2N2 LEP during 2023-24 and 2024-25. The Council's role as Accountable Body has now ended. During 2024-25, the Council received £0.114m from the D2N2 LEP, which was all non-grant income (2023-24: total of £0.115m, all of which was non-grant income). At 31 March 2025, no amounts were outstanding (31 March 2024: £nil). During 2024-25, the Council did not commission any Works and Services from the D2N2 LEP (2023-24: £nil) and no contributions were made (2023-24: £0.021m). No amounts were outstanding at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £nil).

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### **12. ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN ACCOUNTING BASIS AND FUNDING BASIS**

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year, in accordance with proper accounting practice, to align with the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Narrative	Note	Usable reserves				Total Unusable Reserves £m	Total Council Reserves £m
		General Reserve £m	Earmarked Revenue Reserves £m	Unapplied Capital Grants £m	Capital Receipts Reserve £m		
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>	<b>(1,114.647)</b>
IFRS 16 Application Adjustment		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	12.010	12.010
<b>BALANCE AS AT 1 APRIL 2024</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(716.785)</b>	<b>(1,102.637)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure</b>		60.500	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(12.053)</b>	<b>48.447</b>
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>							
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets	13,14 17,18	(39.980)	0.000	0.000	0.000	39.980	0.000
Revaluation Losses and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	13 14	(20.402)	0.000	0.000	0.000	20.402	0.000
Capital Grants credited to the CIES	39	76.063	0.000	(76.063)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Disposal of Non-Current Assets	13,14 17,19	(30.302)	0.000	0.000	(14.413)	44.715	0.000
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute		(24.308)	0.000	0.000	0.000	24.308	0.000
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		(1.923)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.923	0.000
Amount by which Council Tax and Business Rates income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and Business Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements		1.329	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.329)	0.000

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	49	(61.152)	0.000	0.000	0.000	61.152	0.000
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment		13.823	0.000	0.000	0.000	(13.823)	0.000
Principal repayments of transferred debt		0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.008)	0.000
Capital expenditure charged in the year to the General Reserve		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reversal of gains/losses on pooled investment funds measured at FVPL charged to the CIES	21	0.394	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.394)	0.000
Amount by which finance costs (proportion of previous years' premiums and interest rates) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.279	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.279)	0.000
Amount by which finance costs (capital loan impairments) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	49	66.541	0.000	0.000	0.000	(66.541)	0.000
Deferred Capital Receipts becoming usable		0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.031)	0.031	0.000
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit movement	38	(27.902)	0.000	0.000	0.000	27.902	0.000
Financing of capital expenditure	16	0.000	0.000	65.830	8.508	(74.338)	0.000
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>		<b>(47.532)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(10.233)</b>	<b>(5.936)</b>	<b>63.701</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Reserves movements</b>							
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	29	32.468	(32.468)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfer from Earmarked Reserves	29	(44.821)	44.821	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total movements</b>		<b>(59.885)</b>	<b>12.353</b>	<b>(10.233)</b>	<b>(5.936)</b>	<b>63.701</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2025</b>		<b>(39.566)</b>	<b>(192.814)</b>	<b>(133.990)</b>	<b>(22.683)</b>	<b>(665.137)</b>	<b>(1,054.190)</b>

The IFRS 16 application adjustments are explained at Note 45.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Narrative	Note	Restated Usable reserves				Restated Total Unusable Reserves £m	Restated Total Council Reserves £m
		Restated General Reserve £m	Earmarked Revenue Reserves £m	Unapplied Capital Grants £m	Capital Receipts Reserve £m		
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2023</b>		<b>(32.714)</b>	<b>(272.371)</b>	<b>(82.411)</b>	<b>(12.456)</b>	<b>(1,368.737)</b>	<b>(1,768.689)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure</b>		<b>103.963</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>550.079</b>	<b>654.042</b>
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>							
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets	13 18	(48.549)	0.000	0.000	0.000	48.549	0.000
Revaluation Losses and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	13	(50.964)	0.000	0.000	0.000	50.964	0.000
Capital Grants credited to the CIES	39	113.011	0.000	(113.011)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Disposal of Non-Current Assets	13	(63.762)	0.000	0.000	(6.854)	70.616	0.000
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute		(18.663)	0.000	0.000	0.000	18.663	0.000
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		1.600	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.600)	0.000
Amount by which Council Tax and Business Rates income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and Business Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.996	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.996)	0.000

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	49	(60.278)	0.000	0.000	0.000	60.278	0.000
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment		23.475	0.000	0.000	0.000	(23.475)	0.000
Principal repayments of transferred debt		0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.008)	0.000
Capital expenditure charged in the year to the General Reserve		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reversal of gains/losses on pooled investment funds measured at FVPL charged to the CIES	21	0.489	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.489)	0.000
Amount by which finance costs (proportion of previous years' premiums and interest rates) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.280	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.280)	0.000
Amount by which finance costs (capital loan impairments) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	49	70.026	0.000	0.000	0.000	(70.026)	0.000
Deferred Capital Receipts becoming usable		0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.029)	0.029	0.000
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit movement	38	(11.895)	0.000	0.000	0.000	11.895	0.000
Financing of capital expenditure	16	0.000	0.000	71.665	2.592	(74.257)	0.000
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>		(44.226)	0.000	(41.346)	(4.291)	<b>89.863</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Reserves movements</b>							
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	29	59.336	(59.336)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfer from Earmarked Reserves	29	(126.540)	126.540	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total movements</b>		<b>(111.430)</b>	<b>67.204</b>	<b>(41.346)</b>	<b>(4.291)</b>	<b>89.863</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<b>(40.181)</b>	<b>(205.167)</b>	<b>(123.757)</b>	<b>(16.747)</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>	<b>(1,114.647)</b>

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 13. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The value of Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) assets in the Balance Sheet are shown at their carrying valuation, less accumulated depreciation charges.

#### **Prior Period Adjustments**

In February 2025, the Council received its External Auditor's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Report advised that an issue in the Council's Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, specifically that the calculations did not include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings, had been identified.

Subsequently, the Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, to include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for 2023-24. To correct the previously reported overstated Council Property Plant and Equipment (PPE) buildings asset values, the Council has restated the prior year information for the £508.169m overstated position of Property Plant and Equipment assets at 31 March 2024. Full details of the impact of these restatements are given in Note 4.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The table below shows the movement in PPE assets during the year:

	Note/ Statement	Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Infrastructure Assets £m	Community Assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets Under Construction £m	Property Plant & Equipment £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>								
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>		<b>854.003</b>	<b>64.333</b>		<b>6.038</b>	<b>24.990</b>	<b>121.117</b>	
Transfers to ROU (IFRS 16)		(23.803)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(23.803)
PFI Indexation (IFRS 16)		2.154	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.154
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>		<b>832.354</b>	<b>64.333</b>		<b>6.038</b>	<b>24.990</b>	<b>121.117</b>	
Additions		20.934	6.031	37.541	0.260	0.071	8.256	73.093
Disposals		(23.990)	(2.885)	0.000	(0.002)	(4.489)	0.000	(31.366)
Disposals derecognition		(6.568)	0.000	0.000	(0.522)	0.000	0.000	(7.090)
Revaluation Gains to RR*	CIES	23.669	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.089	0.000	24.758
Revaluation Losses to RR	CIES	(19.045)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(6.453)	0.000	(25.498)
Revaluation Losses to CIES		(20.355)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.008)	0.000	(20.363)
Transfers within PPE		5.403	0.147	6.414	1.224	2.514	(15.702)	0.000
Transfers to Held for Sale		(5.355)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.959)	0.000	(6.314)
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>		<b>807.047</b>	<b>67.626</b>		<b>6.998</b>	<b>16.755</b>	<b>113.671</b>	
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>								
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>		<b>(1.647)</b>	<b>(51.888)</b>		<b>(0.086)</b>	<b>(1.576)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
Transfers to ROU (IFRS 16)		0.313	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.313
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>		<b>(1.334)</b>	<b>(51.888)</b>		<b>(0.086)</b>	<b>(1.576)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
Charge for year		(14.674)	(3.688)	(16.949)	(0.005)	(0.036)	0.000	(35.352)
Revaluations to RR	CIES	7.006	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.000	7.024
Impairment to CIES		(0.012)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.012)
Disposals		0.350	2.836	0.000	0.000	0.053	0.000	3.239
Disposals derecognition		0.170	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.170
Transfers within PPE		0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.004)	0.000	0.000
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>		<b>(8.490)</b>	<b>(52.740)</b>		<b>(0.091)</b>	<b>(1.545)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
OPENING VALUE AT 1 APRIL 2024		828.866	12.445	432.304	5.952	23.414	121.117	1,424.098
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>		<b>798.557</b>	<b>14.886</b>	<b>459.310</b>	<b>6.907</b>	<b>15.210</b>	<b>113.671</b>	<b>1,408.541</b>
<b>NATURE OF ASSET HOLDING</b>								
Purchased / Built		765.363	14.886	459.310	6.907	15.210	113.671	1,375.347
Leased		0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008
Donated		4.063	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.063
Private Finance Initiative		29.123	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	29.123
		<b>798.557</b>	<b>14.886</b>	<b>459.310</b>	<b>6.907</b>	<b>15.210</b>	<b>113.671</b>	<b>1,408.541</b>

\*RR – Revaluation Reserve

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The fair value measurement of the Council's Surplus Assets is analysed below, with net book value being categorised as fair value Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3. Refer to Accounting Policy 1.14 for more information about these Levels.

	Net Book Value (NBV)			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Land</b>	0.000	0.000	15.210	15.210
	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.210</b>	<b>15.210</b>

The restated 2023-24 position was:

	Note/ Statement	Restated Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Infrastructure Assets £m	Restated Community Assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets Under Construction £m	Restated Property Plant & Equipment £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>								
<b>At 1 April 2023</b>		<b>1,391.846</b>	<b>64.883</b>		<b>4.658</b>	<b>23.014</b>	<b>50.449</b>	
Additions		23.892	3.679	37.534	0.442	0.000	80.983	146.530
Disposals		(68.385)	(4.299)	0.000	(0.089)	(1.355)	0.000	(74.128)
Disposals derecognition		(0.530)	0.000	0.000	(0.067)	0.000	0.000	(0.597)
Revaluation Gains to RR*	CIES	14.103	0.000	0.000	0.017	3.291	0.000	17.411
Revaluation Losses to RR	CIES	(450.067)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(11.519)	0.000	(461.586)
Revaluation Losses to CIES		(47.830)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(3.078)	0.000	(50.908)
Transfers within PPE		(6.673)	0.070	1.050	1.097	14.771	(10.315)	0.000
Transfers from Heritage		4.631	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.631
Transfers to Held for Sale		(6.984)	0.000	0.000	(0.020)	(0.134)	0.000	(7.138)
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>		<b>854.003</b>	<b>64.333</b>		<b>6.038</b>	<b>24.990</b>	<b>121.117</b>	
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>								
<b>At 1 April 2023</b>		<b>(5.869)</b>	<b>(52.650)</b>		<b>(0.045)</b>	<b>(1.714)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
Charge for year		(28.763)	(3.533)	(16.032)	(0.004)	(0.007)	0.000	(48.339)
Revaluations to RR	CIES	31.176	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.594	0.000	31.770
Impairment to CIES		(0.009)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.009)
Disposals		1.153	4.295	0.000	0.000	0.143	0.000	5.591
Disposals derecognition		0.035	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.035
Transfers within PPE		0.629	0.000	0.000	(0.037)	(0.592)	0.000	0.000
Transfers from Heritage		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfers to Held for Sale		0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>		<b>(1.647)</b>	<b>(51.888)</b>		<b>(0.086)</b>	<b>(1.576)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>OPENING VALUE</b>		<b>1,385.977</b>	<b>12.233</b>	<b>409.752</b>	<b>4.613</b>	<b>21.300</b>	<b>50.449</b>	<b>1,884.324</b>
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>		<b>852.356</b>	<b>12.445</b>	<b>432.304</b>	<b>5.952</b>	<b>23.414</b>	<b>121.117</b>	<b>1,447.588</b>
<b>NATURE OF ASSET HOLDING</b>								
Purchased / Built		813.332	12.445	432.304	5.952	23.414	121.117	1,408.564
Finance Lease		6.833	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.833
Donated		4.063	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.063
Private Finance Initiative		28.128	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	28.128
		<b>852.356</b>	<b>12.445</b>	<b>432.304</b>	<b>5.952</b>	<b>23.414</b>	<b>121.117</b>	<b>1,447.588</b>

\*RR – Revaluation Reserve

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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In accordance with the temporary relief offered by the Update to the Code on Infrastructure Assets, this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for Infrastructure Assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements. The Council has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to Infrastructure Assets.

The Council has determined in accordance with Regulation 30M of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for Infrastructure Assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

Under IFRS13, the Council is required to provide a summary of the fair value measurement for Surplus Assets. The 2023-24 position was:

	<b>Net Book Value (NBV)</b>			
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Land</b>	0.000	0.040	20.509	20.549
<b>Buildings</b>	0.000	0.000	2.865	2.865
	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.040</b>	<b>23.374</b>	<b>23.414</b>

A summary of the Council's Property, Plant and Equipment is included below, giving information as to the proportion of the closing value at 31 March 2025 which relates to assets held at historic cost and the proportion which relates to assets which have been revalued, and if so, the year of that revaluation under the Council's five year rolling programme of physical revaluation. In addition to this physical formal revaluation programme, school assets were revalued at the prior year end based on a desk top review. The value of schools revalued in this way at 31 March 2024 was £395.695m (restated). No additional desktop revaluation exercise was performed at 31 March 2025.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Infrastructure Assets £m	Community Assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets Under Construction £m	Property Plant & Equipment £m
<b>VALUATION</b>							
At 31 March 2025	324.129	0.000	0.000	0.000	15.210	0.000	339.339
At 31 March 2024	441.975	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	441.975
At 31 March 2023	20.772	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	20.772
At 31 March 2022	7.073	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	7.073
At 31 March 2021	4.189	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.189
	<b>798.138</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.210</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>813.348</b>
<b>HISTORIC COST</b>	<b>0.419</b>	<b>14.886</b>	<b>459.311</b>	<b>6.907</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>113.670</b>	<b>595.193</b>
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>							
At 31 March 2025	798.557	14.886	459.311	6.907	15.210	113.670	1,408.541

The restated 2023-24 position was:

	Restated Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Infrastructure Assets £m	Restated Community Assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets Under Construction £m	Restated Property Plant & Equipment £m
<b>VALUATION</b>							
At 31 March 2024	539.728	0.000	0.000	1.420	23.414	0.000	564.562
At 31 March 2023	165.951	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	165.951
At 31 March 2022	76.647	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	76.647
At 31 March 2021	40.153	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	40.153
At 31 March 2020	29.847	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	29.847
	<b>852.326</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.420</b>	<b>23.414</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>877.160</b>
<b>HISTORIC COST</b>	<b>0.030</b>	<b>12.445</b>	<b>432.304</b>	<b>4.532</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>121.117</b>	<b>570.428</b>
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>							
At 31 March 2024	852.356	12.445	432.304	5.952	23.414	121.117	1,447.588

At 31 March 2025, the Council had Capital Commitments of £11.465m (31 March 2024: £10.882m).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 14. NATURE AND SCALE OF HERITAGE ASSETS

#### Prior Period Adjustments

In February 2025, the Council received its External Auditor's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Report advised that an issue in the Council's Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, specifically that the calculations did not include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings, had been identified.

Subsequently, the Council has revised its Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) methodology, to include a reduction for depreciation to reflect the remaining life of buildings and retrospectively applied this to its DRC calculations for 2023-24. To correct the previously reported overstated Heritage Assets buildings asset values, the Council has restated the prior year information for the £16.030m overstated position of Heritage Assets at 31 March 2024. Full details of the impact of these restatements are given in Note 4.

The table below shows the movement in Heritage Assets during the year:

	Restated Monuments, Statues and Historic Buildings £m	County Buildings £m	Archives and Local Studies Collection £m	Museum Collection and Artefacts £m	Restated Heritage Assets £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>					
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>
Additions	0.211	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.211
Disposals	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Impairment Losses/(Reversals) through I&E	(0.024)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.024)
Revaluation Gains to Revaluation Reserve	0.000	0.001	1.000	0.000	1.001
Revaluation Losses to Revaluation Reserve	(0.012)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.012)
Transfers to/(from) Heritage Assets	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Derecognition	(0.080)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.080)
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>12.719</b>	<b>0.034</b>	<b>6.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>23.192</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Depreciation Charge	(0.002)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.002)
Disposals	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>(0.002)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.002)</b>
<b>OPENING VALUE</b>	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>	<b>12.717</b>	<b>0.034</b>	<b>6.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>23.190</b>
<b>NATURE OF CLOSING VALUE</b>					
Cost	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Valuation	12.717	0.034	6.000	4.439	23.190
	<b>12.717</b>	<b>0.034</b>	<b>6.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>23.190</b>
<b>NATURE OF ASSET HOLDING</b>					
Purchased / Built	12.628	0.034	6.000	3.773	22.435
Donated	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.666	0.755
	<b>12.717</b>	<b>0.034</b>	<b>6.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>23.190</b>

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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The Council's Heritage Assets are categorised as follows:

**Monuments, Statues and Historic Buildings** – the Council owns various historic buildings. The most significant is Elvaston Castle, which is held at a valuation of £11.538m at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024 restated: £11.561m). Of this valuation at 31 March 2025, £10.301m is categorised within Heritage Assets (31 March 2024 restated: £10.317m) and £1.237m is categorised within Property Plant and Equipment (31 March 2024 restated: £1.244m), as it relates to operational buildings. The castle was designed by James Wyatt, in the gothic revival style, in the early 1800s. The castle is situated in approximately 321 acres of open parkland, woodland and historical gardens.

**County Buildings** – various heritage assets are held at County Buildings. These include pieces of silverware from the former Judges' lodgings and railway nameplates.

**Archives and Local Studies Collection** – this collection is proportioned approximately 80% archives and 20% local studies. A large photographic collection is held at the Derbyshire Records Office. Also held are records of the magistrates' court, county court, coroner's court, hospitals and NHS Trust. This is Derbyshire's only place of deposit.

**Museum Collection and Artefacts** – Since the closure and subsequent sale of Buxton Museum in March 2025, the main body of the collection is being held in external storage, whilst a small display is being temporarily exhibited at Buxton Library. The core collections cover Peak District archaeology, geology, art and local history. The collections include a recreated study of the work of archaeologist Sir William Boyd Dawkins, together with a fine art collection of mostly 19th and 20th century works in watercolours, oils and prints, including works by Brangwyn, Chagall, Chahine and their contemporaries. There is also a mineral collection including Blue John, local specimens and cave deposits, along with a collection of Ice Age material and finds from Creswell Crags on the Derbyshire border. A number of Hans Coper vases are also held.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The restated 2023-24 position was:

	Restated Monuments, Statues and Historic Buildings £m	County Buildings £m	Archives and Local Studies Collection £m	Museum Collection and Artefacts £m	Restated Heritage Assets £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>					
<b>At 1 April 2023</b>	<b>50.539</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>60.011</b>
Additions	0.376	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>0.376</b>
Disposals	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>0.000</b>
Impairment Losses/(Reversals) through I&E	(0.049)	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>(0.049)</b>
Revaluation Gains to Revaluation Reserve	0.676	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>0.676</b>
Revaluation Losses to Revaluation Reserve	(34.275)	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>(34.275)</b>
Transfers to/(from) Heritage Assets	(4.631)	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>(4.631)</b>
Derecognition	(0.012)	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>(0.012)</b>
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
<b>At 1 April 2023</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
Depreciation Charge	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>0.000</b>
Disposals	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>0.000</b>
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
OPENING VALUE	50.539	0.033	5.000	4.439	60.011
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>
<b>NATURE OF CLOSING VALUE</b>					
Cost	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Valuation	12.624	0.033	5.000	4.439	22.096
	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>
<b>NATURE OF ASSET HOLDING</b>					
Purchased / Built	12.354	0.033	5.000	3.773	21.160
Donated	0.270	0.000	0.000	0.666	0.936
	<b>12.624</b>	<b>0.033</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>4.439</b>	<b>22.096</b>

### 15. HERITAGE ASSETS NOT REPORTABLE IN THE BALANCE SHEET

Where the Council is unable to place a reliable fair value on Heritage Assets because of their nature, it is required to disclose them in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. Details of these Heritage Assets are set out below:

- Colliery Bridge, Shipley Country Park
- Paul's Arm Bridge, Shipley Country Park
- Leawood River Aqueduct
- Northern Retaining Walls and Loading Bay, Cromford Wharf
- Side Walls and Curbs to Canal Basin, Cromford Wharf
- Railway Embankment and Road Bridge, Steeple Grange, Wirksworth
- Grindlow Tower, Solomon's Temple, Poole's Cavern Country Park, Buxton
- Workshops, Offices and Terminus at Cromford and High Peak Junction
- Brittain Colliery Headstocks, Ripley
- Brittain Colliery Engine House, Ripley

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 16. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL FINANCING

2023-24		2024-25
£m		£m
<b>0.000</b>	<b>IFRS 16 Application Adjustment</b>	<b>34.732</b>
146.881	Capital Additions	82.322
18.663	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	24.308
<b>165.544</b>	<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>106.630</b>
91.286	Loans	67.025
2.593	Capital Receipts	8.507
71.665	Grants and Contributions	65.830
<b>165.544</b>	<b>Capital Financing</b>	<b>141.362</b>

Revised*		
2023-24		2024-25
£m		£m
<b>596.657</b>	<b>Opening Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)</b>	<b>664.461</b>
	<b>IFRS 16 Application Adjustments</b>	
0.000	PPE/REFCUS - IFRS 16 application (PFI indexation)	23.332
0.000	ROU Assets - IFRS 16 application (lease dilapidations)	1.972
0.000	ROU Assets - IFRS 16 application (lease liabilities)	9.428
<b>0.000</b>		<b>34.732</b>
	<b>Capital Investment</b>	
146.881	Property, Plant and Equipment and Heritage Assets	73.304
0.000	Intangible Assets	8.519
18.663	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)	24.308
0.000	ROU Assets	0.499
<b>165.544</b>		<b>106.630</b>
	<b>Sources of Finance</b>	
(2.593)	Capital Receipts	(8.507)
(71.665)	Government Grants and other Contributions	(65.830)
(23.474)	Statutory Minimum Revenue Provision	(13.822)
(0.008)	Principal Repayments of Transferred Debt	(0.008)
<b>(97.740)</b>		<b>(88.167)</b>
<b>664.461</b>	<b>Closing Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)</b>	<b>717.656</b>
<b>67.804</b>	<b>Movement in Year</b>	<b>53.195</b>
	Increase/(Decrease) in Underlying Need to Borrow (Unsupported by Government Financial Assistance)	

\*Opening 2023-24 Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) revised from the previously reported figure of £594.275m, to align the disclosed CFR position at 31 March 2024 with a refined CFR figure at that date later calculated by the Council's Treasury Management Advisors.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 17. RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS

This table shows the change in the value of Right-of-Use Assets held under leases by the Council:

	Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Total Right of Use Assets £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>			
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>46.494</b>	<b>0.059</b>	<b>46.553</b>
Additions	0.407	0.092	<b>0.499</b>
Disposals	(2.887)	0.000	<b>(2.887)</b>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>44.014</b>	<b>0.151</b>	<b>44.165</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>(0.068)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.068)</b>
Charge for year	(2.866)	(0.028)	<b>(2.894)</b>
Disposals	0.015	0.000	<b>0.015</b>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>(2.919)</b>	<b>(0.028)</b>	<b>(2.947)</b>
OPENING VALUE AT 1 APRIL 2024	46.426	0.059	46.485
<b>CLOSING VALUE AT 31 MARCH 2025</b>	<b>41.095</b>	<b>0.123</b>	<b>41.218</b>

### 18. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets relate to the purchase of software licences:

	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>		
<b>At 1st April</b>	<b>8.947</b>	<b>8.947</b>
Additions	0.000	8.519
Disposals	0.000	0.000
<b>At 31st March</b>	<b>8.947</b>	<b>17.466</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
<b>At 1st April</b>	<b>(8.547)</b>	<b>(8.757)</b>
Charge for year	(0.210)	(1.735)
<b>At 31st March</b>	<b>(8.757)</b>	<b>(10.492)</b>
OPENING VALUE	0.400	0.190
<b>CLOSING VALUE</b>	<b>0.190</b>	<b>6.974</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 19. ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

2023-24			2024-25	
Carrying Value	Revaluation Reserve		Carrying Value	Revaluation Reserve
£m	£m		£m	£m
2.539	1.973	At 1 April	7.165	6.253
(2.511)	(1.874)	Sales	(6.716)	(6.026)
7.137	6.154	Transfers	6.036	5.145
<b>7.165</b>	<b>6.253</b>	<b>At 31 March</b>	<b>6.485</b>	<b>5.372</b>

Assets must meet stringent criteria to be classified as Held for Sale rather than Surplus.

### 20. NON-CURRENT DEBTORS

31 Mar 2024 £m		Note	31 Mar 2025 £m
0.032	Non-Current Transferred Debt	21	0.030
1.300	Other Non-Current Debtors	21	1.267
<b>1.332</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Debtors</b>		<b>1.297</b>

### 21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial Assets comprise loans to other bodies, cash and short-term deposits, investments in equity funds and receivables.

#### Current Financial Assets

	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Current Investments	49.837	0.000	49.837	0.000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	78.319	72.843	78.319	72.843
Trade Debtors	42.806	28.794	42.806	28.794
<b>Current Financial Assets</b>	<b>170.962</b>	<b>101.637</b>	<b>170.962</b>	<b>101.637</b>

#### Non-Current Financial Assets

	Note	Fair Value Level	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
			31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Pooled Investment Funds		1	64.458	44.852	64.458	44.852
Loan to Buxton Crescent Ltd		3	10.251	10.251	13.996	15.117
Loan to Chesterfield FC Community		3	0.400	0.358	0.446	0.397
<b>Non-Current Investments</b>			<b>75.109</b>	<b>55.461</b>	<b>78.900</b>	<b>60.366</b>
Non-Current Transferred Debt	20	2	0.032	0.030	0.032	0.030
Other Non-Current Debtors	20	*	1.300	1.267	1.300	1.267
<b>Non-Current Financial Assets</b>			<b>76.441</b>	<b>56.758</b>	<b>80.232</b>	<b>61.663</b>

\* Fair value disclosure not required

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Financial Assets by Measurement Classification

	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Amortised Costs	182.945	113.543	186.736	118.448
Fair Value through Profit or Loss	64.458	44.852	64.458	44.852
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>247.403</b>	<b>158.395</b>	<b>251.194</b>	<b>163.300</b>

At 31 March 2025 there was one non-current investment in the balance sheet with a carrying value in excess of £15.000m:

- CCLA Mutual Investment Trust Property Fund, with a carrying value equal to fair value at 31 March 2025 of £22.192m (original investment £25.000m). This investment is open ended but can be realised with 90 days' notice.

Non-Current Transferred Debt and Other Non-Current Debtors are not quoted on active markets meaning that fair value cannot be accurately calculated. As such they have been reported at carrying value.

The fair values of the Council's deposits and the loans it has made are determined with reference to the principal, term, rate and timing of the interest and the borrower's credit rating.

### Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL)

The following financial assets are pooled investment funds which the Council has measured at FVPL. The Council's pooled investment funds are traded on active markets, for which the Council can access the measurement data. The fair values of these funds are determined by the closing bid prices at 31 March 2025.

It is the Council's intention to hold these assets for the medium to long term to earn investment income and for capital appreciation.

The Council sold its investments in three pooled investment funds on 17 January 2025.

Financial Assets measured at FVPL	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Aegon - Diversified Income Fund	9.335	9.263	9.335	9.263
CCLA - LA Property Fund	21.773	22.192	21.773	22.192
CCLA - Better World Cautious Fund	4.904	4.640	4.904	4.640
M&G - Optimal Income Fund	4.673	0.000	4.673	0.000
M&G - Global Dividend Fund	6.842	0.000	6.842	0.000
Ninety One Diversified Income Fund	8.783	8.757	8.783	8.757
Schroder - Income Maximiser Fund	8.148	0.000	8.148	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>64.458</b>	<b>44.852</b>	<b>64.458</b>	<b>44.852</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Council holds 75,000 £1 ordinary shares (17% share) in the Local Authority controlled Scape Group (Ltd). The value of this holding is small and there are conditions on the shares that prevent them from being traded on the open market. The Council does not consider the value to be material and therefore no value is carried on the Council's Balance Sheet.

The following financial assets measured at FVPL have been derecognised in the year ended 31 March 2025:

- M&G – Optimal Income Fund
- M&G – Global Dividend Fund
- Schroder – Income Maximiser Fund

### Dividend Income

Dividend income from the Council's investments in equity instruments and pooled investment funds has been recognised as follows:

	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
M&G - Optimal Income Fund	0.239	0.117
M&G - Global Dividend Fund	0.223	0.135
Schroder - Income Maximiser Fund	0.574	0.506
<b>From Investments Derecognised</b>	<b>1.036</b>	<b>0.758</b>
Aegon - Diversified Income Fund	0.624	0.516
CCLA - LA Property Fund	1.128	1.125
CCLA - Better World Cautious Fund	0.164	0.152
Ninety One Diversified Income Fund	0.409	0.439
Scape Group Limited shares	0.500	0.500
Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited shares	0.203	0.150
<b>From Investments Held at Year End</b>	<b>3.028</b>	<b>2.882</b>
<b>Total Dividends Received</b>	<b>4.064</b>	<b>3.640</b>

Financial Instrument Liabilities comprise loans and borrowings, PFI liabilities, lessee lease liabilities and other liabilities at contract amounts.

### Current Financial Liabilities

	Carrying Value				Fair Value	
	31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Transferred Debt	(0.008)	0.000	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.008)	(0.009)
Public Works Loan Board	(2.745)	0.000	(2.745)	0.000	(2.745)	0.000
Temporary Loans	(138.500)	0.000	(138.500)	(145.000)	(138.500)	(145.000)
Accrued Interest	(6.574)	0.000	(6.574)	(6.946)	(6.574)	(6.946)
<b>Current Loans and Borrowing</b>	<b>(147.827)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(147.827)</b>	<b>(151.955)</b>	<b>(147.827)</b>	<b>(151.955)</b>
Trade Creditors	(146.981)	0.000	(146.981)	(107.642)	(146.981)	(107.642)
PFI liability	(4.872)	(1.899)	(6.771)	(7.154)	(6.795)	(7.154)
Lessee lease liability	(0.377)	(0.883)	(1.260)	(1.137)	(0.377)	(1.137)
<b>Current Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>(300.057)</b>	<b>(2.782)</b>	<b>(302.839)</b>	<b>(267.888)</b>	<b>(301.980)</b>	<b>(267.888)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The IFRS 16 application adjustments are explained at Note 45.

### Non-Current Financial Liabilities

	Note	Fair Value Level	Carrying Value				Fair Value	
			31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Transferred Debt		2	(0.125)	0.000	(0.125)	(0.116)	(0.125)	(0.116)
Public Works Loan Board		2	(215.639)	0.000	(215.639)	(217.206)	(229.808)	(215.857)
Other Long Term Loans		2	(20.520)	0.000	(20.520)	(15.508)	(9.703)	(13.892)
<b>Non-Current Borrowing</b>			<b>(236.284)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(236.284)</b>	<b>(232.830)</b>	<b>(239.636)</b>	<b>(229.865)</b>
PFI liability	27	*	(41.704)	(21.433)	(63.137)	(56.458)	(39.882)	(56.458)
Lessee lease liability	27	*	(2.985)	(8.540)	(11.525)	(10.458)	(2.985)	(10.458)
<b>Non-Current Financial Liabilities</b>			<b>(280.973)</b>	<b>(29.973)</b>	<b>(310.946)</b>	<b>(299.746)</b>	<b>(282.503)</b>	<b>(296.781)</b>

\* Fair value disclosure not required

The IFRS 16 application adjustments are explained at Note 45.

### Financial Liabilities by Measurement Classification

	Carrying Value				Fair Value	
	31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Amortised Costs*	(581.030)	(32.755)	(613.785)	(567.634)	(584.483)	(564.669)
Fair Value through Profit or Loss	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>(581.030)</b>	<b>(32.755)</b>	<b>(613.785)</b>	<b>(567.634)</b>	<b>(584.483)</b>	<b>(564.669)</b>

\* Amortised Costs Carrying Value and Fair Value at 31 March 2024 revised to correct minor disclosure errors (previously £581.189m and £584.642m respectively).

The IFRS 16 application adjustment is explained at Note 45.

The Council has 45 loans with the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) at 31 March 2025. The start date of the earliest of these PWLB loans was August 1999, with a maturity date of 28 July 2059 (a period of 60 years). The most recent start date was November 2007, for a period of 30 years. During the year, one loan with the PWLB was repaid. The average loan rate across the loans is 4.36%. The average discount rate is 5.56%.

At 31 March 2025 the Council held two other long-term loans, in respect of which Barclays waived their LOBO options in June 2016:

- £5.000m Barclays loan commencing in October 2003, for 40 years, with an introductory rate of 3.2% for four years, then 4.875% thereafter. The carrying value of the loan at 31 March 2025 is £5.317m (31 March 2024: £5.323m) and the fair value is £4.543m (31 March 2024: £5.024m), using a discount rate of 5.910% (31 March 2024: 5.034%).
- £5.000m Barclays loan, commencing in February 2005, for 40 years, with an introductory interest rate of 3.7% for four years, then 4.5% thereafter. A discount of £0.103m applied at the commencement of the loan. The carrying value of the loan at 31 March 2025 is £5.191m (31 March 2024: £5.196m) and the fair value is £4.190m (31 March 2024: £4.679m), using a discount rate of 5.935% (31 March 2024: 5.033%).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Council's £5.000m Dexia LOBO loan, which commenced in August 2004, for 35 years, at a fixed rate of 4.5%, was repaid in October 2023. In August 2023, the Council received notification from Dexia that they were to exercise their option under the LOBO to increase the prevailing interest rate from 4.50% to 5.15%, with effect from October 2024. This notice gave the Council the option to either accept the increase or to repay the loan at its nominal value. The Council decided to take the repayment option.

PFI and Lessee Lease Liabilities are not quoted on active markets. The discounted cash flow method has been used to calculate the fair value of PFI liabilities. Refer to Note 47 for further details. The average interest rate across the Council's 73 lessee leases, which aren't covered by short-term or low-value exemptions, is 6.58%. Refer to Note 46 for further details.

### Interest Income and Expenditure

The following income and expenditure have been recognised in the CIES in relation to interest on financial instruments:

	Income/(Expense)	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
Interest Income	11.712	10.171
Interest Expense	(26.178)	(29.156)
<b>Net Interest Income/(Expense)</b>	<b>(14.466)</b>	<b>(18.985)</b>

### Financial Instrument Gains/Losses

The following gains and losses have been recognised in the CIES in relation to the carrying value of the Council's financial assets:

Financial Assets	Net (Losses)/Gains	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
Amortised Costs	(0.805)	(1.588)
Fair Value through Profit or Loss	0.489	1.806
FVOCI - Gains/Losses Recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	0.000	0.000
FVOCI - Accumulated Gains/Losses Reclassified to Surplus Deficit on Provision of Service	0.000	0.000
<b>Total (Losses)/Gains</b>	<b>(0.316)</b>	<b>0.218</b>

Losses arising from financial assets measured at amortised cost relate to impairment of these assets, including write-off of irrecoverable trade debt and movement in the allowances for loss due to default on these assets.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The loan advances to Buxton Crescent Ltd (formerly Buxton Crescent Hotel and Thermal Spa Company Ltd) meet the definition of capital expenditure under statutory provisions, therefore the movement in the loss allowance for default provided for these advances has been reversed out to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Gains from financial assets measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss (FVPL) relate to movements in the fair value of the Council's investments in pooled investment funds. These gains other than those relating to the sale of the Council's investment, have been reversed out to the Pooled Investments Adjustment Account as required by the statutory temporary override MHCLG has issued. The override was originally effective for financial years 2018-19 to 2022-23, was extended to 2024-25 and, for investments already in place at 1 April 2024, which applies to the Council's investments in pooled investment vehicles, was further extended up to and including 2028-29.

The Council sold its investments in three pooled investment funds on 17 January 2025. These financial assets have been derecognised in the year ended 31 March 2025. The gains and losses arising from derecognition of these assets was as follows:

FVPL Financial Assets Derecognised	Original Investment £m	Net Gain/(Loss) to 31 March 2024 £m	Net Gain/(Loss) in 2024-25 £m	Carrying Value at Derecognition £m	Total Net Gain/(Loss) £m
M&G - Optimal Income Fund	5.000	(0.327)	(0.027)	4.646	(0.354)
M&G - Global Dividend Fund	5.000	1.842	1.225	8.067	3.067
Schroder - Income Maximiser Fund	10.000	(1.852)	0.551	8.699	(1.301)
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.000</b>	<b>(0.337)</b>	<b>1.749</b>	<b>21.412</b>	<b>1.412</b>

FVPL Financial Assets Derecognised	Net Gain/ (Loss) in 2024-25 £m	Release of Pooled Investments Adjustment Account balance £m	Credit/ (Charge) to the General Reserve in 2024-25 £m
M&G - Optimal Income Fund	(0.027)	(0.327)	(0.354)
M&G - Global Dividend Fund	1.225	1.842	3.067
Schroder - Income Maximiser Fund	0.551	(1.852)	(1.301)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.749</b>	<b>(0.337)</b>	<b>1.412</b>

There were no gains or losses from financial assets measured at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI) in 2024-25 (2023-24: nil).

Other than the write-off of irrecoverable trade debt, no gains or losses arose on derecognition from Financial Assets measured at amortised cost in 2024-25 and 2023-24.

There have been no gains or losses recognised in the CIES in relation to the carrying value of the Council's financial liabilities in 2024-25 (2023-24: nil).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Fee Income and Expenses

	Income/(Expense)	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
Fees From Instruments not at FVPL	(0.161)	(0.136)
Fees From Investing Activities on Behalf of Other Parties	0.033	0.035
<b>Net Fee Income/(Expense)</b>	<b>(0.128)</b>	<b>(0.101)</b>

The Council incurred £0.136m in brokerage fees to execute transactions relating to new loans the Council took out in 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.161m). £0.035m of income was earned from banking and treasury management services provided to the Derbyshire Pension Fund and Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (2023-24: £0.033m).

### Financial Instruments – Fair Values

Financial assets which do not give rise to cash flows which are solely payments of principal and interest, or where it is not the Council's intention to hold those assets to collect the contractual cash flows, are carried in the Balance Sheet at fair value. For most assets, including bonds, treasury bills and shares in money market funds and other pooled funds, the fair value is taken from the market price. The fair values of other instruments have been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31 March 2025, using the following methods and assumptions:

- Certificates of deposit and forward loan contracts have been discounted at market interest rates for instruments of similar credit quality and remaining term to maturity.

Financial assets classified as loans and receivables and all non-derivative financial liabilities are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair values have been estimated by calculating the net present value of the remaining contractual cash flows at 31 March 2025, using the following methods and assumptions:

- Loans borrowed by the Council have been valued by discounting the contractual cash flows over the whole life of the instrument at the appropriate market rate for local authority loans.
- The value of the LOBO loan has been increased by the value of the embedded options, where a value exists. The lender's options to propose an increase to the interest rate on the loan have been valued according to a proprietary model for Bermudan cancellable swaps. The Council's contingent options to accept the increased rate or repay the loan have been valued at zero, on the assumption that the lender will only exercise their option when market rates have risen above the contractual loan rate.
- The fair values of other long-term loans and investments have been discounted at the market rates for similar instruments with similar remaining terms to maturity on 31 March.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- The fair values of lessee lease liabilities and of PFI scheme liabilities have been calculated by discounting the contractual cash flows (excluding service charge elements) at the appropriate AA-rated corporate bond yield.
- The fair value of short-term instruments, including trade payables and receivables, is assumed to approximate to the carrying amount.

Fair values are split by their level in the fair value hierarchy:

- Level 1 – fair value is only derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, e.g. bond prices
- Level 2 – fair value is calculated from inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, e.g. interest rates or yields for similar instruments
- Level 3 – fair value is determined using unobservable inputs, e.g. non-market data such as cash flow forecasts or estimated creditworthiness.

### 22. INVENTORIES

	2023-24			2024-25		
	Highways	Other	Total	Highways	Other	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>1 April</b>	<b>0.334</b>	<b>1.215</b>	<b>1.549</b>	<b>0.416</b>	<b>1.742</b>	<b>2.158</b>
Purchase of new stock	1.027	2.964	3.991	0.911	2.090	3.001
Stock issued	(0.946)	(2.429)	(3.375)	(0.852)	(2.110)	(2.962)
Stock written off	0.000	(0.007)	(0.007)	0.000	(0.035)	(0.035)
<b>31 March</b>	<b>0.416</b>	<b>1.742</b>	<b>2.158</b>	<b>0.474</b>	<b>1.688</b>	<b>2.162</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 23. CURRENT DEBTORS

The current debtor balance can be analysed into the following categories:

31 Mar 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
37.568	From Other Local Authorities	11.483
3.180	From NHS Bodies	6.374
20.076	From Government Departments	23.350
3.568	From Derbyshire Pension Fund	0.000
62.764	From Other Sundry Debtors	68.093
<b>127.156</b>	<b>Amounts Owed to the Council</b>	<b>109.300</b>
0.342	To Other Local Authorities	0.038
0.212	To NHS Bodies	0.026
0.022	To Government Departments	0.000
7.222	To Other Sundry Debtors	17.050
<b>7.798</b>	<b>Expenditure Paid in Advance by the Council</b>	<b>17.114</b>
<b>134.954</b>	<b>Total Current Debtors</b>	<b>126.414</b>
(4.778)	Less Allowance for Expected Credit Losses	(3.885)
<b>130.176</b>	<b>Carrying Value of Current Debtors</b>	<b>122.529</b>

### 24. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

31 Mar 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
43.300	County Fund Bank Account Balance	8.523
<b>43.300</b>	<b>Cash Book for County Fund Account</b>	<b>8.523</b>
0.243	Schools Cash Income Account Balance	1.399
<b>0.243</b>	<b>Cash Book for Schools Cash Account</b>	<b>1.399</b>
<b>43.543</b>	<b>Total Cash Book Balance</b>	<b>9.922</b>
2.664	Amounts held by Bank Account Schools	0.862
0.452	Amounts held in Petty Cash Accounts	0.470
0.350	Amounts held in Imprest Bank Accounts	0.324
0.002	Amounts held in Other Bank Accounts	(0.006)
<b>47.011</b>	<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>11.572</b>
1.099	Bank Instant-Access Deposit Accounts	1.042
30.224	Money Market Funds	60.231
0.000	Short-Term Deposits	0.000
(0.015)	Cash Investment Loss Allowance	(0.002)
<b>78.319</b>	<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>72.843</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 25. CREDITORS

The creditor balance can be analysed into the following categories:

31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
(39.695)	0.000	(39.695)	To Other Local Authorities	(10.302)
(4.768)	0.000	(4.768)	To NHS Bodies	(2.479)
(14.966)	0.000	(14.966)	To Government Departments	(14.318)
0.000	0.000	0.000	To Derbyshire Pension Fund	(3.748)
(120.134)	(2.782)	(122.916)	To Other Sundry Creditors	(117.750)
<b>(179.563)</b>	<b>(2.782)</b>	<b>(182.345)</b>	<b>Amounts Owed by the Council</b>	<b>(148.597)</b>
(0.361)	0.000	(0.361)	From Other Local Authorities	(0.961)
(0.335)	0.000	(0.335)	From NHS Bodies	(1.484)
(8.033)	0.000	(8.033)	From Government Departments	(5.817)
(6.851)	0.000	(6.851)	From Other Sundry Creditors	(7.846)
<b>(15.580)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(15.580)</b>	<b>Income Received in Advance by the Council</b>	<b>(16.108)</b>
<b>(195.143)</b>	<b>(2.782)</b>	<b>(197.925)</b>	<b>Carrying Value of Creditors</b>	<b>(164.705)</b>

The IFRS 16 application adjustment is explained at Note 45.

### 26. PROVISIONS

#### Total Provisions

	Insurance Fund	Exit Packages	Lease Dilapidations	Other	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>1 April 2023</b>	<b>7.378</b>	<b>2.294</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>3.785</b>	<b>13.457</b>
New Provisions	2.926	1.035	0.000	0.772	4.733
Utilisation of Provision	(1.615)	(2.415)	0.000	(3.774)	(7.804)
Reversal of Provision	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.011)	(0.011)
<b>31 March 2024</b>	<b>8.689</b>	<b>0.914</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.772</b>	<b>10.375</b>
IFRS 16 Leases Adjustment*	0.000	0.000	1.972	0.000	1.972
<b>1 April 2024</b>	<b>8.689</b>	<b>0.914</b>	<b>1.972</b>	<b>0.772</b>	<b>12.347</b>
New Provisions	6.599	0.883	0.118	0.115	7.715
Utilisation of Provision	(5.208)	(0.964)	0.000	(0.767)	(6.939)
Reversal of Provision	0.000	0.000	(0.002)	(0.005)	(0.007)
<b>31 March 2025</b>	<b>10.080</b>	<b>0.833</b>	<b>2.088</b>	<b>0.115</b>	<b>13.116</b>

\*In 2024-25, the Council has applied IFRS 16 Leases, as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice (Note 46). IFRS 16 has been applied retrospectively, but with the cumulative effect recognised at 1 April 2024. This means that the lease dilapidations provision has been calculated as if IFRS 16 has always applied but has been recognised in 2024-25 and not by adjusting prior year figures.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Maturity Profile of Provisions

	Insurance Fund	Exit Packages	Lease Dilapidations	Other	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Current Provisions	0.000	0.914	0.000	0.772	1.686
Non-Current Provisions	8.689	0.000	0.000	0.000	8.689
<b>31 March 2024</b>	<b>8.689</b>	<b>0.914</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.772</b>	<b>10.375</b>
IFRS 16 Leases Adjustment*	0.000	0.000	1.972	0.000	1.972
<b>1 April 2024</b>	<b>8.689</b>	<b>0.914</b>	<b>1.972</b>	<b>0.772</b>	<b>12.347</b>
Current Provisions	0.000	0.833	1.066	0.115	2.014
Non-Current Provisions	10.080	0.000	1.022	0.000	11.102
<b>31 March 2025</b>	<b>10.080</b>	<b>0.833</b>	<b>2.088</b>	<b>0.115</b>	<b>13.116</b>

\*In 2024-25, the Council has applied IFRS 16 Leases, as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice (Note 46). IFRS 16 has been applied retrospectively, but with the cumulative effect recognised at 1 April 2024. This means that the lease dilapidations provision has been calculated as if IFRS 16 has always applied but has been recognised in 2024-25 and not by adjusting prior year figures.

### Provision for Exit Packages

Estimated costs associated with future voluntary redundancies include an element for schools. The provision has been created on a global estimation of the cuts required to achieve the savings targets. There is uncertainty around which employees will leave the Council and at what time, which will determine the true cost.

Cash outflows are expected to be £0.875m in 2025-26. There are expected to be no cash outflows in 2026-27 and 2027-28.

### Insurance Fund Provision

The Insurance Fund meets the estimated 'excess' of the Council's insurance policies, with amounts held in either the insurance provision or the insurance reserve. The total Insurance Fund balance is £18.667m (31 March 2024: £21.850m). The provision of £10.080m (31 March 2024: £8.689m) represents obligations as at 31 March as a result of past claims. The reserve balance of £8.587m (31 March 2024: £13.161m) represents the Council's self-insurance risk premium.

Cash outflows are expected to average just over £2.000m each year for the next three to four years.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Lease Dilapidations Provision

Dismantling, removal and restoration costs associated with leases, where the Council as lessee has an obligation to remedy any damage or to rectify any alterations before a leased property is handed back. The provision has been created based on estimates informed by surveys of leased properties, or previous costs to restore similar leased properties. There is uncertainty around the actual costs that will be required to reinstate the leased property. Also, the timing of any payments may be deferred if another lease is entered into at the end of the current term.

Cash outflows are expected to be £1.018m in 2025-26 and £0.050m in 2026-27. There are expected to be no cash outflows in 2027-28.

### Other Provisions

At 31 March 2025 the other provisions balance of £0.115m (31 March 2024: £0.772m) is comprised of £0.115m (31 March 2024: £0.670m) expected to be payable for outstanding post-16 payments to colleges. The timing and amount of payments in respect of this provision are not yet known. At 31 March 2025 no amounts (31 March 2024: £0.102m) are expected to be payable for the clawback of grant funding from Derbyshire's Adult Community Education Service, determined at the end of the academic year.

The timing of the cash outflows is not expected to be later than one year from 31 March 2025.

## 27. NON-CURRENT TOTAL PENSION LIABILITY AND OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

### Non-Current Total Pension Liability

31 Mar 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
(23.210)	Net Pension (Liability) - LGPS	(20.017)
(41.791)	Net Pension (Liability) - Teachers	(36.969)
<b>(65.001)</b>	<b>Total Net Pension (Liability)</b>	<b>(56.986)</b>

### Other Non-Current Liabilities

31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
(8.455)	(3.891)	(12.346)	PFI Phase 1	(9.721)
(13.822)	(6.618)	(20.440)	PFI Phase 2	(18.131)
(19.427)	(10.924)	(30.351)	PFI - BSF	(28.607)
(2.985)	(8.540)	(11.525)	Lessee Leases	(10.458)
<b>(44.689)</b>	<b>(29.973)</b>	<b>(74.662)</b>		<b>(66.917)</b>

The IFRS 16 application adjustment is explained at Note 45.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Further information about the leases, PFI scheme and net pension liability/asset can be found in Notes 45 to 47.

### 28. USABLE RESERVES

Usable reserves relate to cash backed reserves that are available to finance future services or capital expenditure. Below are details of the Council's usable reserves and their purpose:

- **General Reserve** – revenue reserves available for future service delivery.
- **Revenue Earmarked Reserves** – revenue reserves available for future service delivery, however future spending pressures have been identified for which they will be used.
- **Usable Capital Receipts** – proceeds from the sale of Property, Plant and Equipment assets which are available to finance future capital developments.
- **Capital Grants Unapplied** – unused grant receipts for capital developments.

Details of the Council's usable reserves can be found in the Movement in Reserves Statement and Notes 12 and 29.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 29. TRANSFERS TO / FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

	1 Apr	Transfers		31 Mar	Transfers		31 Mar
	2023	In	Out	2024	In	Out	2025
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Adult Care</b>							
Older People's Housing Strategy	(12.766)	(0.001)	10.513	(2.254)	0.000	0.119	(2.135)
Prior Year Underspends	(3.476)	(0.507)	3.983	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other reserves	(0.028)	0.000	0.000	(0.028)	0.000	0.000	(0.028)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(16.270)</b>	<b>(0.508)</b>	<b>14.496</b>	<b>(2.282)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.119</b>	<b>(2.163)</b>
<b>Clean Growth and Regeneration</b>							
Regeneration Kick-Start Feasibility Fund	(2.535)	(0.500)	1.916	(1.119)	(0.210)	0.168	(1.161)
Skills Training	(0.855)	0.000	0.248	(0.607)	0.000	0.380	(0.227)
Vision Derbyshire Economic Development Pilot	(0.511)	0.000	0.303	(0.208)	0.000	0.043	(0.165)
Green Entrepreneurs	(1.662)	0.000	0.900	(0.762)	0.000	0.662	(0.100)
Other reserves	(0.423)	0.000	0.423	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(5.986)</b>	<b>(0.500)</b>	<b>3.790</b>	<b>(2.696)</b>	<b>(0.210)</b>	<b>1.253</b>	<b>(1.653)</b>
<b>Corporate Services and Budget</b>							
Revenue Contributions to Capital	(59.783)	(11.861)	8.350	(63.294)	(6.293)	12.015	(57.572)
Loan Modification Gains	(23.114)	0.000	1.204	(21.910)	0.000	1.282	(20.628)
Insurance and Risk Management	(16.043)	(0.012)	2.894	(13.161)	0.000	4.574	(8.587)
Budget Management	(12.284)	(16.056)	23.707	(4.633)	(4.347)	4.633	(4.347)
Cyber Security	(4.000)	0.000	0.000	(4.000)	0.000	0.000	(4.000)
Investment Losses Contingency	(2.500)	0.000	0.000	(2.500)	(1.411)	0.000	(3.911)
Property Insurance Maintenance Pool	(3.060)	(1.711)	1.473	(3.298)	(1.405)	1.455	(3.248)
PFI Reserves	(2.064)	(0.738)	0.662	(2.140)	(0.831)	0.708	(2.263)
Planned Building Maintenance	(3.264)	(0.004)	1.620	(1.648)	(0.003)	0.352	(1.299)
Demolition of Buildings	(1.093)	(0.550)	0.678	(0.965)	0.000	0.052	(0.913)
Exchequer Traded Services Risks	(1.059)	(0.220)	0.387	(0.892)	0.000	0.072	(0.820)
Prior Year Underspends	(3.010)	(0.579)	3.325	(0.264)	(0.509)	0.223	(0.550)
Feasibility Assessment	(1.415)	(0.590)	1.284	(0.721)	(0.119)	0.701	(0.139)
Computer Purchasing	(2.447)	(0.704)	2.257	(0.894)	0.000	0.862	(0.032)
Business Development and Economic Recovery Fund	(6.785)	0.000	6.785	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Covid Emergency and SFC Losses Grants	(6.407)	(0.015)	6.422	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Inflation Risks	(1.227)	0.000	1.227	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Business Rates Risks	(6.568)	0.000	6.568	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Business Rates Pool	(1.000)	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other reserves	(3.362)	(2.099)	2.437	(3.024)	(1.290)	1.305	(3.009)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(160.485)</b>	<b>(35.139)</b>	<b>72.280</b>	<b>(123.344)</b>	<b>(16.208)</b>	<b>28.234</b>	<b>(111.318)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	1 Apr	Transfers		31 Mar	Transfers		31 Mar
	2023	In	Out	2024	In	Out	2025
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Childrens Services and Safeguarding and Education</b>							
Schools Balances	(33.299)	(5.797)	8.000	(31.096)	(5.092)	6.704	(29.484)
Early Years Grant	0.000	(0.324)	0.000	(0.324)	(3.452)	0.047	(3.729)
Tackling Troubled Families	(5.015)	(2.627)	7.227	(0.415)	(2.869)	2.448	(0.836)
Education Levelling Up	(0.897)	0.000	0.263	(0.634)	0.000	0.285	(0.349)
Virtual School Grants	0.000	(0.219)	0.000	(0.219)	(0.336)	0.219	(0.336)
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	(0.275)	(0.485)	0.760	(0.000)	(0.356)	0.356	(0.000)
Prior Year Underspends	(1.123)	(0.025)	1.148	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other reserves	(1.379)	(0.399)	1.390	(0.388)	(0.547)	0.424	(0.511)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(41.988)</b>	<b>(9.876)</b>	<b>18.788</b>	<b>(33.076)</b>	<b>(12.652)</b>	<b>10.483</b>	<b>(35.245)</b>
<b>Highways Assets and Transport</b>							
Bus Services Improvement Plan Grant	(6.357)	(6.258)	0.000	(12.615)	(1.197)	0.000	(13.812)
Prior Year Underspends	(4.059)	(0.482)	3.411	(1.130)	(0.277)	0.513	(0.894)
Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership Reserve	(0.611)	(0.212)	0.024	(0.799)	0.000	0.095	(0.704)
Highway Development Control Interface	(1.500)	0.000	1.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other reserves	(2.108)	(0.829)	1.988	(0.949)	(0.497)	0.271	(1.175)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(14.635)</b>	<b>(7.781)</b>	<b>6.923</b>	<b>(15.493)</b>	<b>(1.971)</b>	<b>0.879</b>	<b>(16.585)</b>
<b>Health and Communities</b>							
Homes for Ukraine Grant	(10.415)	(1.312)	1.119	(10.608)	0.000	0.235	(10.373)
Public Health Grant	(7.751)	0.000	0.258	(7.493)	0.000	0.208	(7.285)
Domestic Abuse Contract Support Grant Funding Prospectus	(1.376)	0.000	0.018	(1.358)	0.000	0.017	(1.341)
Community Safety	(1.261)	0.000	1.261	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other reserves	(0.750)	(1.126)	0.464	(1.412)	(0.023)	0.607	(0.828)
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(22.562)</b>	<b>(2.438)</b>	<b>3.962</b>	<b>(21.038)</b>	<b>(0.027)</b>	<b>1.234</b>	<b>(19.831)</b>
<b>Infrastructure and Environment</b>							
Digital Growth	(2.440)	(1.770)	1.508	(2.702)	(0.371)	0.973	(2.100)
Waste Recycling Initiatives	(0.573)	0.000	0.005	(0.568)	0.000	0.000	(0.568)
Ash Dieback Action Plan	(0.089)	(0.104)	0.000	(0.193)	(0.273)	0.000	(0.466)
Elvaston Maintenance	(0.300)	(0.047)	0.143	(0.204)	(0.097)	0.000	(0.301)
Other reserves	(0.378)	(0.023)	0.148	(0.253)	(0.075)	0.002	(0.326)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(3.780)</b>	<b>(1.944)</b>	<b>1.804</b>	<b>(3.920)</b>	<b>(0.816)</b>	<b>0.975</b>	<b>(3.761)</b>
<b>Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change</b>							
Community Managed Libraries	(0.741)	0.000	0.500	(0.241)	(0.439)	0.000	(0.680)
Climate Change	(4.171)	0.000	2.937	(1.234)	0.000	0.749	(0.485)
Cultural Recovery Fund	0.000	(1.000)	0.500	(0.500)	0.000	0.116	(0.384)
Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site	(0.244)	(0.011)	0.062	(0.193)	(0.083)	0.044	(0.232)
County Records	(0.284)	0.000	0.045	(0.239)	0.000	0.048	(0.191)
Museum Projects	(0.061)	0.000	0.000	(0.061)	(0.063)	0.000	(0.124)
Other reserves	(1.166)	(0.140)	0.455	(0.851)	0.000	0.689	(0.162)
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>(6.667)</b>	<b>(1.151)</b>	<b>4.499</b>	<b>(3.319)</b>	<b>(0.585)</b>	<b>1.646</b>	<b>(2.258)</b>
<b>Overall Totals</b>	<b>(272.373)</b>	<b>(59.337)</b>	<b>126.542</b>	<b>(205.168)</b>	<b>(32.469)</b>	<b>44.823</b>	<b>(192.814)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Some prior year Earmarked Reserves balances have been recategorised to align with the portfolio which has contributed most to the balance at 31 March 2025.

The Council's detailed Reserves Policy for 2025 explains the nature and purpose of these reserves.

### 30. UNUSABLE RESERVES

The balance of unusable reserves is made up of a number of adjustment accounts, none of which are available to finance future spending. The reserves that make up the balance are detailed below.

Restated 31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
448.182	12.461	460.643	Revaluation Reserve	439.345
374.639	(24.471)	350.168	Capital Adjustment Account	339.658
(4.421)	0.000	(4.421)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(4.142)
(5.542)	0.000	(5.542)	Pooled Investments Adjustment Account	(5.148)
1.706	0.000	1.706	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	1.675
(65.001)	0.000	(65.001)	Pensions Reserve	(56.986)
3.066	0.000	3.066	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	4.393
(16.945)	0.000	(16.945)	DSG Adjustment Account	(44.847)
(6.887)	0.000	(6.887)	Accumulated Absences Account	(8.811)
<b>728.797</b>	<b>(12.010)</b>	<b>716.787</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>665.137</b>

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

The IFRS 16 application adjustments are explained at Note 45.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The movements in unusable reserves in 2024-25 are detailed below.

Narrative	Note	Unusable reserves									Total Unusable Reserves £m
		Deferred Capital Receipts £m	Revaluation Reserve £m	Capital Adjustment Account £m	Pooled Investments Adjustment Account £m	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account £m	Accumulated Absences Account £m	Collection Fund Adjustment Account £m	DSG Adjustment Account £m	Pensions Reserve £m	
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<b>(1.706)</b>	<b>(448.182)</b>	<b>(374.640)</b>	<b>5.542</b>	<b>4.421</b>	<b>6.888</b>	<b>(3.064)</b>	<b>16.945</b>	<b>65.001</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>
IFRS 16 Application Adjustment		0.000	(12.461)	24.471	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	12.010
<b>BALANCE AS AT 1 APRIL 2024</b>		<b>(1.706)</b>	<b>(460.643)</b>	<b>(350.169)</b>	<b>5.542</b>	<b>4.421</b>	<b>6.888</b>	<b>(3.064)</b>	<b>16.945</b>	<b>65.001</b>	<b>(716.785)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>		<b>0.000</b>	<b>(9.427)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(2.626)</b>	<b>(12.053)</b>
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets	13, 14 17, 18	0.000	6.865	33.115	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	39.980
Revaluation Losses and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	13 14	0.000	0.000	20.402	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	20.402
Capital Grants credited to the CIES	39	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Disposal of Non-Current Assets	13, 14 17, 19	0.000	23.860	20.855	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	44.715
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute		0.000	0.000	24.308	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	24.308
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.923	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.923
Amount by which Council Tax and Business Rates income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and Business Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.329)	0.000	0.000	(1.329)

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	49	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	61.152	61.152
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment		0.000	0.000	(13.823)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(13.823)
Principal repayments of transferred debt		0.000	0.000	(0.008)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.008)
Capital expenditure charged in the year to the General Reserve		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reversal of gains/losses on pooled investment funds measured at FVPL charged to the CIES	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.394)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.394)
Amount by which finance costs (proportion of previous years' premiums and interest rates) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.279)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.279)
Amount by which finance costs (capital loan impairments) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	49	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(66.541)	(66.541)
Deferred Capital Receipts becoming usable		0.031	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.031
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit movement	38	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	27.902	0.000	27.902
Financing of capital expenditure	16	0.000	0.000	(74.338)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(74.338)
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>		<b>0.031</b>	<b>30.725</b>	<b>10.511</b>	<b>(0.394)</b>	<b>(0.279)</b>	<b>1.923</b>	<b>(1.329)</b>	<b>27.902</b>	<b>(5.389)</b>	<b>63.701</b>
<b>Reserves movements</b>											
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	29	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfer from Earmarked Reserves	29	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total movements</b>		<b>0.031</b>	<b>30.725</b>	<b>10.511</b>	<b>(0.394)</b>	<b>(0.279)</b>	<b>1.923</b>	<b>(1.329)</b>	<b>27.902</b>	<b>(5.389)</b>	<b>63.701</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2025</b>		<b>(1.675)</b>	<b>(439.345)</b>	<b>(339.658)</b>	<b>5.148</b>	<b>4.142</b>	<b>8.811</b>	<b>(4.393)</b>	<b>44.847</b>	<b>56.986</b>	<b>(665.137)</b>

The IFRS 16 application adjustments are explained at Note 45.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The movements in unusable reserves in 2023-24 are detailed below.

Narrative	Note	Restated Unusable reserves									Restated Total Unusable Reserves £m
		Deferred Capital Receipts £m	Restated Revaluation Reserve £m	Restated Capital Adjustment Account £m	Pooled Investments Adjustment Account £m	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account £m	Accumulated Absences Account £m	Collection Fund Adjustment Account £m	DSG Adjustment Account £m	Pensions Reserve £m	
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2023</b>		<b>(0.790)</b>	<b>(958.319)</b>	<b>(402.507)</b>	<b>6.031</b>	<b>4.701</b>	<b>8.488</b>	<b>(2.068)</b>	<b>5.050</b>	<b>(29.323)</b>	<b>(1,368.737)</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income &amp; Expenditure</b>		<b>0.000</b>	<b>446.007</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>104.072</b>	<b>550.079</b>
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>											
Depreciation of Non-Current Assets	13 18	0.000	16.635	31.914	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	48.549
Revaluation Losses and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	13	0.000	0.000	50.964	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	50.964
Capital Grants credited to the CIES	39	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Disposal of Non-Current Assets	13	(0.945)	47.495	24.066	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	70.616
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute		0.000	0.000	18.663	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	18.663
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.600)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.600)
Amount by which Council Tax and Business Rates income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and Business Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.996)	0.000	0.000	(0.996)

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	49	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	60.278	60.278
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment		0.000	0.000	(23.475)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(23.475)
Principal repayments of transferred debt		0.000	0.000	(0.008)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.008)
Capital expenditure charged in the year to the General Reserve		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Reversal of gains/losses on pooled investment funds measured at FVPL charged to the CIES	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.489)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.489)
Amount by which finance costs (proportion of previous years' premiums and interest rates) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.280)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.280)
Amount by which finance costs (capital loan impairments) charged to the CIES are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	21	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	49	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(70.026)	(70.026)
Deferred Capital Receipts becoming usable		0.029	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.029
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit movement	38	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	11.895	0.000	11.895
Financing of capital expenditure	16	0.000	0.000	(74.257)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(74.257)
<b>Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis</b>		<b>(0.916)</b>	<b>64.130</b>	<b>27.867</b>	<b>(0.489)</b>	<b>(0.280)</b>	<b>(1.600)</b>	<b>(0.996)</b>	<b>11.895</b>	<b>(9.748)</b>	<b>89.863</b>
<b>Reserves movements</b>											
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	29	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Transfer from Earmarked Reserves	29	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total movements</b>		<b>(0.916)</b>	<b>64.130</b>	<b>27.867</b>	<b>(0.489)</b>	<b>(0.280)</b>	<b>(1.600)</b>	<b>(0.996)</b>	<b>11.895</b>	<b>(9.748)</b>	<b>89.863</b>
<b>BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<b>(1.706)</b>	<b>(448.182)</b>	<b>(374.640)</b>	<b>5.542</b>	<b>4.421</b>	<b>6.888</b>	<b>(3.064)</b>	<b>16.945</b>	<b>65.001</b>	<b>(728.795)</b>

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### Revaluation Reserve

The reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, this being the date that the reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance in the Capital Adjustment Account.

	Restated Revaluation Reserve £m
<b>31 March 2025</b>	
Property, Plant and Equipment	392.368
Right of Use Assets	23.105
Heritage Assets	18.502
Assets Held for Sale	5.370
	<b>439.345</b>
<b>31 March 2024</b>	
Property, Plant and Equipment	424.394
Heritage Assets	17.535
Assets Held for Sale	6.253
	<b>448.182</b>

The prior year restatements are explained at Note 4.

### Capital Adjustment Account

This reserve includes timing differences arising between the financing of purchasing new, or enhancing, Council assets and the utilising of those assets in the Council's accounts (known as depreciation). It is not available for future spending.

### Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefitting from gains per statutory provisions. The Council uses the account to manage premiums paid and discounts received on early redemption of loans. Premiums are debited and discounts are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred, but reversed out of General Reserve to the account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the expense is posted back to General Reserve in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on Council Tax. In the Council's case, the balance on the Account at 31 March will be charged to the General Reserves over the next 40 years.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### **Pooled Investments Adjustment Account**

The Pooled Investments Adjustment Account contains the cumulative gains and losses relating to the valuation of financial assets held at Fair Value through Profit or Loss in accordance with the temporary statutory override MHCLG has issued. The override was originally effective for financial years 2018-19 to 2022-23, was extended to 2024-25 and, for investments already in place at 1 April 2024, which applies to the Council's investments in pooled investment vehicles, was further extended up to and including 2028-29.

### **Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve**

The Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve holds the gains recognised on the disposal of non-current assets but for which cash settlement has yet to take place. Under statutory arrangements, the Council does not treat these gains as usable for financing new capital expenditure until they are backed by cash receipts. When the deferred cash settlement eventually takes place, amounts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

### **Pensions Reserve**

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and funding benefits in accordance with statute. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as benefits are earned by employees, updating the liabilities to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require a benefit earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions or pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve at 31 March 2025 (and 31 March 2024) shows a deficit between the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources that the Council has set aside to meet them. The Funding Strategy adopted by the Pension Fund will ensure that an appropriate level of funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

### **Collection Fund Adjustment Account**

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax and Business Rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as they fall due from Council Tax and Business Rates payers, compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Reserve from the Collection Funds.

### **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Adjustment Account**

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Adjustment Account separates schools' budget deficits from the General Reserve Balance for a period of eight financial years from 2020-21. Deficits arise where schools' budget expenditure exceeds that of available funding provided through the DSG. Where a local authority has a closing deficit balance on its schools' budget at 31 March for the financial years 2020-21 to 2027-28, it must not charge the amount of that deficit to a revenue account. The local authority must record any such deficit in a separate account established solely for the purpose of recording deficits relating to its schools' budget. The DSG Adjustment Account carries forward the deficit to be funded from future DSG income.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### Accumulated Absences Account

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

### 31. EXTERNAL AUDIT COSTS

<b>Revised 2023-24 £m</b>		<b>2024-25 £m</b>
0.414	External Audit Fees	0.351
0.008	Other Fees Payable to the External Auditor	0.008
<b>0.422</b>		<b>0.359</b>

The 2023-24 External Audit Fee has been revised to reflect the scale fee including estimated 2023-24 fee variations.

The 2024-25 External Audit Fee is the scale fee. This is subject to fee variations which are determined at a later date.

### 32. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Payments made to the Council's elected Members during the year were:

<b>2023-24 £m</b>		<b>2024-25 £m</b>
1.334	Allowances	1.319
0.019	Expenses	0.020
<b>1.353</b>		<b>1.339</b>

Members' allowances payments for 2023-24 include £0.056m in respect of the 2022-23 pay award for elected Members, which was approved at the full Council meeting on 22 March 2023, backdated to 1 April 2022 and paid following the 2022-23 year-end, in April 2023. This amount was accrued at 31 March 2023.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 33. OFFICERS' REMUNERATION

The definition of a Senior Officer is:

- An officer whose salary is £150,000 or more.
- A statutory chief officer as per section 2(6) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- A non-statutory chief officer as per section 2(7) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
- An officer reporting to the Head of Paid Service.

The following notes and changes in respect of the Council's Senior Officers which occurred during 2023-24 and 2024-25 are relevant to the table of remuneration paid to the Council's Senior Officers below:

- <sup>1</sup>The Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health was appointed on 13 March 2023, returned to their substantive post on 2 April 2023, was re-appointed on 17 June 2023 and was appointed to the role of Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health on 26 July 2023.
- <sup>2</sup>The Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health was appointed on 3 April 2023 and left the Council on 16 June 2023.
- <sup>3</sup>The Executive Director of Children's Services commenced absence from the workplace on 6 August 2024.
- <sup>4</sup>The Director of Early Help and Safeguarding was appointed on 13 August 2024 and was acting Director of Children's Services from 13 August 2024 to 4 November 2024.
- <sup>5</sup>The Temporary Executive Director of Children's Services (Director of Children's Services) was appointed on 5 November 2024.
- <sup>6</sup>The Managing Director is Emma Alexander.
- <sup>7</sup>The Interim Director of Finance & ICT was appointed on 3 January 2023 and returned to their substantive role on 2 April 2023.
- <sup>8</sup>The Director of Finance was appointed on 3 April 2023.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2023-24 Restated					2024-25			
Salary	Employer's Pension Contributions	Compensation for Loss of Employment	Total Remuneration 2023-24		Salary	Employer's Pension Contributions	Compensation for Loss of Employment	Total Remuneration 2024-25
£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£
120,288	25,020	0	<b>145,308</b>	Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health / Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health <sup>1</sup>	131,465	27,345	0	<b>158,810</b>
35,150	0	0	<b>35,150</b>	Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Health <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
138,198	28,745	0	<b>166,943</b>	Executive Director of Children's Services <sup>3</sup>	141,653	29,464	0	<b>171,117</b>
0	0	0	<b>0</b>	Executive Director of Children's Services <sup>4</sup>	91,871	19,109	0	<b>110,980</b>
0	0	0	<b>0</b>	Executive Director of Children's Services <sup>5</sup>	79,728	3,771	0	<b>83,499</b>
177,872	36,997	0	<b>214,869</b>	Managing Director <sup>6</sup>	187,728	39,047	0	<b>226,775</b>
138,198	28,745	0	<b>166,943</b>	Executive Director of Place	141,653	29,464	0	<b>171,117</b>
34,128	7,099	0	<b>41,226</b>	Interim Director of Finance and ICT <sup>7</sup>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
108,168	22,499	0	<b>130,667</b>	Director of Finance <sup>8</sup>	111,491	23,190	0	<b>134,681</b>
138,198	28,745	0	<b>166,943</b>	Executive Director of Corporate Services & Transformation	141,653	29,464	0	<b>171,117</b>
100,479	20,779	0	<b>121,258</b>	Director of Public Health	105,485	21,814	0	<b>127,300</b>
104,689	21,775	0	<b>126,464</b>	Director of Legal and Democratic Services	109,793	22,837	0	<b>132,630</b>

The prior year amounts have been restated to present the total remuneration receivable in the financial year by a person who was a Senior Officer. This is to meet the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. Previously, the amounts had been restricted to just the period the person held a Senior Officer position.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Employer's Pension Contributions in the Council's Senior Officers' Remuneration table only include the future service cost, which is the primary employer's pension contribution rate multiplied by the Senior Officer's pensionable pay.

The Council's employees earning above £50,000 during the year have been paid the following amounts:

2023-24					2024-25			
Number of Employees					Number of Employees			
School Staff	Senior Officers	Other	Total	Remuneration Between:	School Staff	Senior Officers	Other	Total
173	0	225	<b>398</b>	£50,000 and £54,999	266	0	273	<b>539</b>
106	0	103	<b>209</b>	£55,000 and £59,999	129	0	122	<b>251</b>
78	0	51	<b>129</b>	£60,000 and £64,999	77	0	53	<b>130</b>
60	0	55	<b>115</b>	£65,000 and £69,999	60	0	60	<b>120</b>
58	0	25	<b>83</b>	£70,000 and £74,999	58	0	18	<b>76</b>
32	0	4	<b>36</b>	£75,000 and £79,999	54	0	13	<b>67</b>
11	1	0	<b>12</b>	£80,000 and £84,999	23	0	0	<b>23</b>
6	0	4	<b>10</b>	£85,000 and £89,999	14	0	1	<b>15</b>
5	0	1	<b>6</b>	£90,000 and £94,999	3	1	3	<b>7</b>
0	0	3	<b>3</b>	£95,000 and £99,999	5	0	5	<b>10</b>
1	2	4	<b>7</b>	£100,000 and £104,999	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
0	1	2	<b>3</b>	£105,000 and £109,999	0	2	5	<b>7</b>
0	0	0	<b>0</b>	£110,000 and £114,999	1	1	1	<b>3</b>
2	0	0	<b>2</b>	£115,000 and £119,999	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
0	0	1	<b>1</b>	£120,000 and £124,999	2	0	0	<b>2</b>
1	0	0	<b>1</b>	£130,000 and £134,999	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
0	3	0	<b>3</b>	£135,000 and £139,999	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
0	0	0	<b>0</b>	£140,000 and £144,999	0	3	0	<b>3</b>
0	1	0	<b>1</b>	£175,000 and £179,999	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
0	0	0	<b>0</b>	£185,000 and £189,999	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>533</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>1,019</b>		<b>694</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>1,258</b>

Where the total annual salary received by employees that have held Senior Officers' roles at any point during the year exceeds £50,000, they have also been included in the table above, in addition to the Senior Officers' Remuneration table.

Remuneration includes gross income and compensation for loss of employment.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 34. TERMINATION BENEFITS

The Council has terminated the contracts of a number of employees in 2024-25, incurring liabilities of £2.963m (2023-24: £2.674m, updated from the disclosure in the 2023-24 accounts of £2.558m for variances from accrued amounts and additional pension strain payments, subsequently paid in 2024-25). The termination benefits are split by banding below:

	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other agreed departures		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band	
	Revised 2023-24	2024-25	Revised 2023-24	2024-25	Revised 2023-24	2024-25	Revised 2023-24	2024-25
	actual	actual	actual	actual	actual	actual	actual	actual
							£m	£m
£0-£20k	40	45	43	46	83	91	0.630	0.637
£20k-£40k	8	11	12	7	20	18	0.564	0.519
£40k-£60k	6	5	5	2	11	7	0.558	0.350
£60k-£80k	4	2	3	2	7	4	0.499	0.257
£80k-£100k	2	1	0	1	2	2	0.194	0.185
£100k-£150k	2	3	0	0	2	3	0.229	0.366
£150k-£300k	0	3	0	0	0	3	0.000	0.649
	<b>62</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>2.674</b>	<b>2.963</b>

### 35. POOLED BUDGETS

The Council has two pooled budget arrangements, details of which are set out below.

#### Better Care Fund

On 1 April 2015 the Derbyshire Better Care Fund (BCF) became operational. The Council was a partner to the fund along with the NHS Northern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Hardwick Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Erewash Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group. There have been a number of changes to the structure of the Council's NHS partners in the BCF since then.

In 2019-20 the NHS Northern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Hardwick Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Erewash Clinical Commissioning Group combined to become the NHS Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group. The NHS Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group remained separate. On 1 July 2022 the NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) was established and includes all the Clinical Commissioning Groups with which the Council is a partner in the BCF.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The operation of the pool is ultimately managed by the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Board represented by members from each of the partners. The Fund operates as a Section 75 pooled budget and total agreed contributions to the pool are £136.707m (2023-24, £125.751m). Derbyshire County Council's contribution towards the pool is £55.345m, which represents 40.48% of the total contributions (2023-24, £50.793m, 40.39%).

The BCF aims to improve the provision of health and social care. All partners contribute to a pooled fund and the overarching objective of the fund is to support the integration of health and social care and align commissioning as agreed between the partners.

Under the agreement, the BCF Plan for Derbyshire is split into two areas:

- Contributions to a pooled fund by all partners and commissioned by Derbyshire County Council who are host and lead commissioner.
- Commissioning of existing funded schemes directly by each partner.

2023-24 £m	Pool Share %	Income	2024-25 £m	Pool Share %
50.793	40.39	Derbyshire County Council	55.345	40.48
74.958	59.61	NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB	81.362	59.52
<b>125.751</b>	<b>100.00</b>		<b>136.707</b>	<b>100.00</b>

2023-24 £m	Expenditure	2024-25 £m
29.502	ICB schemes for community health services	33.360
8.587	Disabled Facilities Grant	9.800
7.448	Equipment	7.790
28.871	Reablement	29.729
3.834	Joint working	4.105
0.179	Administration	0.135
2.573	Care Bill	2.718
2.464	Carers	2.604
1.197	Mental health	2.021
0.353	Support for people to remain out of hospital	0.363
35.733	Improved Better Care Fund	35.733
5.010	Local Authority Discharge Grant	8.349
<b>125.751</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>136.707</b>
<b>0.000</b>	<b>Net position for Pool</b>	<b>0.000</b>

### Children with Complex Needs pooled budget arrangement

The Children with Complex Needs pooled budget arrangement is jointly operated with the NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB. The NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB contributes 33% and the remainder is funded by the Council. Any surplus or deficit carries forward to offset the following year's contributions, as required by the partnership agreement. Any unspent amounts are transferred to an Earmarked Reserve set up for this purpose.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 Mar 2024		31 Mar 2025
£m		£m
	<b>Funding provided to the pooled budget:</b>	
(6.276)	Derbyshire County Council	(7.875)
(3.091)	NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB	(3.879)
	<b>Expenditure met by the pooled budget:</b>	
9.367	Derbyshire County Council	11.754
0.000	NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB	0.000
<b>0.000</b>	<b>Net Position of the Pool (Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>0.000</b>
0.000	The Council's Share of the (Surplus)/Deficit	0.000

### 36. TRUST FUNDS AND OTHER FUNDS

Trust Funds are made up of donations or bequests made to the Council. Other Funds, at 31 March 2025, are £4.840m held for residents in the Council's residential care homes (31 March 2024: £4.618m). There were no amounts held on behalf of the East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA) at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £30.799m). These Trust Funds and Other Funds are not part of the Council's Accounts.

2023-24				2024-25		
Trust Funds £m	Other Funds £m	Total £m		Trust Funds £m	Other Funds £m	Total £m
0.217	8.485	8.702	Opening Balance	0.320	35.417	35.737
0.112	37.468	37.580	Add Income	0.431	80.145	80.576
(0.009)	(10.536)	(10.545)	Less Expenditure	(0.450)	(110.722)	(111.172)
<b>0.320</b>	<b>35.417</b>	<b>35.737</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>0.301</b>	<b>4.840</b>	<b>5.141</b>
			<b>The funds are represented by:</b>			
0.023	0.000	0.023	Investments	0.024	0.000	0.024
0.297	35.417	35.714	Cash & temporary loans	0.277	4.840	5.117
<b>0.320</b>	<b>35.417</b>	<b>35.737</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>0.301</b>	<b>4.840</b>	<b>5.141</b>
10	8	18	No of Funds (actual not £m)	9	7	16

Cabinet approved the transfer of 47 educational charitable Trust Funds, for which the Council is the sole Trustee, to Foundation Derbyshire on 23 April 2020. 44 of these funds were completely transferred in 2020-21 and one fund in 2024-25. The value of the funds transferred in 2020-21 was £0.295m, with £1.004m transferred in 2021-22 and £0.026m transferred in 2024-25. At 31 March 2025 the total value of the remaining funds to be transferred was £0.030m (31 March 2024: £0.068m).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 37. INCOME FROM CONTRACTS WITH SERVICE RECIPIENTS

A service recipient is a party that has contracted with the Council to obtain goods or services which are the output of the Council's normal operating activities. Such a contract may be in writing, be made orally or be in accordance with customary business practice. The table below identifies income amounts in the CIES arising from contracts with service recipients.

Type of Goods/Service	Income	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Adult Care</b>		
Residential Care Homes	37.983	40.603
Co-funding Charge	10.593	18.035
Nursing Homes	12.065	13.810
Direct Care Trading	0.289	0.643
Shared Lives	0.589	0.592
Other	0.148	0.154
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>61.667</b>	<b>73.837</b>
<b>Childrens Services and Safeguarding and Education</b>		
Catering	12.478	12.552
School Food and Meals	4.933	5.055
Extended School Services	2.312	2.403
Sport/Outdoor Education	1.503	1.453
Adult Community Education	0.237	0.130
Other	3.034	2.812
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>24.497</b>	<b>24.405</b>
<b>Corporate Services and Budget</b>		
PFI Services to Academies	7.164	7.712
Pension Fund Administration	3.299	2.913
Registrar Services	1.867	2.221
Utilities Charges to Academies	0.000	1.226
Financial Management	0.387	0.863
Property Repairs, Maintenance, Cleaning and Facilities Management	0.471	0.590
Recruitment and Payroll Services	0.417	0.476
Property Sales Administration	0.051	0.430
Human Resource Services	0.464	0.416
Legal Services	0.605	0.344
Other	0.523	0.573
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>15.248</b>	<b>17.764</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Type of Goods/Service	Income	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Clean Growth and Regeneration</b>		
Facilities Charge	0.207	0.217
Other	0.189	0.174
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0.396</b>	<b>0.391</b>
<b>Health and Communities</b>		
Community Safety Services	0.000	0.550
Other	0.096	0.116
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0.096</b>	<b>0.666</b>
<b>Highways and Transport</b>		
Vehicle Maintenance	2.337	2.377
New Roads and Street Works Act Fees	1.001	1.625
Pay and Display Parking	1.027	1.142
Developer Income	0.222	0.548
Licence Fees (e.g. skip/scaffold permits)	0.666	0.482
Other	0.363	0.425
Cross Boundary Bus Services	0.233	0.419
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5.849</b>	<b>7.018</b>
<b>Infrastructure and Environment</b>		
Commercial Waste Disposal	2.342	2.290
Inspection Fees (S38/S278 Highways Act)	1.826	1.556
Countryside Shop Merchandise	1.022	1.057
Land Searches	0.323	0.411
Other	0.147	0.291
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5.660</b>	<b>5.605</b>
<b>Strategic Leadership, Culture, Tourism and Climate Change</b>		
Other	0.142	0.143
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>0.142</b>	<b>0.143</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>113.555</b>	<b>129.829</b>

Amounts included in the Balance Sheet for contracts with service recipients:

31 Mar 2024 £m		31 Mar 2025 £m
15.580	Receivables	20.142
0.488	Contract Assets	0.610
(0.703)	Contract Liabilities	(1.065)
<b>15.365</b>	<b>Total Included in Net Assets</b>	<b>19.687</b>

Receivables and Contract Assets are included within Amounts Owed to the Council in the Debtors analysis (Note 23).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Contract Liabilities are included within Income in Advance to the Council in the Creditors analysis (Note 25).

Changes in the Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities balances during the year are as follows:

2023-24			2024-25	
Contract Assets £m	Contract Liabilities £m		Contract Assets £m	Contract Liabilities £m
0.000	(0.703)	Cash received before obligations fulfilled	0.000	(1.065)
0.000	1.306	Obligations relating to contract liabilities at the start of the year fulfilled	0.000	0.703
0.488	0.000	Obligations fulfilled before payment is due	0.610	0.000
(0.480)	0.000	Transfers from Contract Assets to Receivables as payment became due	(0.488)	0.000
<b>0.008</b>	<b>0.603</b>	<b>Movement in Contract Assets and Liabilities</b>	<b>0.122</b>	<b>(0.362)</b>
0.480	(1.306)	Contract Assets and Liabilities at the start of the year	0.488	(0.703)
<b>0.488</b>	<b>(0.703)</b>	<b>Contract Assets and Liabilities at the end of the year</b>	<b>0.610</b>	<b>(1.065)</b>

The value of the Contract Liabilities presented at the end of the year represents the value of income that is expected to be recognised in the future, relating to obligations that are unsatisfied (or partially unsatisfied) at the end of the year. All amounts are expected to be realised no later than one year from the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Council only recognises income at an amount that corresponds directly with the value to the service recipients of the Council's performance to the end of the year.

Performance obligations are deemed to be satisfied over time, as opposed to at a point in time, in respect of the following significant income streams:

- Residential Care, Nursing Home and Co-funding charges
- PFI Services to Academies
- Pension Fund Administration
- Vehicle Maintenance – fixed priced annual contracts
- Utilities Charges to Academies – standing charges

This is a faithful depiction as these services are delivered to and the benefits consumed by the service recipients simultaneously. The Council has a right to receive fixed payments from service users for each day of service provided, therefore it recognises income to the amount that it has the right to invoice according to the duration of the service provision.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Performance obligations are also deemed to be satisfied over time, as opposed to at a point in time, in respect of the following significant income streams:

- Property Repairs, Maintenance, Cleaning and Facilities Management

This is a faithful depiction as the Council has an enforceable right to receive income for performance completed to date. The Council recognises income based on the costs incurred to satisfy the performance obligations.

Performance obligations are also deemed to be satisfied over time, as opposed to at a point in time, in respect of the following significant income stream:

- Commercial Waste Disposal

This is a faithful depiction as the Council has an enforceable right to receive income for performance completed to date. The Council recognises income based on the volume of waste processed which fulfils the terms of these contracts.

Performance obligations are deemed to be satisfied at a point in time, in respect of the following significant income streams:

- Inspections under Section 38 and 278 of the Highways Act
- New Roads and Street Works Act Fees
- Catering and School Food and Meals
- Extended School Services
- Sport/Outdoor Education
- Registrar Services
- Vehicle Maintenance – specific jobs
- Pay and Display Parking
- Countryside Shop Merchandise
- Utilities Charges to Academies - consumption

In respect of these services, income is only recognised when the contracted work has been completed.

### **38. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG)**

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Education, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The grant is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools' Budget as defined in The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2024.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Schools' Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools' Budget (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each local authority school. An in-year adjustment has been made comprising a reduction to the 2024-25 grant receipts for Early Years provision which is due to be received in 2025-26, following final calculation of the amount due from the Department for Education.

Actual central expenditure includes commitments that remain unspent as at the end of the financial year. These commitments have been transferred to an earmarked reserve and form part of the DSG balance. Details of the deployment of the DSG receivable for 2024-25 are as follows:

	<b>2024-25</b>		
	<b>Central Expenditure £m</b>	<b>Individual Schools Budget £m</b>	<b>Total £m</b>
Final DSG for 2024-25 before Academy and High Needs Recoupment			791.014
Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2024-25			(357.040)
<b>Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2024-25</b>			<b>433.974</b>
<b>Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2024-25</b>	<b>106.209</b>	<b>327.765</b>	<b>433.974</b>
In-year adjustments	0.000	0.109	0.109
<b>Final budgeted distribution for 2024-25</b>	<b>106.209</b>	<b>327.874</b>	<b>434.083</b>
Less: Actual Central Expenditure	(136.766)		(136.766)
Less: Actual ISB Deployed to Schools		(325.219)	(325.219)
<b>In-year Carry Forward to 2025-26</b>	<b>(30.557)</b>	<b>2.655</b>	<b>(27.902)</b>
DSG Unusable Reserve at 1 April 2024			(16.945)
Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at 31 March 2025			(27.902)
<b>Total DSG Unusable Reserve at 31 March 2025*</b>			<b>(44.847)</b>
<b>Net DSG Position at 31 March 2025</b>			<b>(44.847)</b>

\*The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020 and Regulation 30L of The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) require that the Council's closing deficit balance of DSG Reserves at 31 March 2025 is held within a statutorily ring-fenced unusable reserve – the DSG Adjustment Account. For further details refer to Note 30.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DSG grant income of £434.083m in Note 39 below is the sum of the £433.974m 'Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2024-25 and the £0.109m 'In-year adjustments' in the table above.

	<b>2023-24</b>		
	<b>Central Expenditure</b>	<b>Individual Schools Budget</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Final DSG for 2023-24 before Academy and High Needs Recoupment			717.226
Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2023-24			(325.247)
<b>Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2023-24</b>			<b>391.979</b>
Plus: Brought Forward from 2022-23			0.275
<b>Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2023-24</b>	<b>101.584</b>	<b>290.671</b>	<b>392.255</b>
In-year adjustments	0.000	(0.302)	(0.302)
<b>Final budgeted distribution for 2023-24</b>	<b>101.584</b>	<b>290.369</b>	<b>391.953</b>
Less: Actual Central Expenditure	(114.463)		(114.463)
Less: Actual ISB Deployed to Schools		(289.385)	(289.385)
<b>In-year Carry Forward to 2024-25</b>	<b>(12.879)</b>	<b>0.984</b>	<b>(11.895)</b>
DSG Unusable Reserve at 1 April 2023			(5.050)
Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at 31 March 2024			(11.895)
<b>Total DSG Unusable Reserve at 31 March 2024*</b>			<b>(16.945)</b>
<b>Net DSG Position at 31 March 2024</b>			<b>(16.945)</b>

\*The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020 and Regulation 30L of The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) require that the Council's closing deficit balance of DSG Reserves at 31 March 2024 is held within a statutorily ring-fenced unusable reserve – the DSG Adjustment Account. For further details refer to Note 30.

2023-24 DSG grant income of £391.677m in Note 39 below is the sum of the £391.979m 'Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2023-24 less the £0.302m 'In-year adjustments' in the table above.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 39. GRANT INCOME

Revenue Grants		Income	
		2023-24	2024-25
		£m	£m
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	ESFA	391.677	434.083
Public Health Grant	DHSC	45.232	47.364
Pupil Premium Grant	ESFA	20.159	20.653
Market Sustainability & Improvement Fund	MHCLG	8.494	15.869
Household Support Fund	DWP	10.808	10.636
Disabled Facilities Grant	MHCLG	8.587	9.800
Discharge Fund Grant	MHCLG	5.010	8.349
Asylum Seeker Grant	HO	5.969	7.139
Teachers Pension Grant	ESFA	0.170	6.482
Core Schools Budget Grant	ESFA	0.000	6.425
Universal Free School Meals for Infant Pupils	ESFA	5.291	5.267
Teachers' Pay Additional Grant	ESFA	2.995	4.825
DACES AEB	ESFA	4.797	4.696
Contain Outbreak Management Fund	DHSC	6.938	4.198
PE and Sport Premium Grant	ESFA	4.360	4.156
Wraparound Childcare programme	DfE	0.061	4.127
ESFA Post16	ESFA	4.217	3.963
Holiday activities and food programme Grant	DfE	2.780	2.908
Supporting Families	MHCLG	2.627	2.869
Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant	OHID	1.576	2.568
Homes for Ukraine - Thank You Payment Grant	MHCLG	1.707	1.556
Supported Accommodation Reforms	DfE	0.293	1.457
Multiply	ESFA	1.373	1.288
Recovery Premium	DfE	2.306	0.644
Workforce Recruitment & Retention	DHSC	5.516	0.000
School Supplementary Grant	ESFA	2.314	0.000
LA Maintained Schools Additional Grant	ESFA	8.336	0.000
Music Education Hub	Arts Council	1.554	0.000
Covid 19 Bus Recovery Grant	DfT	1.548	0.000
Other Grants	Various	11.632	13.817
<b>Total Departmental Income</b>		<b>568.327</b>	<b>625.139</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Revenue Grants		Income	
		2023-24	2024-25
		£m	£m
Adult Social Care Grant	MHCLG	61.318	80.227
Improved Better Care Fund	MHCLG	35.732	35.732
Business Rates Relief Grant	MHCLG	25.851	29.524
Revenue Support Grant	MHCLG	15.714	16.755
Homes for Ukraine -Tariff	MHCLG	1.214	1.164
Private Finance Initiative	ESFA	10.504	10.504
Service Grant	MHCLG	4.565	0.788
Bus Service Improvement Plan	DfT	11.466	10.624
New Homes Bonus	MHCLG	1.106	0.843
Other Grants	Various	5.356	5.384
<b>Total Corporate Income</b>		<b>172.826</b>	<b>191.545</b>
<b>Total Grants</b>		<b>741.153</b>	<b>816.684</b>

- \* Other Departmental Revenue Grants in 2024-25 include the following amounts which are required to be separately disclosed under specific grant conditions in the respective grant agreements:
- £0.895m Youth Justice Grant from the Youth Justice Board to fund activities which improve the outcomes of children in the youth justice system (2023-24: £0.891m).
  - £0.133m Commissioner's Community Safety Grant, to assist in the funding of the work of the Derbyshire Youth Offending Service (2023-24: £0.133m).
  - £0.239m Turnaround Grant from the Ministry of Justice for a Turnaround Programme, which is a voluntary youth early intervention programme (2023-24: £0.239m).

Capital Grants		Income	
		2023-24	2024-25
		£m	£m
Pothole Action Fund	DfT	10.171	7.900
Highways Maintenance Incentive Fund	DfT	13.166	15.799
Additional Highways Maintenance	DfT	3.014	3.014
School Condition Allowance	DfE	9.445	9.106
Special Provision Capital Fund	DfE	13.243	4.205
Devolved Formula Capital	DfE	1.313	1.245
Bus Service Improvement Plan	DfT	14.499	3.971
Integrated Transport	DfT	3.672	3.672
Active Travel	ATE	0.337	0.000
Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grant	DfT	6.444	0.660
Basic Need	DfE	16.756	4.449
Levelling Up Fund- South Derbyshire Growth Zone	MHCLG	3.794	0.267
Zebra Standard	DfT	0.000	5.097
Ashbourne Reborn	MHCLG	0.656	2.546
Staveley Waterside	MHCLG	0.000	1.944
Other Capital Grants	Various	16.501	12.188
		<b>113.011</b>	<b>76.063</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 40. CASH FLOW – INVESTING ACTIVITIES

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(160.626)	Purchase of Non-Current Assets	(109.872)
(404.649)	Purchase of New Investments	(580.288)
7.227	Proceeds from Sale of Non-Current Assets	14.398
110.568	Capital Grants Received	76.157
603.963	Investments Redeemed	650.459
<b>156.483</b>		<b>50.854</b>

### 41. CASH FLOW – FINANCING ACTIVITIES

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(301.435)	Repay Amounts Borrowed	(99.245)
(5.104)	Principal Repayment on PFI and Leases	(8.052)
214.020	New Short Term Loans	98.000
25.819	Net (Payments)/Income on behalf of East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA)	(30.601)
<b>(66.700)</b>		<b>(39.898)</b>

### 42. CASH FLOW – OPERATING ACTIVITIES

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
(602.725)	Payments to and on behalf of employees	(619.853)
(907.296)	Other Operating Payments	(1,021.754)
387.009	Council Tax	410.113
19.384	Business Rates	30.301
15.714	Revenue Support Grant	16.755
687.200	Other Revenue Grants	775.129
325.856	Other Income	405.684
<b>(74.858)</b>	<b>Operating Costs of Providing Services</b>	<b>(3.625)</b>
(17.974)	External Interest Paid	(21.202)
(2.973)	Interest on PFI and Leases	(5.759)
10.409	Interest Received	10.156
4.043	Dividends Received	3.998
<b>(81.353)</b>		<b>(16.432)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 43. RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON THE CIES TO THE OPERATING ACTIVITIES NET CASH FLOW

Restated 2023-24 £m			2024-25 £m
(103.963)	<b>Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services</b>		<b>(60.500)</b>
	<b>Non Cash Transactions:</b>		
		13,14	
48.549	Depreciation	17,18	39.980
50.964	Impairment	13,14	20.402
(9.748)	Movement in Pension Liability	48	(5.389)
(0.996)	Adjustment for Collection Fund		(1.329)
(0.489)	Investments Fair Value Movements		(1.806)
(59.190)	Movement in Revenue Debtors		9.242
(0.247)	Movement in Loss Allowances		0.222
28.042	Movement in Revenue Creditors		3.433
(0.609)	Movement in Inventories	22	(0.004)
(3.082)	Movement in Provisions	26	0.770
<b>53.194</b>	<b>Total Non Cash Transactions</b>		<b>65.521</b>
	<b>Items Classified Elsewhere</b>		
63.764	Net charge for Disposal of Non-Current Assets	6	30.302
18.663	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	16	24.308
(113.011)	Capital Grants	39	(76.063)
<b>(81.353)</b>			<b>(16.432)</b>

The prior year restatement is explained at Note 4.

### 44. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS AND LIABILITIES ARISING FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

	31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m	Cash Flows £m	Non-Cash Changes £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Current Borrowing	147.827		147.827	4.127	0.001	151.955
Non Current Borrowing	236.284		236.284	(5.371)	1.917	232.830
PFI and Lease Liabilities	44.689	29.973	74.662	(8.052)	0.307	66.917
	<b>428.800</b>	<b>29.973</b>	<b>458.773</b>	<b>(9.295)</b>	<b>2.224</b>	<b>451.702</b>

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Non-cash changes to the Council's liabilities include an increase of £0.009m in the carrying value of current borrowing and an equal decrease in the carrying value of non-current borrowing to recognise amounts falling due within twelve months of the balance sheet date. Interest of £1.926m was accrued in the year which increased the carrying value of liabilities. PFI and lessee lease liabilities were adjusted by £0.559m for factors such as recognition of new contracts and changes in variable payments. The remaining non-cash transactions represent a reduction in carrying value of £0.260m because of a movement between these liabilities and short-term creditors and debtors.

	31 Mar 2023 £m	Cash Flows £m	Non-Cash Changes £m	31 Mar 2024 £m
Current Borrowing	233.874	(88.803)	2.756	147.827
Non Current Borrowing	232.597	1.391	2.296	236.284
PFI and Lease Liabilities	49.998	(5.104)	(0.205)	44.689
	<b>516.469</b>	<b>(92.516)</b>	<b>4.847</b>	<b>428.800</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 45. INITIAL APPLICATION OF IFRS 16 LEASES

In 2024-25, the Council has applied IFRS 16 Leases as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice.

The transition to IFRS 16, has resulted in the following overall impacts on the Council's Balance Sheet:

Restated 31 Mar 2024 £m	IFRS 16 Application Adjustment £m	1 Apr 2024 £m	
1,447.588	(23.491)	1,424.097	Property Plant & Equipment
22.096	0.000	22.096	Heritage Assets
0.000	46.484	46.484	Right-of-Use Assets
0.190	0.000	0.190	Intangible Assets
75.109	0.000	75.109	Non-Current Investments
1.332	0.000	1.332	Non-Current Debtors
<b>1,546.315</b>	<b>22.993</b>	<b>1,569.308</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>
49.837	0.000	49.837	Current Investments
7.165	(0.277)	6.888	Assets Held for Sale
2.158	0.000	2.158	Inventories
130.176	0.000	130.176	Current Debtors
78.319	0.000	78.319	Cash and Cash Equivalents
<b>267.655</b>	<b>(0.277)</b>	<b>267.378</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>
(147.827)	0.000	(147.827)	Current Loans and Borrowing
(195.143)	(2.782)	(197.925)	Current Creditors
(1.686)	(0.965)	(2.651)	Current Provisions
<b>(344.656)</b>	<b>(3.747)</b>	<b>(348.403)</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>
(236.284)	0.000	(236.284)	Non-Current Borrowing
(8.689)	(1.006)	(9.695)	Non-Current Provisions
(65.001)	0.000	(65.001)	Non-Current Net Pension Liability
(44.689)	(29.973)	(74.662)	Other Non-Current Liabilities
<b>(354.663)</b>	<b>(30.979)</b>	<b>(385.642)</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>
<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>(12.010)</b>	<b>1,102.641</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>
385.854	0.000	385.854	Usable Reserves
728.797	(12.010)	716.787	Unusable Reserves
<b>1,114.651</b>	<b>(12.010)</b>	<b>1,102.641</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### Leases

The main impact of IFRS 16 is to remove (for lessees) the traditional distinction between finance leases and operating leases. Finance leases have effectively been accounted for as acquisitions (with the asset on the Balance Sheet, together with a liability to pay for the asset acquired). In contrast, operating leases have been treated as 'pay as you go' arrangements, with rentals expensed in the year they are paid. IFRS 16 requires all substantial leases to be accounted for using the acquisition approach, recognising the rights acquired to use an asset in what is known as a Right-of-Use Asset, with a corresponding Lease Liability, on the Balance Sheet, at 1 April 2024. Leases for items of low value and leases that expire on or before 31 March 2025 are exempt from the new arrangements.

One of the areas of focus for local authorities has been the adaptation of the definition of a lease. For the UK public sector this includes leases with nil consideration or peppercorn rents, which widen the definition of a lease.

IFRS 16 has been applied retrospectively, but with the cumulative effect recognised at 1 April 2024. This means that Right-of-Use Assets and lease liabilities will be calculated as if IFRS 16 has always applied but that this will be recognised in 2024-25 and not by adjusting prior year figures. However, some practical expedients have been applied as required or permitted by the Code:

- Lease Liabilities are measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at 1 April 2024 discounted by the Council's incremental borrowing rate.
- With the exception of leases with peppercorn or nominal payments (i.e. substantially below market lease payments), or where payments are nil, decisions about whether contracts are or contain a lease made before 1 April 2024 have not been revisited.

The incremental borrowing rate has been determined with reference to the Public Works Loan Board annuity rate of interest, prevailing at the commencement date, and for a period consistent with the unexpired term of the lease, adjusted for the type of underlying asset and whether it is a commercial or non-commercial lessor.

Recognition of Right-of-Use Assets on 1 April 2024 at fair value has in some cases resulted in a gain or loss on transition when compared to the lease liability. This gain or loss has been recognised as an adjustment to unusable reserves (either the Capital Adjustment Account, or the Revaluation Reserve).

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The transition to IFRS 16, in respect of leases, has resulted in the following impacts on the Council's Balance Sheet:

	<b>£m</b>
Property Plant & Equipment (Land & Buildings)	(23.491)
Right-of-Use Assets (Land & Buildings)	46.426
Right-of-Use Assets (Plant Vehicles & Equipment)	0.058
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>22.993</b>
Assets Held for Sale	(0.277)
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>(0.277)</b>
Current Creditors	(0.883)
Current Provisions	(0.965)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(1.848)</b>
Non-Current Provisions	(1.006)
Other Non-Current Liabilities	(8.540)
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(9.546)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>11.322</b>
Unusable Reserves	11.322
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>11.322</b>

### Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Contracts

Previously, increases in unitary payments resulting from indexation that applied to the construction element (capital costs) were treated as contingent rent and were an expense in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The Code now requires that PFI contract liabilities need to be remeasured when indexation increases are applied. From 2024-25, contingent rent has not been recognised for PFI contracts and instead the liability has been recalculated.

The Council's PFI contract liabilities have been adjusted at 1 April 2024 to reflect the carrying amount of the liability which would have been calculated as the closing balance in the previous reporting year, based on the relevant indices for each contract applied to the variable payments which depend on an index.

The liabilities remeasurement has been recognised as an adjustment to unusable reserves (the Capital Adjustment Account).

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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The transition to IFRS 16, in respect of PFI contract liabilities, has resulted in the following impacts on the Council's Balance Sheet:

	<b>£m</b>
Current Creditors	(1.899)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(1.899)</b>
Other Non-Current Liabilities	(21.433)
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(21.433)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(23.332)</b>
Unusable Reserves	(23.332)
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>(23.332)</b>

### 46. LEASES

#### Transition to IFRS 16 Leases

In 2024-25, the Council has applied IFRS 16 Leases as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice. The impacts are detailed in Note 45 above.

The newly recognised lease liabilities of £9.423m compares to operating lease commitments of £11.760m at 31 March 2024 disclosed in the notes to the 2023-24 financial statements. When discounted to their present value of £7.936m, (using the incremental borrowing rate at 1 April 2024), there is a difference of £1.487m. This difference is explained by the factors including:

- It has not previously been the Council's policy to update the reported minimum lease payments for rents contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews.
- The correction of errors discovered in previous records and the recognition of newly identified arrangements which have been classified as leases.
- Many leases which had a Finance Lease component (e.g. for the building) also had an Operating Lease component (e.g. for the land). These leases have been combined into a single record and discounted at the incremental borrowing rate at 1 April 2024, which differs from the discount rate which had been used to discount the lease payments attributable to the Finance Lease liability.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A reconciliation of the operating lease commitments at 1 April 2024 and the newly recognised lease liabilities is illustrated as follows:

	Lease Payments £m	Lease Payments Discounted to Present Value £m
Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable Operating Leases reported at 31 March 2024	11.760	7.936
Finance Lease liabilities reported at 31 March 2024	6.531	3.362
<b>Lease payments/liabilities reported at 31 March 2024</b>	<b>18.291</b>	<b>11.298</b>
Change in rates used to discount Finance Lease payments		1.225
Contingent rent increases		0.472
Errors in previous records		(0.356)
Short Term Lease exemption		(0.007)
Trivial differences		0.011
Additional leases identified		0.142
<b>Lease liabilities recognised at 1 April 2024</b>		<b>12.785</b>
Finance Lease liabilities reported at 31 March 2024		3.362
Newly recognised lease liabilities		9.423
<b>Lease liabilities recognised at 1 April 2024</b>		<b>12.785</b>
Increase in Current Creditors		0.883
Increase in Other Non-Current Liabilities		8.540
<b>Newly recognised lease liabilities</b>		<b>9.423</b>

### COUNCIL AS LESSEE

The Council has acquired the right to use a number of property assets and a small number of vehicles under leases for:

- Delivery of local education.
- Youth information and clubs.
- Community and environmental purposes.
- Miscellaneous use, including office accommodation.

All assets are carried as Right-of-Use Assets on the Balance Sheet.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Right-of-Use Assets

This table shows the change in the value of Right-of-Use Assets held under leases by the Council:

	Land & Buildings £m	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £m	Total Right of Use Assets £m
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>			
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>46.494</b>	<b>0.059</b>	<b>46.553</b>
Additions	0.407	0.092	<b>0.499</b>
Disposals	(2.887)	0.000	<b>(2.887)</b>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>44.014</b>	<b>0.151</b>	<b>44.165</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
<b>At 1 April 2024</b>	<b>(0.068)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.068)</b>
Charge for year	(2.866)	(0.028)	<b>(2.894)</b>
Disposals	0.015	0.000	<b>0.015</b>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<b>(2.919)</b>	<b>(0.028)</b>	<b>(2.947)</b>
OPENING VALUE AT 1 APRIL 2024	46.426	0.059	46.485
<b>CLOSING VALUE AT 31 MARCH 2025</b>	<b>41.095</b>	<b>0.123</b>	<b>41.218</b>

### Transactions under Leases

The Council incurred the following expenses and cash flows in relation to leases:

	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>		
Interest expense on lease liabilities	0.453*	0.845
Expense relating to short-term leases	0.019	0.016
Expense relating to exempt leases of low-value items	0.573	0.624
<b>Cash Flow Statement:</b>		
Total cash outflow for leases	2.686	2.766

\* The 2023-24 interest expense is the amount recognised before the adoption of IFRS 16 on 1 April 2024

The majority of the expense relating to exempt leases of low value items relates to spending by schools. In respect of these leases, non-lease components such as service elements of these contracts have been included within the reported amounts.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There was no significant subletting in 2023-24 or 2024-25.

### Maturity Analysis of Lease Liabilities

The Council's lease liabilities are due to be settled over the following periods (the lease payments are the undiscounted amounts of the expected cash payments):

	2023-24 £m			2024-25 £m		
	Interest	Liability	Lease Payments	Interest	Liability	Lease Payments
<b>Within 1 year</b>	<b>0.836</b>	<b>1.260</b>	<b>2.096</b>	<b>0.755</b>	<b>1.137</b>	<b>1.892</b>
1 to 5 years	2.588	3.952	6.540	2.360	3.846	6.206
More than 5 years	2.452	7.573	10.025	1.960	6.613	8.573
<b>Total Non-Current</b>	<b>5.040</b>	<b>11.525</b>	<b>16.565</b>	<b>4.320</b>	<b>10.459</b>	<b>14.779</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.876</b>	<b>12.785</b>	<b>18.661</b>	<b>5.075</b>	<b>11.596</b>	<b>16.671</b>

Lease liabilities are included on the Balance Sheet within Other Non-Current Liabilities and Current Creditors.

### COUNCIL AS LESSOR

Where the Council is the lessor, the reported lease income does not contain rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

### Finance Leases

The Council has seven properties that have been leased out upon receipt of a premium. With respect to these leases, there is no further lease income to be received and therefore there is no debtor held in the accounts. Details of the properties currently leased out are:

- Grassmoor Golf Centre to Grassmoor Golf Ltd on a 1,000-year lease, which commenced in 2002 for a one-off payment of £0.230m.
- Unit C1 Holmewood Business Park to SBK Property Limited on a 99-year lease, which commenced in 2015 for a one-off payment of £0.300m.
- Land at Welbeck Road to Old Bolsover Town Council on a 99-year lease, which commenced in 2020 for a one-off payment of £0.010m.
- 'The Gardens', Shipley Country Park to a private individual on a 999-year lease, which commenced in 2022 for a one-off payment of £0.344m.
- Land at The Dales, Askew Grove, Repton to Trent and Dove Housing on a 999-year lease, which commenced in 2023 for a one-off payment of £0.675m.
- Land at High Street, Clay Cross to Robinson & Day Properties Limited on a 999-year lease, which commenced in 2023 for a one-off payment of £0.010m
- Land at Cross London Street, Chesterfield to private individuals on a 999-year lease, which commenced in 2023 for a one-off payment of £0.045m.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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The Council also leases out:

- First-floor offices of Ripley Library to Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust on a 15-year lease, which commenced in 2014 for £0.014m each year.
- Nursery School on Windermere Road, Newbold to Kidz Planet Limited on a 10-year lease, which commenced in 2021 for £0.012m each year.
- Belper Community Hall to Belper Community Hall Steering Group on a 25-year lease, which commenced in 2020 for £0.001m each year.
- Unit 5 Cobnar Wood Industrial Estate, Chesterfield to Serrations Limited on a 15-year lease, which commenced in 2022 for £0.010m each year.
- The Donut Creative Arts Studio, Chesterfield to Fairplay on an 86-year lease, which commenced in 2022 for £0.015m each year.
- Units 1 & 2 Stonebroom Industrial Estate, Alfreton to MNS Mouldings Limited on a 15-year lease, which commenced in 2023 for £0.060m each year.

### Operating Leases

The Council leases out a number of land and building assets under operating leases, including leases for:

- Economic development to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses.
- Youth information and clubs.
- Community and environmental purposes.
- Siting electricity substations.

### Transactions under Leases

The Council made the following gains and losses as a lessor during the year:

	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Finance Leases</b>		
Finance income on the net investment in the lease	0.074	0.072
<b>Operating Leases</b>		
Lease income	1.469	1.927

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Net Investment in Finance Leases

The Council experienced the following changes in the carrying amount of its net investment in finance leases during the year:

	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Net investment at 1 April</b>	<b>0.414</b>	<b>1.331</b>
New Leases entered into	0.945	0.000
Payments by lessees	(0.028)	(0.031)
<b>Net investment at 31 March</b>	<b>1.331</b>	<b>1.300</b>

### Maturity Analysis of Finance Lease Receivables

The rental income and the unguaranteed residual value of the asset, which relates to the estimated value of the property at the end of the lease (i.e. an estimated sale value), will be received over the following periods (the undiscounted lease receivables are the amounts of the expected cash receipts):

Finance Leases									
2023-24 £m					2024-25 £m				
Undiscounted Lease Receivables	Unearned Finance Income	Discounted Unguaranteed Residual Values	Net Investment in Leases		Undiscounted Lease Receivables	Unearned Finance Income	Discounted Unguaranteed Residual Values	Net Investment in Leases	
0.103	( 0.072)	0.000	<b>0.031</b>	Within 1 year	0.103	( 0.071)	0.000	<b>0.032</b>	
0.103	( 0.071)	0.000	<b>0.032</b>	1 to 2 years	0.103	( 0.069)	0.000	<b>0.034</b>	
0.103	( 0.069)	0.000	<b>0.034</b>	2 to 3 years	0.103	( 0.067)	0.000	<b>0.036</b>	
0.103	( 0.067)	0.000	<b>0.036</b>	3 to 4 years	0.103	( 0.065)	0.062	<b>0.100</b>	
0.103	( 0.065)	0.062	<b>0.100</b>	4 to 5 years	0.089	( 0.060)	0.000	<b>0.029</b>	
1.422	( 1.060)	0.736	<b>1.098</b>	More than 5 years	1.333	( 1.000)	0.736	<b>1.069</b>	
<b>1.937</b>	<b>( 1.404)</b>	<b>0.798</b>	<b>1.331</b>		<b>1.834</b>	<b>( 1.332)</b>	<b>0.798</b>	<b>1.300</b>	

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### Maturity Analysis of Operating Leases

The rental income due to be collected under leases in future years is:

2023-24 £m		2024-25 £m
Land & Building		Land & Building
1.468	Within 1 year	1.944
1.371	1 to 2 years	1.764
1.271	2 to 3 years	1.525
1.133	3 to 4 years	1.222
0.808	4 to 5 years	0.679
5.227	More than 5 years	5.237
<b>11.278</b>		<b>12.371</b>

### 47. PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE (PFI) AND SIMILAR CONTRACTS

There are three PFI schemes in which private sector providers build and maintain accommodation for use by the Council:

- Phase 1 – in 2001 the Council signed a contract for two secondary schools at Tupton and Chapel-en-le Frith. They were completed and occupied in April 2003 under a 26-year contract. Tupton Hall School became an Academy on 1 October 2019.
- Phase 2 – during 2004-05 the Council signed a contract for two further secondary schools at Newbold and Long Eaton which became operational in February 2006 under a 26-year contract. Long Eaton School became an Academy on 1 April 2011. Newbold School became an Academy, known as Outwood Academy Newbold, on 1 January 2015.
- Phase 3 – Schools provided under the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme opened in November 2010 at Bolsover and Springwell (Staveley). These were designed and built as PFI schools and will be operated on a 25-year contract. Bolsover School became an Academy on 1 October 2012. Springwell Community School became an Academy on 1 March 2020.

### Transition to IFRS 16 Leases

In 2024-25, the Council has applied IFRS 16 Leases as adopted by the CIPFA Code of Accounting Practice. The impacts are detailed in Note 45 above.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Payments

The Council makes an agreed payment each year (the unitary charge) which is increased by inflation and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet availability and performance standards.

Although the payments that are made to the contractor are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractor for the fair value of the services they provide, the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed.

During 2017-18, the Council undertook a refinancing exercise of the BSF PFI debt, which reduced the interest charge on the long-term debt. This resulted in a one-off financial benefit of approximately £2.100m for the Council. The term of the loan and service level elements of the agreement all remain the same.

The liability outstanding to pay the contractor for capital expenditure incurred is shown below.

	2023-24			2024-25		
	Ph 1 £m	Ph 2 £m	BSF £m	Ph 1 £m	Ph 2 £m	BSF £m
<b>Unitary Charge Paid</b>						
Delivery of services	3.349	3.539	4.388	2.249	2.198	2.197
Interest Payment	0.823	1.076	0.621	1.080	1.344	2.490
Reduction to Liability	1.631	1.471	1.521	2.480	2.300	1.990
<b>Unitary Charge Paid</b>	<b>5.803</b>	<b>6.086</b>	<b>6.530</b>	<b>5.809</b>	<b>5.842</b>	<b>6.677</b>
<b>Loan Liability B Fwd</b>	(11.830)	(16.859)	(22.508)	(14.827)	(22.741)	(32.339)
Reduction to Liability	1.631	1.471	1.521	2.480	2.300	1.990
Liability Remeasurement	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.099)	(0.180)	(0.197)
<b>Loan Liability C Fwd</b>	<b>(10.199)</b>	<b>(15.388)</b>	<b>(20.987)</b>	<b>(12.446)</b>	<b>(20.621)</b>	<b>(30.546)</b>
Liability in Creditors	(1.744)	(1.565)	(1.562)	(2.725)	(2.490)	(1.939)
Non Current Liabilities	(8.455)	(13.823)	(19.425)	(9.721)	(18.131)	(28.607)
<b>Loan Liability C Fwd</b>	<b>(10.199)</b>	<b>(15.388)</b>	<b>(20.987)</b>	<b>(12.446)</b>	<b>(20.621)</b>	<b>(30.546)</b>
<b>IFRS 16 Measurement Adjustment at 1 April 2024</b>						
Liability in Creditors	(0.736)	(0.735)	(0.428)			
Non Current Liabilities	(3.892)	(6.618)	(10.924)			
<b>IFRS 16 Adjustment</b>	<b>(4.628)</b>	<b>(7.353)</b>	<b>(11.352)</b>			
Liability in Creditors	(2.480)	(2.300)	(1.990)			
Non Current Liabilities	(12.347)	(20.441)	(30.349)			
<b>Loan Liability B Fwd</b>	<b>(14.827)</b>	<b>(22.741)</b>	<b>(32.339)</b>			

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31 March are as follows:

	2024-25		
	Ph 1 £m	Ph 2 £m	BSF £m
<b>Within one year:</b>			
Service charge	2.323	2.267	2.336
Interest element	0.884	1.206	2.350
Repayment of liability	2.725	2.490	1.939
<b>Two to five years:</b>			
Service charge	7.264	9.067	10.445
Interest element	1.256	3.152	7.752
Repayment of liability	9.721	11.511	9.069
<b>Six to ten years:</b>			
Service charge	0.000	4.345	12.284
Interest element	0.000	0.417	4.722
Repayment of liability	0.000	6.620	16.884
<b>Eleven to fifteen years:</b>			
Service charge	0.000	0.000	1.224
Interest element	0.000	0.000	0.071
Repayment of liability	0.000	0.000	2.654

All of the PFI schools will be handed back to the Council (or the Governors of the School for Academies) when the relevant contract expires. In the case of the Phase 1 schools this will be on 28 April 2029, for the Phase 2 schools it will be 12 February 2032 and for the BSF schools on 31 October 2035.

Under the terms of the agreements, the Council is able to terminate the agreements at any time. If this were due to a contractor default the Council is entitled to re-tender the contract, otherwise the contractors would be entitled to compensation. The Council has step in rights, if action needs to be taken in connection with the services provided by any of the contractors because of a serious risk to the health or safety of persons or to discharge a statutory duty; and/or because an emergency has arisen.

### **Property, Plant and Equipment**

The schools are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet, except those which are Academies. Movements in their value over the year are detailed in the analysis of the movement on the Property, Plant and Equipment balance in Note 13.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 48. DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION SCHEMES

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

Teachers employed by the Council are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by the Department for Education. The Scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The Scheme is a defined benefit scheme which is unfunded and the Department for Education uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. The Council is not able to identify its share of the underlying financial position and performance of the Scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2024-25 the Council paid £48.675m to Teachers' Pensions (2023-24: £42.350m) in respect of teachers' retirement benefits. During 2024-25 the Employer's Contribution rate for the Teachers' Pension Scheme was 28.68% (2023-24: 23.68%).

It is expected that the Council will pay £49m to the Teachers' Pensions Scheme in the year to 31 March 2026, of which employer contributions are estimated to be around £37m.

#### NHS Pension Scheme

Former NHS employees working in the Surestart and Public Health fields that moved to the Council in 2008 and 2013, respectively, and some Public Health staff employed since then, are members of the NHS Pension Scheme, administered by the Department of Health and Social Care. The Scheme provides these employees with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme which is unfunded, and the Department of Health and Social Care uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. The Council is not able to identify its share of the underlying financial position and performance of the Scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme, which is consistent with the NHS method of accounting.

In 2024-25 the Council paid £0.498m to the NHS Pension Scheme (2023-24: £0.644m) in respect of the retirement benefits of these Council employees. The Employer's Contribution rate during 2024-25 for the NHS Pension Scheme was 20.68%, with 14.38% continuing to be collected through the Council's payroll, an additional 2.5% collected from the Council through invoicing and the remaining 3.8% being funded by the Department of Health and Social Care (2023-24: 20.68%, with 14.38% continuing to be collected through the Council's payroll, an additional 2.5% collected from the Council through invoicing and the remaining 3.8% being funded by the Department of Health and Social Care). No further disclosures are required because of the immateriality of the information.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 49. DEFINED BENEFIT SCHEME

The Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in two post-employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered by Derbyshire County Council – this is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.
- Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement – this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge the Council is required to make against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Reserve via the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Derbyshire Pension Fund is operated under the regulatory framework for the LGPS, and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the Pensions and Investments Committee of Derbyshire County Council. The Fund is managed and administered in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

The principal risks to the Council of the LGPS are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme (i.e. large-scale withdrawals from the scheme), changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by statutory requirements which determine the amount charged to the General Reserve.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Defined Benefit Transactions

The following defined benefit scheme transactions have occurred during the year:

	Notes/ Statement	LGPS		Teachers	
		2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
Current service cost		63.886	57.551	0.000	0.000
Net interest cost	7	(3.612)	1.072	1.993	1.922
Past service costs & curtailments		1.341	2.200	0.000	0.000
Settlements		(3.330)	(1.593)	0.000	0.000
<b>Benefits charged to the CIES</b>		<b>58.285</b>	<b>59.230</b>	<b>1.993</b>	<b>1.922</b>
Remeasurement (gain)/loss		104.086	(0.256)	(0.014)	(2.370)
<b>Total (Gain)/Loss</b>		<b>162.371</b>	<b>58.974</b>	<b>1.979</b>	<b>(0.448)</b>
<b>Movements in Reserves Statement:</b>					
Reversal of charges made	30	(58.285)	(59.230)	(1.993)	(1.922)
Contributions - unfunded benefits	30	2.302	2.326	0.000	0.000
Employer's contributions payable	30	63.480	59.841	4.244	4.374

### Assets and Liabilities in Relation to Post-Employment Benefits

Reconciliation of the present value of defined benefit plan liabilities (the defined benefit obligation) of the Council, from the start to the end of the year:

	Funded liabilities: LGPS		Unfunded liabilities: Teachers	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Opening balance at 1 April</b>	<b>2,394.091</b>	<b>2,402.630</b>	<b>44.056</b>	<b>41.791</b>
Current service cost	63.886	57.551	0.000	0.000
Interest cost	112.942	115.851	1.993	1.922
Contributions by participants	18.153	18.316	0.000	0.000
Remeasurement (gains)/losses	(76.316)	(388.690)	(0.014)	(2.370)
Benefits paid	(98.869)	(94.808)	0.000	0.000
Unfunded benefits paid	(2.302)	(2.326)	(4.244)	(4.374)
Effect of settlements	(10.296)	(5.836)	0.000	0.000
Past service costs	1.341	2.200	0.000	0.000
<b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>	<b>2,402.630</b>	<b>2,104.888</b>	<b>41.791</b>	<b>36.969</b>

The expected return on assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Reconciliation of the fair value of defined benefit plan Fund assets of the Council, from the start to the end of the year:

	LGPS	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Opening balance at 1 April</b>	<b>(2,479.902)</b>	<b>(2,684.679)</b>
Interest income	(117.144)	(129.584)
Other remeasurement loss/(gain)	(111.835)	31.195
Employer contributions	(63.480)	(59.841)
Contributions by participants	(18.153)	(18.316)
Benefits paid	98.869	94.808
Effect of settlements	6.966	4.243
<b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(2,684.679)</b>	<b>(2,762.174)</b>

### Scheme History

Prior to 2022-23, net pension liabilities have had a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the Balance Sheet, shown in the table below. These net liabilities are an estimate of the ultimate cost to the Council of the post-employment (retirement) plan benefits that employees have earned, having allowed for the value of scheme assets. Statutory arrangements for funding any deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy:

- the deficit on the LGPS will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the Fund Actuary;
- finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when the pensions are actually paid.

However, since then surpluses have been reported by the Actuary. At 31 March 2025, there was a total net Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) surplus reported by the Actuary of £657.286m (31 March 2024: £282.049m surplus). The increase in LGPS surplus at 31 March 2025 has arisen mainly because of gains arising from changes to the financial assumptions used to measure LGPS scheme liabilities in the actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2025 and the return on LGPS scheme assets in 2024-25.

Accounting Standard IAS19 imposes a limit on the net surplus which can be recognised in the Balance Sheet, known as an asset ceiling restriction. The limit depends on factors unique to each employer and the Actuary has reflected this by carrying out additional calculations.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The effect of the asset ceiling has been determined by the Actuary based on the limitation on the Council's ability to recover the full economic benefit of its assets through reductions in employer's future service contributions because of the minimum funding obligations of the LGPS at 31 March 2025. The Actuary has assessed the Council's estimated future service costs less the estimated future service contributions to establish the economic benefit that is available to the Council. The net pensions asset has therefore been adjusted by this effect of the asset ceiling.

The Actuary calculated an LGPS scheme asset ceiling restriction of £677.303m (31 March 2024: £305.259m restriction), as shown in the table below. After this adjustment, the LGPS net liability in the accounts is £20.017m (31 March 2024: £23.210m LGPS net liability) and there is a total net pensions liability, including Teachers Pensions, of £56.986m (31 March 2024: £65.001m total net pensions liability).

	Present value of liabilities:		Present value of assets:	(Surplus)/deficit in the Scheme:		Asset ceiling restriction:	Liability/(asset):
	LGPS £m	Discretionary Benefits £m	LGPS £m	LGPS £m	Discretionary Benefits £m	LGPS £m	Total £m
<b>2020-21</b>	3,360.078	57.592	(2,393.147)	966.931	57.592	0.000	<b>1,024.523</b>
<b>2021-22</b>	3,320.908	52.653	(2,561.678)	759.230	52.653	0.000	<b>811.883</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	2,394.091	44.056	(2,479.902)	(85.811)	44.056	12.432	<b>(29.323)</b>
<b>2023-24</b>	2,402.630	41.791	(2,684.679)	(282.049)	41.791	305.259	<b>65.001</b>
<b>2024-25</b>	2,104.888	36.969	(2,762.174)	(657.286)	36.969	677.303	<b>56.986</b>

	Reconciliation of asset ceiling: LGPS	
	2023-24 £m	2024-25 £m
<b>Opening impact at 1 April</b>	<b>12.432</b>	<b>305.259</b>
Interest on asset ceiling	0.590	14.805
Change in effect of the asset ceiling	292.237	357.239
<b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>	<b>305.259</b>	<b>677.303</b>

### Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, and an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years, dependant on assumptions including mortality rates and salary levels. Both the LGPS and Discretionary Benefits liabilities have been assessed by the Fund Actuary, with estimates for the Council's share of the Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2022.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The principal assumptions used by the Fund Actuary have been:

	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Mortality Assumptions:</b>		
Longevity at 65 (current pensioners):		
-Men	20.8	20.8
-Women	23.8	23.8
Longevity at 65 (future pensioners):		
-Men	21.6	21.5
-Women	25.3	25.3
<b>Inflation Rates:</b>		
Increase in salaries (LGPS only)	3.75%	3.75%
Increase in pensions (CPI)	2.75%	2.75%
Discounting scheme liabilities	4.85%	5.80%

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are set out below, showing the impact of a change:

At 31 March 2025:

	<b>Local Government</b>	
	<b>Approximate increase to employer liability %</b>	<b>Approximate monetary amount £m</b>
0.1% decrease in real discount rate	2	35.861
1 year increase in Member life expectancy	4	84.196
0.1% increase in salary increase rate	0	1.797
0.1% increase in pension increase rate (CPI)	2	35.052

At 31 March 2024:

	<b>Local Government</b>	
	<b>Approximate increase to employer liability %</b>	<b>Approximate monetary amount £m</b>
0.1% decrease in real discount rate	2	43.687
1 year increase in Member life expectancy	4	96.105
0.1% increase in salary increase rate	0	2.109
0.1% increase in pension increase rate (CPI)	2	42.369

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Fund Actuary has noted that in order to quantify the impact of a change in the financial assumptions used, the value of the scheme liabilities at 31 March 2025 has been calculated and compared on varying bases. The approach taken is consistent with that adopted to derive the IAS19 figures provided by the Fund Actuary for the accounts.

To quantify the uncertainty around life expectancy, the Fund Actuary has calculated the difference in cost to the Council, as a Fund employer, of a one-year increase in life expectancy. For sensitivity purposes, this is assumed to be an increase in the cost of benefits of around 3-5%. In practice the actual cost of a one-year increase in life expectancy will depend on the structure of the revised assumption (i.e. if improvements to survival rates predominantly apply at younger or older ages).

These figures have been derived based on the membership profile of the Council, as a Fund Employer, as at the date of the most recent actuarial valuation.

The return on the Fund in market value terms for the period to 31 March 2025 is based on actual Fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority. The actual total return for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 is a gain of 3.7% (2023-24: 9.3% actual gain).

The Discretionary Benefits arrangements have no assets to cover its liabilities. The Local Government Pension Scheme's assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

	<b>2023-24</b> %	<b>2024-25</b> %
Equity investments	60.9	56.4
Debt instruments:		
Government bonds	8.9	11.2
Other bonds	14.5	15.9
Property	6.9	7.0
Cash and cash equivalents	3.8	4.3
Other assets	5.0	5.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The Scheme's assets are comprised of those that have a quoted market price and those that do not, across these categories, as follows:

	2023-24			2024-25		
	Quoted £m	Unquoted £m	Total £m	Quoted £m	Unquoted £m	Total £m
Equity investments	615.559	1020.184	<b>1635.743</b>	525.569	1030.329	<b>1555.898</b>
Debt instruments:						
Government bonds	278.875	0.000	<b>278.875</b>	310.155	0.000	<b>310.155</b>
Other bonds	152.056	194.195	<b>346.251</b>	208.530	231.097	<b>439.627</b>
Property	6.534	179.126	<b>185.660</b>	5.800	187.891	<b>193.691</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	0.000	102.794	<b>102.794</b>	0.000	119.555	<b>119.555</b>
Other assets	45.433	89.923	<b>135.356</b>	46.299	96.949	<b>143.248</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1098.457</b>	<b>1586.222</b>	<b>2684.679</b>	<b>1096.353</b>	<b>1665.821</b>	<b>2762.174</b>

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### **Funding Arrangements**

The Fund has a contribution plan and investment strategy in place that will enable it to pay members' benefits as they fall due. The funding strategy is informed by an actuarial valuation of the Fund performed every three years. The employer contribution rates required are determined using a "risk based" approach. The Council's future contribution rate may vary to give an appropriate likelihood of meeting its funding target, within the agreed timeframe. The Fund's Funding Strategy Statement is available on the Council's website at:

<https://www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk/publications/policies-strategies-and-statements/funding-strategy.aspx>

### **Impact on the Council's Cash Flows**

The objectives of the LGPS are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The Council has agreed a strategy with the Scheme's actuary to achieve a funding level of 100% over the next 18 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation is due to be completed on 31 March 2025.

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

The total contributions expected to be made to the LGPS by the Council in the year to 31 March 2026 is £62.606m.

## **50. NATURE AND EXTENT OF RISKS ARISING FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

### **Overall Procedures for Managing Risk**

The Council's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets and are structured to implement suitable controls to minimise these risks. The annual Treasury Management Strategy outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Council's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported annually to Members. Detailed information can be found in the annual Capital Programme Approvals, Treasury Management and Capital Strategies for 2025-26 which is available on the Council's Derbyshire Democracy website under the Council meeting on 12 February 2025:

[Capital Programme Approvals, Treasury Management and Capital Strategies for 2025-26](#)

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### Credit risk

Credit risk is the potential for the Council to suffer loss due to another party defaulting on its financial obligations.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk is deemed to be the gross carrying amount of the financial assets held.

The Council defines default as a customer or borrower's failure to pay amounts owed to it. A counterparty is likely to be considered in default if:

- It is in administration, insolvency or winding up proceedings.
- It has entered into a scheme of arrangement with its creditors.
- It is in default on similar financial assets.

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria. The financial institutions' credit ratings are monitored throughout the year and significant changes are reported to Cabinet. The Annual Investment Strategy also imposes a maximum sum to be invested and a maximum duration of each loan for counterparties.

It is the Council's policy to write-off any debt where all reasonable measures have been taken to recover the debt or after the Chief Financial Officer and the Director of Legal Services have established that the debt is irrecoverable due to bankruptcy or insolvency.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its cash deposits, investments in banks and building societies and money market funds is £133.211m (31 March 2024: £207.070m), all of which is deposited in the UK, except for £22.660m (31 March 2024: £34.537m) in global pooled funds. A risk of non-recovery applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at 31 March 2025 that this was likely to crystallise (31 March 2024: no evidence).

The Council's potential maximum exposure to credit risk on other financial assets, based on experience of default, adjusted to reflect current market conditions is £33.977m (31 March 2024 revised: £48.916m). These financial assets include trade debtors (£32.037m, 31 March 2024: £47.065m), transferred debt (£0.030m, 31 March 2024: £0.032m), contract assets (£0.610m, 31 March 2024: £0.488m) and lease receivables (£1.300m, 31 March 2024: £1.331m). The Council recognised an allowance for credit losses which reduced the carrying amount of these financial assets by £3.885m (31 March 2024: £4.778m). Customers for goods and services are vetted, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors. The Council does not generally allow credit for its trade debtors.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To determine whether there has been a significant increase in the credit risk of an investment, cash or cash equivalent the Council considers a range of factors, including whether its credit rating has fallen below investment grade (BBB-), declining financial performance, a fall in the value of collateral or the quality of guarantees given and any adverse business or economic conditions impacting on the investment.

The profile of these assets by credit rating (AAA is the strongest credit rating) is as follows:

	AAA or equivalent £m	AA or equivalent £m	A or equivalent £m	Rated below A or equivalent £m	Not Rated £m	Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt £m	Total £m
Cash and cash equivalents	0.000	0.000	72.843	0.000	0.000	0.000	72.843
Investments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	55.461	0.000	55.461
Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	30.091	30.091
<b>Total Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>72.843</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>55.461</b>	<b>30.091</b>	<b>158.395</b>

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	AAA or equivalent £m	AA or equivalent £m	A or equivalent £m	Rated below A or equivalent £m	Not Rated £m	Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt £m	Total £m
Cash and cash equivalents	0.000	0.000	78.319	0.000	0.000	0.000	78.319
Investments	0.000	49.829	0.000	0.000	75.117	0.000	124.946
Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	44.138	44.138
<b>Total Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>49.829</b>	<b>78.319</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>75.117</b>	<b>44.138</b>	<b>247.403</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	AAA or equivalent £m	AA or equivalent £m	A or equivalent £m	Rated below A or equivalent £m	Not Rated £m	Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt £m	Total £m
<b>Loss Allowance is measured at 12-month expected credit losses because:</b>							
There has been no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition	0.000	0.000	72.845	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>72.845</b>
<b>Loss Allowance is measured at lifetime expected credit losses because:</b>							
Credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.397	0.000	<b>0.397</b>
Financial assets have become credit impaired	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	15.117	0.001	<b>15.118</b>
Allowed under the simplified approach, i.e. Trade Debtors	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	31.598	<b>31.598</b>
<b>No Loss Allowance as relevant statutory provisions prevent default:</b>							
Counterparty is Central Government or another local authority	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.377	<b>2.377</b>
<b>No Loss Allowance, Other:</b>							
Financial assets measured at Fair Value	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	44.852	0.000	<b>44.852</b>
<b>Total Gross Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>72.845</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>60.366</b>	<b>33.976</b>	<b>167.187</b>
Loss Allowances	0.000	0.000	(0.002)	0.000	(4.905)	(3.885)	<b>(8.792)</b>
<b>Total Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>72.843</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>55.461</b>	<b>30.091</b>	<b>158.395</b>

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	AAA or equivalent £m	AA or equivalent £m	A or equivalent £m	Rated below A or equivalent £m	Not Rated £m	Trade Debtors and Transferred Debt £m	Total £m
<b>Loss Allowance is measured at 12-month expected credit losses because:</b>							
There has been no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition	0.000	0.000	78.334	0.000	0.000	0.000	<b>78.334</b>
<b>Loss Allowance is measured at lifetime expected credit losses because:</b>							
Credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.454	0.000	<b>0.454</b>
Financial assets have become credit impaired	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	13.996	0.847	<b>14.843</b>
Allowed under the simplified approach, i.e. Trade Debtors	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	32.353	<b>32.353</b>
<b>No Loss Allowance as relevant statutory provisions prevent default:</b>							
Counterparty is Central Government or another local authority	0.000	49.829	0.000	0.000	0.000	15.716	<b>65.545</b>
<b>No Loss Allowance, Other:</b>							
Financial assets measured at Fair Value	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	64.458	0.000	<b>64.458</b>
<b>Total Gross Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>49.829</b>	<b>78.334</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>78.908</b>	<b>48.916</b>	<b>255.987</b>
Loss Allowances	0.000	0.000	(0.015)	0.000	(3.791)	(4.778)	<b>(8.584)</b>
<b>Total Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>49.829</b>	<b>78.319</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>75.117</b>	<b>44.138</b>	<b>247.403</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The past due amount for trade debtors can be analysed by age as follows:

	31 Mar 2024 £m	31 Mar 2025 £m
Less than three months	34.998	15.229
Three to six months	2.351	4.533
Six months to one year	3.121	4.073
More than one year	6.595	8.202
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.065</b>	<b>32.037</b>

The gross value of trade debtors, excluding other local authorities and central government departments and agencies, is analysed as follows:

	<b>Gross Value of Trade Debtors 31 Mar 2025 £m</b>
Finance Lease Receivables	1.299
Contract Assets	0.610
0 - 30 Days	9.974
Over 30 Days	19.715
<b>Debtors Excluding Other Local Authorities and Government</b>	<b>31.598</b>

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	<b>Gross Value of Trade Debtors 31 Mar 2024 £m</b>
Finance Lease Receivables	1.331
Contract Assets	0.488
0 - 30 Days	14.771
Over 30 Days	15.763
<b>Debtors Excluding Other Local Authorities and Government</b>	<b>32.353</b>

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A loss allowance for these financial assets is recognised based on the gross value of trade debtors which are more than 30 days past due and which have been or are expected to be referred for review by the Council's Legal Services department or under the Care Act (2014). A non-recovery rate based on the historical success rate of recovering such debt, once referred, along with a factor to reflect the prevailing economic conditions, is applied to the gross value of referred debt to determine the amount of the loss allowance. The factor for current market conditions was derived by comparing the expected default rate for 2025 with the historic default rate based on information collated by rating agency Moody's. Macroeconomic conditions are forecast to improve in 2025 compared to 2024. The expected default rate for 2025 is lower than the historic default rate, therefore the adjustment for current market conditions has resulted in a lower allowance for losses compared to the raw calculation based on the profile of debt, as at 31 March 2025, and the historical rate of debt recovery alone.

Department / Debt Category	Trade Debtors Over 30 Days £m	Referred Debt * £m	Expected Non-Recovery Rate %	Factor for Current Economic Conditions %	General Loss Allowance ** £m	Specific Loss Allowance: Non- Local Authority/ Government Debt £m	Specific Loss Allowance: Local Authority/ Government Debt £m	Total Loss Allowance £m
Adult Care - Secured Over Property	1.570	0.000	0%	52%	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Adult Care Other - Over 1 Year	4.360	4.360	59%	52%	1.351	0.000	0.000	1.351
Adult Care Other - 1 Year or Under	7.100	7.100	37%	52%	1.377	0.000	0.000	1.377
Other	6.685	2.953	37%	52%	0.573	0.584	0.001	1.158
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.715</b>	<b>14.413</b>			<b>3.301</b>	<b>0.584</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>3.886</b>

\* Referred debt has been, or is expected to be, referred to Legal Services or reviewed under the Care Act (2014)

\*\* The General Loss Allowance is restricted in order that the loss allowance does not exceed 100% of the value of the debt

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

Department / Debt Category	Trade Debtors Over 30 Days £m	Referred Debt * £m	Expected Non-Recovery Rate %	Factor for Current Economic Conditions %	General Loss Allowance ** £m	Specific Loss Allowance: Non- Local Authority/ Government Debt £m	Specific Loss Allowance: Local Authority/ Government Debt £m	Total Loss Allowance £m
Adult Care - Secured Over Property	1.997	0.000	0%	86%	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Adult Care Other - Over 1 Year	3.380	3.380	61%	86%	1.778	0.000	0.000	1.778
Adult Care Other - 1 Year or Under	4.401	4.401	40%	86%	1.509	0.000	0.000	1.509
Other	5.986	0.101	40%	86%	0.034	0.609	0.847	1.490
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.764</b>	<b>7.882</b>			<b>3.321</b>	<b>0.609</b>	<b>0.847</b>	<b>4.777</b>

\* Referred debt has been, or is expected to be, referred to Legal Services or reviewed under the Care Act (2014)

\*\* The General Loss Allowance is restricted in order that the loss allowance does not exceed 100% of the value of the debt.

Whilst expected credit losses relating to trade debtors are measured on a collective basis, those relating to other financial assets are determined on a case-by-case basis.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Reconciliation of Credit Loss Allowances

A reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of the allowances recognised for potential credit losses on the Council's financial assets for the year ended 31 March 2025 is provided as follows:

	Balance at start of year £m	Increase due to recognition of new Financial Assets £m	Decrease due to de-recognition of Financial Assets £m	Change due to modification of cash flows of the Financial Assets £m	Due to change in Average Default Rates £m	Due to change in significance of credit risk £m	Balance at end of year £m
<b>Measured at 12-month expected credit losses where:</b>							
There has been no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition	0.015	0.000	(0.007)	0.000	(0.006)	0.000	0.002
<b>Measured at lifetime expected credit losses where:</b>							
Credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition	0.046	0.000	(0.006)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.040
Financial assets have become credit impaired	4.592	0.361	(0.847)	0.000	0.759	0.001	4.866
Allowed under the simplified approach i.e. Debtors	3.931	0.847	0.000	0.000	(0.894)	0.000	3.884
<b>Total Loss Allowance</b>	<b>8.584</b>	<b>1.208</b>	<b>(0.860)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.141)</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>8.792</b>

At 31 March 2024 the revised\* position was:

	Balance at start of year £m	Increase due to recognition of new Financial Assets £m	Decrease due to de-recognition of Financial Assets £m	Change due to modification of cash flows of the Financial Assets £m	Due to change in Average Default Rates £m	Due to change in significance of credit risk £m	Balance at end of year £m
<b>Measured at 12-month expected credit losses where:</b>							
There has been no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition	0.053	0.004	(0.030)	0.000	(0.012)	0.000	0.015
<b>Measured at lifetime expected credit losses where:</b>							
Credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition	2.854	0.246	0.000	0.000	0.691	(3.745)	0.046
Financial assets have become credit impaired	0.847	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	3.745	4.592
Allowed under the simplified approach i.e. Debtors	5.093	0.000	(0.225)	0.000	(0.937)	0.000	3.931
<b>Total Loss Allowance</b>	<b>8.847</b>	<b>0.250</b>	<b>(0.255)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.258)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>8.584</b>

\*Revised to make corrections to allocation between 'measured at lifetime expected credit losses' categories.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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In March 2023, the Council received correspondence from one of the joint controlling interests of Buxton Crescent Limited, which indicated that the company may not meet the loan covenant tests or be able to commence loan payments, at the expected maturity date due to the hotel's weaker than anticipated revenues and high cost of energy. Loan payments were due to commence in October 2023, but were not made as of 31 March 2024. As this was a default according to the terms of the loan, the Council considered the loan to be a credit-impaired financial asset at 31 March 2024. Similarly, during 2024-25 no further expected loan repayments were made and the Council's assessment remains that the financial asset continues to be credit impaired at 31 March 2025. The allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) on the loan continues to be recognised at all of the accumulated interest on the loan, in addition to 10% of the original loan advanced. This gives a lifetime allowance for ECLs of £4.866m. The allowance, calculated on the same basis, was £3.745m at 31 March 2024, which falls in the range of probable outcomes in the options analysis undertaken in 2023 by the Council's financial advisors. The Council is in dialogue with Buxton Crescent Limited to explore the options to best protect the value of its investment, as well as support the viability of the hotel.

There were no modifications to the cash flows of the Council's financial assets during the year (2023-24: no modifications).

12-month expected credit losses are based on the following inputs and assumptions:

- The value of the principal on maturity.
- The coupon interest rate of the loan receivable.
- The average probability of default in the next 12 months for that grade of investment, as determined by the major ratings agencies. This has been adjusted for current market conditions based on the ratio of the expected default rate for 2025 compared to the historic rate of default collated by rating agency Moody's.
- The expected loss, given default, is assumed to be 62% (Moody's unsecured).
- In the event of default, the recoverable amount is expected to be received two years later than the due date.

Lifetime expected credit losses are based on the following inputs and assumptions:

- The gross carrying amount.
- The probability of default for that grade of investment, and the expected loss given default.

Forward-looking information is incorporated into the determination of expected credit losses:

- For specific investments – by reference to the investment grade provided by the rating agency Moody's and by considering the forecast default rates for the year compared to historical rates of default.
- For trade debtors – by considering the value of additional debt that is likely to be referred in addition to that which has already been referred for review and by considering the forecast default rates for the year compared to historical rates of default.

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Council does not hold any collateral as security or any other credit enhancements against the loans it has issued.

### Liquidity risk

The Council manages a comprehensive cash flow management system. This seeks to ensure that cash is available when it is needed. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The contractual maturity for short term and long-term borrowing is as follows:

	31 Mar 2025 £m
Less than one year	(145.009)
Between one and two years	(13.178)
Between two and five years	(25.592)
Between five and ten years	(49.680)
More than ten years	(144.380)
	<b>(377.839)</b>

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	31 Mar 2024 £m
Less than one year	(141.253)
Between one and two years	(5.000)
Between two and five years	(37.986)
Between five and ten years	(44.585)
More than ten years	(148.713)
	<b>(377.537)</b>

### Interest rate risk

Within the Annual Treasury Management Strategy maximum limits are set for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The interest rate profile of financial assets and liabilities, excluding finance lease debtors and creditors and PFI creditors, is as follows:

	Total £m	Non- interest bearing £m	Variable or Fixed <1 year £m	Fixed > 1 year £m	Fixed rate	
					Weighted average int rate (%)	Weighted average period (years)
<b>Financial assets</b>	<b>128.334</b>	4.049	124.285	0.000	4.91	4
<b>Financial liabilities</b>	<b>(377.839)</b>	0.000	(145.009)	(232.830)	4.63	11

## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	Total £m	Non- interest bearing £m	Variable or Fixed <1 year £m	Fixed > 1 year £m	Fixed rate	
					Weighted average int rate (%)	Weighted average period (years)
<b>Financial assets</b>	<b>203.297</b>	4.711	198.586	0.000	4.81	4
<b>Financial liabilities</b>	<b>(377.537)</b>	0.000	(141.253)	(236.284)	4.53	13

A 1% change in interest rates would have the following impact:

	Impact on provision of services £m	Impact on net worth £m
Increase by 1% (100 basis points)	0.203	18.057
Decrease by 1% (100 basis points)	(0.203)	(18.057)

At 31 March 2024 the position was:

	Impact on provision of services £m	Impact on net worth £m
Increase by 1% (100 basis points)	0.780	21.429
Decrease by 1% (100 basis points)	(0.780)	(21.429)

### 51. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

#### Thurrock Council and APSE Dispute

In November 2024, Thurrock Council issued legal proceedings against 23 Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) member councils, as representative defendants in a matter of dispute between themselves and APSE. The dispute centres on valuations provided by APSE for Thurrock Council's investment in solar farm assets, which Thurrock Council claims were negligent. As APSE is an unincorporated association, it has no legal personality separate from its members, so in effect Thurrock Council's litigation is not with APSE but with its 256 members, or a representative portion of them. The Council is not a representative defendant in the proceedings, meaning it is not party to any issued claim. However, the Council may be affected by any judgment or settlement obtained against the representative defendants.

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## NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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In February 2025, the Council was informed by APSE that agreement has been reached to 'stay' proceedings between the 23 representative defendant councils and Thurrock Council. This essentially means that with the consent of the court, through a court order, the legal proceedings are suspended. Whilst a court can lift the 'stay' and resume proceedings at a later date, or by application of either party, in this case the 'stay' is intended by the parties to allow Thurrock Council to reach the final determination of the related legal proceedings it has taken against an individual, whether by way of judgment, including any appeals, or by settlement. The trial date listing against this individual is currently unknown, and there is then the likelihood of a lengthy trial process, due to the complexity of issues. Although this 'stay' withdraws the immediacy of the litigation risk against other APSE member councils, it does not remove it. There are therefore uncertainties over whether there will be any cost to the Council in relation to this matter and the timing of any payment.

### **52. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

There were no significant events between the balance sheet date and the approval of these financial statements which would require further disclosure or adjustment of the statements.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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### ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### INTRODUCTION

The Accounting Policies for Derbyshire County Council (the Council) have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as adopted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code for Local Authority Accounting (the Code). Where there is no specific guidance in the Code or the Update, the Council has developed its own accounting policy which is aimed at creating information which is:

- Relevant to the decision-making needs of users; and
- Reliable, in that the financial statements:
  - Represent fairly the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the entity;
  - Reflect the economic substance of transactions, other events and conditions and not merely the legal form;
  - Are neutral i.e. free from bias;
  - Are prudent; and
  - Are complete in all material respects.

This document outlines how the Council will account for all income, expenditure, assets and liabilities held and incurred during the financial year.

The accounting policies of the Council are updated annually to reflect any changes in IFRS, including changes in International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), HM Treasury guidance, CIPFA guidance or any other change in statute, guidance or framework impacting on the authority's accounts.

The Accounting Policies of the Council as far as possible have been developed to ensure that the accounts of the Council are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable. A Glossary of Terms can be found at the end of this document.

The document has been divided into four distinct categories which are Accounting Principles, Capital Accounting, Revenue Accounting and Treasury Management, with each policy being assigned a policy number.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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### **ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

#### **1.1. Going Concern**

The Council prepares its accounts on the basis that it remains a going concern; that is that there is the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence. In the case of a pending local government reorganisation, where assets and liabilities are due to be redistributed, the Council would still account on the basis of going concern as the provision of services would continue in another Council.

#### **1.2. Accruals Concept**

The Council accounts for income and expenditure in the period in which the provision of goods or service has taken place, rather than when cash payments are received or made.

Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Equally, where cash has been received or paid which is not yet recognised as income or expenditure, a creditor (income in advance) or debtor (payment in advance) is recorded in the Balance Sheet.

#### **1.3. Cost of Services**

Internal support service costs (e.g. Human Resources) are apportioned across the core service areas to represent the total cost of delivering that service to the public, in accordance with the costing principles of the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice (SerCOP).

Where possible the full cost of support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

- Corporate and Democratic Core – costs relating to the Council's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation.
- Non-Distributed Costs – the cost of discretionary benefits awarded to employees retiring early and any depreciation and impairment losses chargeable on non-operational properties, or any other operational cost that cannot be reasonably attributed to a specific service.

#### **1.4. Value Added Tax**

Income and expenditure treated as either capital or revenue, excludes any amounts related to VAT. All VAT collected is payable to HM Revenue & Customs and all VAT paid is recoverable from the same. Any amounts outstanding (payment or receipt) at the year-end date is held as a creditor or debtor after netting off the amounts either due or owed.

#### **1.5. Changes in Accounting Policy**

Where there is a known future change in accounting policy required by the CIPFA Code or the Update, the Council will disclose the following in the notes to the accounts:

- The nature of the change in accounting policy;

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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- The reasons why applying the new accounting policy provides reliable and more relevant information;
- For both the current reporting period, and the previous year comparatives reported, the extent to which the change in accounting policy would have impacted on the financial statements if it had been adopted in that year;
- The amount of adjustment relating to years previous to those reported in the set of financial statements, had the proposed policy been adopted retrospectively;
- If retrospective application is impracticable for a particular period, the circumstances that led to the existence of that condition and a description of how and from when the change in accounting policy has been applied.

The Council will also disclose information relating to an accounting standard which has been issued but not yet adopted.

### **1.6. Prior Year Adjustments**

These typically arise from omissions and misstatements in the Council's financial statements for one or more prior periods. For the error to be a prior year adjustment, it would need to have arisen from a failure to use or misuse, reliable information that:

- a) Was available when financial statements for those periods were authorised for issue; and
- b) Could reasonably be expected to have been obtained and taken into account in the preparation and presentation of those financial statements.

Such errors include the effects of mathematical mistakes, misunderstanding in applying accounting policies, oversights or misinterpretations of facts, and fraud.

They may also arise for reasons such as changes in Accounting Standards, which are required to be applied retrospectively.

Where required changes are thought to be significant, an adjustment will be entered into the financial statement's comparative year balances, and the columns headed 'restated'. In addition, full disclosure as to the nature, circumstance and value of the adjustment will be disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

Errors which are found and are not significant will not result in a prior year adjustment and will be corrected as a current year entry. In addition, errors as a result of information which was not known to the Council or could not have reasonably been obtained by the Council when the accounts were authorised for issue will also be treated as an in year adjustment.

### **1.7. Unidentified Income**

All unidentified income received is initially coded to an income suspense account. Individual amounts below £10 are written off due to immateriality. Weekly updates of the content of the suspense accounts are circulated to finance departments, to ensure the balances are cleared quickly. Any items of income below £10,000 which remain unidentified for six months will be written off. Items above £10,000 will be written off after 12 months.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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### **1.8. Events after the Balance Sheet Date**

Where there is a material post balance sheet event before the date the accounts are authorised for issue, a disclosure in the notes to the accounts will be included. If this event provides additional evidence of conditions that existed at the Balance Sheet date, and materially affects the amounts to be included in the accounts; adjusting items will be shown in the accounts.

### **1.9. Exceptional Items**

Exceptional items will have been disclosed separately on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and details will be disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

### **1.10. Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

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

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

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

## **CAPITAL ACCOUNTING**

### **1.11. Recognition of Capital Expenditure (de-minimis Policy)**

In accordance with International Accounting Standard 16 (IAS 16), the Council recognises non-current assets as:

- Assets where it is expected that future economic benefit or service potential will flow to the Council.
- Assets where the cost can be measured reliably.

and defines them as:-

- Assets held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, rental to others, or for administrative purposes.
- Assets expected to be used for more than one financial period.

The initial measurement of an asset is recognised to be:

- Purchase price, construction cost, minimum lease payments or equivalent including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- Costs associated with bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.
- Initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site on which it is located, the obligation for which the Council incurred either when the asset was acquired or as a consequence of having used the asset during a particular period for purposes other than producing inventories during that period.

Subsequent expenditure are costs incurred to add to, replace part of, or service the asset, but do not include day-to-day repairs and maintenance and are treated as capital when

- The expenditure will substantially increase the market value of the asset.
- The expenditure will substantially increase the extent to which the Council can use the asset for the purpose, or in conjunction with the functions of the Council.

Where a component is replaced, the carrying amount of the old component shall be derecognised to avoid double counting and the new component reflected in the carrying amount, subject to the recognition principles as set out above.

The Council has determined in accordance with Regulation 30M of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for Infrastructure Assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

The Council has two levels of de-minimis for recognition of capital expenditure, £10,000 and £500,000:

- £10,000 and below – all expenditure at this level is deemed to be non-enhancing unless funded by a Capital grant, and therefore is charged to revenue as it is incurred. This includes initial recognition of assets and subsequent asset expenditure.
- Above £500,000 - expenditure meeting the definitions above will be treated as capital expenditure, either as initial recognition or as an enhancement. However, in order to ensure that the subsequent asset expenditure is enhancing the value of the asset, the Council will instruct a valuation of the asset by a Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) qualified valuer, and any impairment or additional enhancement recognised as necessary.
- Any expenditure above £10,000 and below £500,000 will be treated as capital expenditure as the amount is significant enough to increase the useful life of an asset, however is not material enough to warrant individual impairment review, until the time the asset would normally be valued.

Capital Assets are held on the balance sheet as non-current assets, unless otherwise stated.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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The Council has assessed whether Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation Schools should be included within the balance sheet, based upon an assessment of ownership and control of the assets. Maintained schools are already held on the balance sheet as the Council controls these entities and therefore all transactions relating to maintained schools are recognised in these accounts. Other types of schools such as Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation schools are subject to a test of ownership. The Council recognises a school's assets on its balance sheet where it directly owns them and/or the Council retains substantive rights over the assets and the future economic benefits/service potential of school assets flow to the Council or rights to use the assets have been transferred from another entity.

### **1.12. Donated Assets**

These are acquired at less than fair value or transferred for nil consideration. When the Council receives a donated non-current asset, the initial recognition of the asset will be at fair value.

Once any condition attached to the donation has been satisfied, the credit which is the difference between any cash payment and fair value will be treated as income in the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. To ensure there is no impact on Council Tax this will then be reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Until the condition has been satisfied the credit will be recognised in the Donated Assets account. If there is no condition, the recognition of the credit in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will occur upon acquisition of the asset.

The fair value of an asset will be assessed upon acquisition; this will be provided by a RICS qualified valuer for property assets and another relevant valuation specialist for other types of asset. After initial recognition, donated assets are treated in the same way as similar owned assets.

### **1.13. Non-Current Asset Classification**

The Council manages its assets in the following categories:

➤ **Intangible Assets**

In line with International Accounting Standard 38 (IAS 38), the Council recognises intangible assets as non-monetary assets without physical substance, where that asset meets the capital expenditure criteria set out in Accounting Policy 1.11.

➤ **Property, Plant and Equipment Assets**

Property Plant and Equipment Assets are subcategorised into Operational Assets: Land & Buildings, Community Assets, Vehicles Plant Furniture & Equipment, Infrastructure Assets, and Non-Operational Assets, these being Surplus Assets and Assets under Construction.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- Land and/or Buildings Assets.

These assets are recorded, valued and accounted for based on their significant components in line with IAS 16. The Council recognises a significant asset to be 25% of the total asset base within an asset class. A component would be recognised if its expenditure in a given financial year exceeds 25% of the total value of the significant asset and has a substantially different life to the overall asset:

  - Combined Group containing Flat Roof & Mechanical Engineering (Internal Works i.e. boiler system)
  - Land
  - Temporary Buildings (sheds / portacabins)
  - Combined group containing permanent structure, external works (i.e. car park), pitched roof and components of less than 25% of the overall structure value
  - Other unique features (e.g. a swimming pool)

- Community Assets

These are assets that the Authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and which may, in addition, have restrictions on their disposal. There is little prospect for sale or change of use.

If the asset is used for a specific operational purpose, it does not qualify as a community asset and should be valued accordingly.

- Infrastructure Assets

These include all tangible (physical) assets required within the Council's road networks. There is no prospect for sale or alternative use of infrastructure assets; expenditure is only recoverable through continued use of the asset.
- Vehicles, Plant Furniture and Equipment Assets

These assets are also classified as Property Plant and Equipment.

Non-Operational Assets:

- Surplus Assets

These are assets that are not being used to deliver services, and do not meet the criteria to be classified as either investment properties or held for sale. All surplus assets under IFRS13 which came into effect and were adopted by the Council from 1 April 2015 are to be valued at Fair Value and depreciated accordingly.
- Assets Under Construction

These are assets which are in the process of being constructed and are not yet operational.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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➤ **Investment Property Assets**

These are items of land and / or buildings held by the Council solely for the purpose of rental income generation or capital appreciation or both.

As such where there is a service of the Council being delivered from the property, this is not classified as Investment Property Assets. This includes where the intention of the asset is to generate economic growth to an area such as below market value rental.

Investment property that subsequently meets the criteria within the Code to be classified as held for sale shall continue to be accounted for as an investment property but may be reported separately as investment property held for sale.

Some Assets Under Construction may also be classified as Investment Properties where the intended eventual use is rental income generation or capital appreciation.

➤ **Heritage Assets**

Assets that are intended to be preserved in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historical associations are classified as Heritage Assets.

➤ **Assets Held for Sale**

The Council will classify Non-Current Assets as Held for Sale where all of the following criteria have been met:

- The asset must be available for immediate sale in its present condition. However, if a sale is dependent on planning permission being obtained, reclassification is suspended until that permission has been given.
- The asset's sale is highly probable.
- The asset must be actively marketed for sale.
- The completion of the sale is expected within 12 months from the date of classification.

In situations where it is not necessary to carry out active marketing, for example the Council is able to identify prospective purchasers willing to pay a reasonable price without marketing or because the buyer initiates the transaction (such as a right-to-buy-sale) the actively marketed test is treated as 'not applicable', rather than failed.

Assets which become non-operational which do not meet all of the criteria set out as assets Held for Sale will be classified as surplus. If at a later point in time the asset no longer meets the criteria of Held for Sale, it is restored to its previous classification and all transactions which would have occurred shall be retrospectively applied as though the asset had never been held for sale.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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Assets meeting the criteria as Held for Sale are held as current assets on the balance sheet as income is expected within 12 months. It is possible that assets meeting the criteria to be Held for Sale; may undergo a change in circumstance beyond the control of the Council resulting in the sale being delayed beyond 12 months. In these instances, the Council follows the policies outlined for assets held for sale; however disclosure of the value for these assets is within non-current assets. Due to the circumstances around the definition, it is expected that this will occur very rarely.

➤ **Right-of-Use Assets**

Assets that represent the Council's right to use an underlying asset, such as a vehicle or building, for a period of time. Such rights are conveyed in a contract, or part of a contract.

### 1.14. Non-Current Asset Valuation Methodology

The various classifications of assets as outlined in Accounting Policy 1.13 are valued on a differing base. Where not explicitly stated otherwise, property revaluations are completed by a RICS qualified valuer (who is internal to the Council), over a 'short period', interpreted to mean on a five year rolling programme for each class of asset i.e. 20% of the Council's assets are revalued at 31 March for the financial year.

Where there is an upward revaluation, the carrying value is increased and the associated credit charged directly to the Revaluation Reserve. This is then reflected in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as a revaluation gain. Where there is a downward revaluation, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against any balance of previous revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve (up to the amount of the accumulated gains). Any further decrease is charged to revenue. This is then reversed through the Movement in Reserves Statement and charged to the Capital Adjustment Account.

The Council, as per the reporting standard, values its assets and liabilities in accordance with section 2.10 of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom to reflect the adoption of IFRS13 Fair Value Measurement at each reporting date except where adaptations to fit the public sector are detailed in the Code. However, Section 4.1 of the Code adapts IAS 16 to require that items of Property, Plant and Equipment that are operational and therefore providing a service potential for the authority are measured for their service potential at existing use value, existing use value – social housing, (depreciated) historic cost or depreciated replacement cost and not at fair value. Surplus assets are measured at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants and the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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Fair value of an asset or liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

When measuring the fair value of a non-financial asset, the Council takes into account a market participants ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Code requires Infrastructure Assets and Assets Under Construction (excluding Investment Property, see Section 4.4 of the Code) to be measured at historic cost. Community assets may either be valued in accordance with Section 4.10 of the Code, where the valuation option has been adopted, or measured at historic cost. The Council measures Community Assets at historic cost.

Heritage Assets will be valued in accordance with Section 4.10 of the Code.

The Code requires all other assets to be measured at Current Value and the basis of valuation will be determined using the following criteria:

- Depreciated replacement cost – specialised assets
- Existing use value – non-specialised assets
- Existing use value – social housing
- Fair value for the following assets:
  - Investment assets
  - Surplus assets
  - Assets Held for Sale (less costs to sell)

The Council uses valuation techniques, as required by the Code, which maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs and that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available.

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

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

The Council follows the fair value hierarchy which categorises inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities into three levels for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Council's financial statements, these include:

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- Level 1 inputs – unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3 inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

Highest priority is given to Level 1 inputs (unadjusted) in active markets and lowest priority to Level 3.

Upon the revaluation of a Surplus Asset at the 31<sup>st</sup> March of the financial year, based on the inputs available at the date of valuation the valuer will establish the Code Valuation Input Level for the valuation and will compare this with the Code Valuation Input Level for the previous valuation. Where the Input Level is different from that of the previous valuation this will be specifically reported with the valuation together with a narrative description of the reasons and differing circumstances that have resulted in the change.

Valuations are completed under the Code as follows:

- **Intangible Assets** – the Council recognises Intangible Assets at cost. The Council will only revalue intangible assets annually where there is a determinable market value for the asset.
- **Property Plant and Equipment (PPE)** – Property Assets are held at current value which is the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use. This requirement is met by providing a valuation on the basis of Existing Use Value (EUV) in accordance with United Kingdom Practice Statement (UKPS) 1.3 of the RICS Valuation Standards. Where no other valuation method can be used because of the specialist nature of the asset, current value is estimated using a Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) approach. Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment, IT Hardware, and Assets Under Construction within PPE are held at historic cost (not valued).
- **Infrastructure Assets** – the Council recognises Infrastructure Assets at Depreciated Historical Cost.
- **Investment Property Assets** – Investment Properties are annually revalued at fair value which is interpreted as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its highest and best use, i.e. market value. An investment property under construction is measured at cost until such time as its fair value can be determined reliably or its construction is complete, whichever comes first. The fair value of Investment Property held under a lease is the lease interest.
- **Community Assets** – the Council recognises Community Assets at historic cost.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- **Heritage Assets** – where it is possible to determine a valuation for Heritage Assets, then the Council will recognise the asset in the Balance Sheet at that valuation. Where a valuation has been applied to this class of assets, other than a historic valuation, a range of valuation bases have been used which include external valuations, curatorial valuations and a limited number of cases of insurance valuations. Where a curatorial valuation has been applied the valuation is dependent upon the experience and knowledge of the Derbyshire Museums Manager. However, where it is not practicable to obtain a valuation the asset will be carried at historic cost. Where information on cost or value is not available all Heritage Assets will be disclosed in the notes to the accounts, even where they are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Where there is evidence of impairment to Heritage Assets e.g. where an item has suffered a physical deterioration or breakage or new doubts arise as to its authenticity, any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment.
- **Assets Held for Sale** – Non-Current Assets Held for Sale are, at initial classification and at the end of each reporting year, valued at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell and depreciation on these assets should cease.
- **Surplus Assets** - Surplus assets are valued at Fair Value in accordance with the Code.
- **Right-of-Use Assets** – these are initially recognised using the IFRS 16 Leases cost model (not valued) unless the lease payments are substantially below the market rate, in which case they will be valued.

Where the underlying asset is land or buildings and a lease does not contain any provision for rent reviews to a market rate at periods of five years or less, then the Right-of-Use will be revalued at least every five years.

For leases where the underlying asset is land or buildings:

- Where the property is non-specialised, the Council values Right-of-Use Assets at a rental value, that reflects the terms and conditions of the lease, discounted by a market yield at the valuation date for the residual lease term. Otherwise:
- The value of the Right-of-Use Asset will be determined with reference to the current value of the underlying land or buildings asset, the residual lease term and a yield that reflects the leasehold interest in the asset.

### 1.15. Impairment of Non-Current Assets

This accounting policy has been created in accordance with IAS 36.

Impairment is the amount to which the carrying value of an asset exceeds the recoverable amount.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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At the end of each reporting period the Council assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired.

The Council recognises impairment as:

- A significant decline (i.e. more than expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use) in an asset's carrying amount during the period that is specific to the asset;
- Evidence of obsolescence or physical damage of an asset;
- A commitment by the Council to undertake a significant reorganisation; and
- A significant adverse change in the statutory or other regulatory environment in which the Council operates.

Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains). Any further impairment or if there has been no previous revaluation, the impairment is charged to revenue. This is then reversed through the Movement in Reserves Statement and charged to the Capital Adjustment Account.

### 1.16. Disposal of Non-Current Assets

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Any revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Sale proceeds in excess of £10,000 are categorised as Capital Receipts. Receipts are credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the Capital Financing Requirement). Receipts are transferred to the Reserve from the movement in reserves statement. The value of the asset is transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Sale proceeds of £10,000 and below are credited straight to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### 1.17. Depreciation / Amortisation Methodology

In order to recognise the total cost of using fixed assets, the Council has a policy to depreciate assets on a straight line basis over their useful economic life, reducing the value of the asset, and charging the relevant revenue service expenditure. However, under statute, depreciation is not chargeable to the taxpayer, the Council removes this charge through the Movement in Reserves Statement and charges it to the Capital Adjustment Account.

The Council charges depreciation on a pro-rata basis during the year i.e. from the month of acquisition to the month of disposal.

The economic lives of assets are:

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- **Intangible Assets** – 5 years.
- **Property Plant and Equipment**
  - Combined Group for Flat Roof and Mechanical Engineering – 20 years
  - Land – not depreciated
  - Temporary Buildings – 15 years
  - Modular Buildings – 25 years
  - Combined group for structure, external works, pitched roof and components of less than 25% of the overall structure value – 40 years
  - Other unique features (i.e. a swimming pool) – as required
  - Fixtures and Fittings – 10 years
  - IT Hardware – 5 years
  - Vehicles – 3 to 10 years
- **Infrastructure Assets**
  - Carriageways – 40 years
  - Footways and cycle tracks – 40 years
  - Structures – 120 years
  - Lighting – 40 years
  - Traffic management – 30 years
  - Street furniture – 40 years
- **Investment Property Assets** – not depreciated
- **Community Assets** – Community Assets are assets that an authority intends to hold to perpetuity which have no determinable useful lives and as such are not depreciated.
- **Assets Held for Sale** – are not depreciated
- **Assets Under Construction** – are not depreciated
- **Heritage Assets (with indefinite lives)** – are not depreciated
- **Right-of-Use Assets** – Right-of-Use Assets are depreciated to the earlier of the end of the lease term or the end of the underlying asset's useful life.

### 1.18. Leases

In line with IFRS 16 Leases, the Council recognises a lease to be any contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use a specifically identifiable asset for a period of time.

A contract is any arrangement between two or more parties that creates enforceable rights and obligations.

The Council will only apply lease accounting to tangible assets.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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### **1.19. Lease Term**

The lease term is the period for which a lessee reasonably expects to have a right to use the underlying asset.

The Council assumes that this will be the contractual term including any periods covered by options to terminate the lease, unless there is evidence to suggest that options to extend the lease or terminate it early are reasonably certain to be exercised, in which case the term will be extended or reduced as appropriate.

Where the Council retains the use of an asset and continues to make lease payments after the contractual period (i.e. is 'holding over'), it is considered that the lease is no longer enforceable because both the lessee and lessor have the right to terminate the lease without significant penalty. Effectively the contractual right to use the underlying asset has lapsed. Therefore, Right-of-Use Assets and Lease Liabilities will not be recognised in these instances.

### **1.20. Short-Term Lease**

A short-term lease is a lease, which does not have a purchase option, with a term of 12 months or less at the commencement date.

An annually renewing, or rolling, lease which has not been terminated after 12 months from the commencement date will be deemed to be a 'holding over' lease. Such a lease will not be treated as a short-term lease.

### **1.21. Low Value Assets**

The Council deems the following to be low value assets:

- Personal computers and tablets
- Printers and photocopiers
- Telephones
- Other small office equipment
- Desks, chairs and cabinets
- Other small office furniture
- Sanitary units and equipment

Land, buildings and vehicles are never deemed to be low value.

Any other asset is classified as low value if its cost, when purchased new, would be £10,000 or less.

### **1.22. Lessee Accounting**

Except for short term leases or where a lease is for a low value asset, the Council will recognise an asset which represents its right to use an underlying asset for the lease term. The initial recognition of the right-of-use asset is comprised of:

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- The initial measurement of the lease liability or, where the lease payments are substantially below the market rate, the value of the Right-of-Use asset as assessed by a RICS qualified valuer
- Any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any incentives received
- Any direct costs incurred
- The initial estimate of any provision to remove, dismantle or restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located to the condition required by the terms and conditions in the lease

At the commencement date, the Council will recognise a lease liability at the present value of the lease payments to be made. The lease payments will be discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease, or if this is not determinable then the Public Works Loan Board annuity rate of interest, prevailing at the commencement date and for a period consistent with the term of the lease, adjusted for the type of underlying asset and whether it is a commercial or non-commercial lessor. Over the term of the lease the liability is increased by interest charges and reduced by the lease payments made. The liability is also adjusted for any change to the lease payments, for example for a change in rental rate following a rent review.

On initial recognition, any difference between the value of the Right-of-Use asset and the lease liability will be treated as income in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. To ensure there is no impact on Council Tax this will then be reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Where the underlying asset is land or buildings and a lease does not contain any provision for rent reviews to a market rate at periods of five years or less, then the Right-of-Use will be revalued at least every five years. The value of the Right-of-Use asset will be assessed by a RICS qualified valuer.

### 1.23. Defining a Finance Lease

The Council as lessor will classify a lease as a finance lease where substantially all of the risks and rewards relating to ownership of an underlying asset transfer to the lessee.

Tests to give an indication of the transfer of risk and reward are:

- If the lessee will gain ownership of the asset at the end of the lease term (e.g. hire purchase)
- If the lessee has an option to purchase the asset at a sufficiently favourable price that it is reasonably certain, at the inception of

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- the lease, that it will be exercised
- If the lease term is for the major part of the economic life of the asset even if the title is not transferred. Measures to identify this are:
  - The economic life of the asset is deemed to be that which is consistent with the class of asset in the depreciation policy.
  - The Council recognises 'major part' to be 75% of the life of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.
- At the inception of the lease, the present value of the minimum lease payments amounts to at least substantially all of the fair value of the leased asset. Measures to identify this are:
  - Fair value of the leased asset is assessed by a RICS qualified valuer.
  - The present value of the minimum lease payments is calculated by discounting at the rate inherent in the lease.
  - If this rate cannot be determined the incremental borrowing rate applicable for that year is used.
  - The Council recognises 'substantially all' to be 75% of the value of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.
- The leased assets are of such a specialised nature that only the lessee can use them without major modifications.
- If the lessee cancels the lease, the losses of the lessor, associated with the cancellation are borne by the lessee.
- Gains or losses from the fluctuation in the fair value of the residual accrue to the lessee (e.g. in the form of a rent rebate equalling most of the sales proceeds at the end of the lease).
- The lessee has the ability to continue the lease for a secondary period at a rent that is substantially lower than market rent.

If the Council is subletting an underlying asset it will perform these tests with reference to the right-of-use asset created by the head lease rather than the underlying asset.

A suitably experienced accountant, with assistance from qualified valuers, will make a judgement based on the level of risk and reward held by the Council as to whether a lease is operating or finance.

### 1.24. Defining an Operating Lease

The Council as lessor will classify a lease as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all of the risks and rewards relating to ownership of an underlying asset to the lessee.

If a head lease is accounted for as a short-term lease, the sublease will be classified as an operating lease.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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### **1.25. Lessor Accounting for a Finance Lease**

Where the Council is the lessor for a finance lease, the asset is not recognised in the asset register; however, a long term debtor at the present value of minimum lease payments is recognised. Income received is split between capital - credited against the debtor, and finance income – credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as interest receivable.

### **1.26. Lessor Accounting for an Operating Lease**

Where the Council is the lessor for an operating lease, it will retain the property as either an item of Property Plant and Equipment or as an Investment Property on the Balance Sheet. Any rental income is credited to the relevant service income.

### **1.27. Service Concession Agreements (Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and other similar contracts)**

These are agreements or contracts where the contractor uses a fixed asset to provide a public service on behalf of the Council for a specified period of time and the contractor receives payments from the Council for the period of the arrangement. The asset may be provided, constructed or enhanced by either the contractor or Council.

The arrangement is assessed against control tests to determine whether the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset lie with the Council. Where the control tests are met, the Council recognises a capital asset in the Balance Sheet. Once recognised this asset is treated in line with all capital assets. A corresponding long-term liability is also recognised at the construction value.

The total unitary payments made during the life of the contract are separated into the service charge, finance costs and capital costs. Determining the split of payments is calculated at the inception of the contract and is based on the inherent interest rate within the original agreement.

The service element, which compensates the contractor for the public services it is providing, is chargeable to the relevant revenue service expenditure as incurred. Finance costs are chargeable to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as Interest payable. Capital Costs reduce the level of liability in the Balance Sheet. The liability is also adjusted for any change to the payments not associated with the service charge, for example a change resulting from a change in index. Pre-payments or Dowry payments reduce the level of liability at the start of the contract.

PFI Credits are treated as general revenue Government grants.

### **1.28. Capital Grants and Contributions**

The Council recognises capital grants and contributions as being related to capital assets and uses them to fund capital expenditure on those assets. Grants, contributions and donations are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor. Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor. This is in line with the Accruals Concept Policy.

Once the recognition criteria above have been satisfied, capital grants are recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

In order to not impact on the level of Council Tax, the Council removes the credit from the General Reserves through the Movement in Reserves Statement and makes a credit to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve.

Once expenditure has been incurred on the related asset, the credit is removed from the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

### **1.29. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS)**

Expenditure incurred that either may be capitalised under statutory provisions or is capital in nature but does not result in the creation of a fixed asset that is owned by the Council. REFCUS is charged as expenditure to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year, however, is financed from existing capital resources or by borrowing. A transfer between the Capital Adjustment Account and the Movement in Reserves Statement then reverses out the impact on the general fund balance.

### **1.30. Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)**

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation, impairment losses or amortisations. However, it is required to make an annual provision (MRP) from revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement.

An Annual MRP Statement is approved each year in a report to Council setting out the Capital Programme Approvals, Treasury Management and Capital Strategies. This Statement sets out the Council's MRP Policy, with the detail of how it will calculate its annual provision.

MRP is calculated by reference to the Council's capital financing requirement (CFR) which is the total amount of past capital expenditure which has yet to be permanently financed, noting that debt must be repaid so can only be a temporary source of funding.

For capital expenditure incurred before 1 April 2024, the Council will calculate MRP using the annuity method, based on a weighted average asset life of 40 years and a fixed annuity rate of 5.22%, unless expenditure relates to PFI assets or to short-life assets with a life of less than 20 years. For PFI assets, MRP will be calculated using the annuity method based on the PFI asset life from the start of the contract. MRP on PFI assets and short-life assets will be calculated using an annuity method on an asset life basis with an annuity rate equal to the PWLB annuity certainty rate for the period equivalent to the asset life at 31 March 2024.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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For capital expenditure incurred after 1 April 2024, the Council will calculate MRP using the annuity method on an asset life basis with an annuity rate equal to the PWLB annuity certainty rate prevailing at 31 March of the financial year in which the expenditure was incurred.

MRP will commence in the year following the year in which the capital expenditure financed from borrowing was incurred.

The Council has adopted the policy of charging MRP for Leased Assets at the value of the associated loan liability repayment each year, thus mitigating the impact to the General Reserve.

### 1.31. Capital Reserves

The Council holds Capital Reserves for the purpose of financing capital expenditure. Reserves will be disclosed as either usable (available to fund capital expenditure) or unusable (reserves held as a result of timing differences associated with recognition of capital expenditure and related financing).

Movements in capital reserves are accounted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

## REVENUE ACCOUNTING

### 1.32. Recognition of Revenue Expenditure

The Council recognises revenue expenditure as expenditure which is not capital.

### 1.33. Employee Costs

In accordance with IAS 19, the Council accounts for the total benefit earned by employees during the financial year.

Employee Costs are split into 3 categories; short term benefits, termination benefits and pensions costs.

#### Short Term Employee Benefits

- **Salaries and Wages** – The total salary and wages earned by employees during the financial year are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Where the amount accrued exceeds the amount paid at the 31 March, a creditor will be reflected in the accounts.
- **Leave Owed, Accumulating Absences** – The Council allows employees to earn time off in one period with the resulting cost to the Council in a later period when that time is either taken off or paid to the employee. Examples of this accumulating leave are annual leave, flexi-time and time off in lieu.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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If an employee were to leave the Council, cash payment would be made for entitlements such as annual leave; this leave is termed vesting. Where no cash payment would be due, the leave is termed non-vesting.

In order to correctly reflect the cost of time owed to staff, a charge has been made to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a creditor accrual has been reflected in the Balance Sheet. This charge is reflective of the estimated time cost value of all accumulating leave owed to employees. Vesting leave will be charged in full; however non-vesting leave has been adjusted to reflect the turnover of staff.

- **Easter Bank Holiday** – When Good Friday and/or Easter Monday fall in April, the preceding financial year only accounts for 6 or 7 bank holidays rather than the statutory 8. When this occurs, a charge is made to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a creditor accrual is reflected in the Balance Sheet.
- **Non-accumulating Absences** – are periods of leave that cannot be carried forward for use in future periods. Examples include Maternity Leave, Special Leave, Sick Leave and Jury Service. The Council does not recognise non-accumulating compensated absences until the time that the absence occurs.
- **Non-monetary Benefits** – Where employees have non-monetary benefits (e.g. retirement benefits or life insurance), the associated cost of providing that benefit has been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### Termination Benefits

- **Redundancy Costs** – The obligation to pay redundancy costs occurs when there is a formal plan to create redundancies. The plan would include the location, function and approximate number of employees affected; the termination benefits offered; and the time of implementation. When these recognition criteria have been met the Council recognises the costs associated with this in the service revenue expenditure and creates a creditor in the Balance Sheet. Where the payable amount is due in more than 12 months from the year end date, the costs are discounted at the rate determined by reference to market yields. In the case of an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy, the Council has recognised the estimated cost based on the expected number of employees taking the offer.

The Council will disclose details of exit packages within the notes to the accounts.

### Pensions Costs

- **Teachers' Pension Scheme** – is a defined benefit scheme administered by the Department for Education. The assets and liabilities of the Teachers' Pension Scheme are not attributable to the Council, therefore the Council accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This means that the Children and Education Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will only include the Council's contributions payable to the scheme.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- **Local Government Pension Scheme** – is a defined benefit scheme. The liabilities of the scheme attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions such as mortality rates and employee turnover rates, and projections of earnings for current employees.

Pension liabilities are measured using the projected unit method, discounted using the rate on high quality corporate bonds of equivalent term to the liabilities. The discount rate is the weighted average of “spot yields” on AA rated corporate bonds.

The change in the net pension liability is analysed into seven components:

- Current Service Cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the relevant service area dependant on staff employed at the Council. The current service cost includes an allowance for administration expenses
- Past Service Cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non-Distributed Costs
- Gains/Losses on Settlements and Curtailments – the result of actions to relieve the Council of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees – debited to the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs
- Interest Cost – the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year as they move one year closer to being paid – debited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- Interest Income on Plan Assets – the annual investment return on the fund assets attributable to the Council, based on an average of the expected long-term return – credited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- Actuarial Gains and Losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – debited to the Movement in Reserves Statement.
- Employer Contributions – cash paid by the Council to the Pension Fund.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Reserve to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. Adjustments are therefore made in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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- **Early Retirement, Discretionary Payments** – the Council has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff (including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies which are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

### **1.34. Lessee Accounting for a Short Term Lease**

Costs associated with short term leases where the Council is the lessee are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services on an accruals basis over the lease term.

### **1.35. Lessee Accounting for Leases of Low Value Assets**

Costs associated with the lease of low value assets where the Council is the lessee are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services on an accruals basis over the lease term.

### **1.36. Revenue Grants and Contributions**

Grants, contributions and donations (referred to as grants for the purposes of this policy) are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received. Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor (income in advance). Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor.

Revenue grants will either be received to be used only for a specific purpose or can be used for general purpose. Those for a specific purpose are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services. Those which are for general purpose are shown within Other Operating (Income) and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Expenditure and Income Statement.

### **1.37. Income from Service Recipients**

Income from service recipients is defined as consideration that a party, which has contracted with the Council, has given in exchange for goods or services that are the output of the Council's normal operating activities. Such a contract may be in writing, orally or in accordance with customary business practices. These may include:

- Charges for service provided by the Council.
- Sale of goods provided by the Council.
- Fees and charges for services under statutory requirements where there is an exchange of assets or services, such as the issuing of a licence or processing of an application.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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In such cases the Council recognises income when it has satisfied the performance obligation by transferring the promised goods or services to the service recipient. The point of transfer is when the service recipient takes control of the goods or benefits from the service.

The Council deems performance obligations to be satisfied over time, rather than at a point in time if any of the following criteria are met:

- The service recipient simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits of a service.
- The Council's performance enhances an asset that the service recipient controls.
- The Council has an enforceable right to payment for performance completed to date and that performance does not create an asset for which it has an alternative use.

Such income is recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services.

### **1.38. Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council an obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits, but where the timing of the transfer is uncertain.

Provisions are charged to the appropriate service revenue account in the year that the Council recognises an obligation, based on the best estimate of the likely settlement. When payments are eventually made, it is charged to the provision. Where payment is not expected for more than 365 days after the balance sheet date, the provision has been discounted using the rate of a high quality corporate bond.

Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year and adjustments with the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are made as required. Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be met by another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the obligation is settled.

The Council does not hold any general provisions.

### **1.39. Revenue Reserves**

The Council holds usable revenue reserves for the purpose of funding future expenditure. The General Reserve represents the balance of reserves to meet short term, unforeseeable expenditure and to enable significant changes in resources or expenditure to be properly managed over the period of the Five Year Financial Plan. Earmarked Reserves represent balances where approval has been received to use the reserve for a specific purpose.

Unusable revenue reserves represent timing differences such as those associated with the recognition of retirement benefits, Council tax income and financial instruments.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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Movement in reserves are accounted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Council publishes a separate Reserves Policy document, which is reviewed by Cabinet at least annually.

### **1.40. Research Costs**

Research costs should be treated as revenue expenditure at the point in which they are incurred and charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### **1.41. Members' Allowances**

The Council in exercise of the powers and duties conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, has established a Members Allowance Scheme, outlining the allowances payable to Members of the Council.

Members are reminded of the need to keep detailed supporting information, such as a diary, about every attendance for which they claim. This information should be available for scrutiny by the Council's Auditors or other relevant persons as and when required. The scheme is updated annually, and full details are available on the Council's website.

The total amount paid in terms of Members Allowances is disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

### **1.42. Council Tax and Business Rates Recognition**

Council Tax and Business Rates income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement includes the Council's share of accrued income recognised by billing authorities in the production of the Collection Fund Statements.

The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Reserve is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

### **1.43. Inventories and Work in Progress**

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Inventory is recorded in terms of average cost, with the exception of fleet parts where the cost is recorded on a first in, first out basis.

Work in progress is subject to an interim valuation at the year-end and recorded in the Balance Sheet at cost plus any profit reasonably attributable to the works.

### **1.44. Loss Allowance for Expected Credit Losses**

The Council maintains a loss allowance for any amounts it is due to receive from its debtors or investments which might become uncollectable.

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## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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Credit risk is assessed based on the expectation of a debtor's or an investment issuer's ability to pay future cash flows due under the contractual terms. This risk is estimated, where possible, based on historical loss experience, the debtor's or investment issuer's credit rating and other impacting factors including forward-looking information.

The loss allowance for an investment is initially measured at an amount equal to the portion of the lifetime credit losses which might be expected from a default event within 12 months of the balance sheet date. If the Council considers that the risk of default on an investment has increased significantly since the investment was initially recognised it will measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to the total lifetime credit losses expected from a default event.

At each Balance Sheet date, the Council makes a two-stage assessment of significant increases in credit risk since initial recognition:

- Firstly, whether there is evidence of a significant increase for an individual debtor or investment that is significant, and
- Secondly, whether there is evidence of a significant increase for groups of similar debtors or investments.

The Council adopts the simplified approach of measuring the loss allowance for debtors at an amount equal to the total lifetime credit losses expected from a default event, from the time a debtor is initially recognised.

No loss allowance is recognised for expected credit losses where the debtor or investment issuer is central government or another local authority for which relevant statutory provisions prevent default.

Loss allowances are offset against the debtor or investment amount shown as an asset. The movement in the allowance is charged to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### **TREASURY MANAGEMENT**

#### **1.45. Definition of Treasury Management Activities**

The Council has adopted the following definition of Treasury Management activities:

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

The Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the Council.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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The Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving best value in treasury management, and to employing suitable performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management.

### 1.46. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in the value.

### 1.47. Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost.

Annual charges to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable plus any interest accrued to 31 March and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year in the loan agreement.

Any premiums or discounts, incurred on the early repayment of loan debt, arising from 1 April 2007 are taken immediately to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of repayment. However, the amount is then credited or debited to the General Reserve and transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement as required by statute.

The regulations allow that the premium or discount is amortised over periods specified in the statutory guidance. In accordance with the guidance the Council has a policy of spreading the premium or discount over the remaining term of the original loan, or a minimum of 10 years in the case of discounts. This amortisation is managed by a transfer from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account to the General Reserve via the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Where a loan has been restructured, by a modification to the terms of the existing loan or by an exchange of debt instruments with the existing lender, and the terms are substantially different, the original financial liability is extinguished and a new financial liability is recognised. The difference between the carrying amount of the new and extinguished liability and any consideration transferred is recognised in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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Where the terms of a loan debt exchange or the modification to the terms of an existing loan are not substantial, the carrying amount of the liability is adjusted to the value of the remaining cash flows required by the new terms, including any premiums or discounts paid/received, discounted to present value at the original loan's effective interest rate. Any gain or loss on modification is credited and debited to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

A modification of terms is deemed to be substantially different if the present value of the cash flows under the new terms, including any premiums or discounts paid/received, is at least 10% different from the present value of the cash flows under the old terms. In both cases the present value is calculated by reference to original loan's effective interest rate.

### 1.48. Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into three types according to the Council's business model for managing those assets and the characteristics of the cash flows of the asset:

- 1) **Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost** – assets where it is the Council's intention to hold the asset to collect the contractual cash flows and those cash flows consist solely of payments of principal and interest which arise on specified dates

Loans and receivables are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the Council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable plus any interest accrued to 31 March and interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement. However, the Council could make loans to organisations at less than market rates (soft loans).

When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Interest is credited at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Reserves is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net gain required against the General Reserves is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited/debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Investments are represented on the balance sheet depending on their remaining life at the Balance Sheet date:

- Investments entered into for 90 days or less - debited to the cash balance as cash equivalents and represented within the cash flow statement.
- Investments entered into for more than 90, with less than 365 days until maturity – debited to current asset investments
- Investments due to expire in more than 365 days – debited to non-current asset investments

**2) Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income** – assets where it is the Council’s intention to hold the asset both to sell the asset and to collect the contractual cash flows and those cash flows consist solely of payments of principal and interest which arise on specified dates, or assets which are equity instruments which it is the Council’s intention to hold for more than 12 months and which the Council has irrevocably elected to present changes to their fair value in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

These assets are initially measured and carried at fair value. Where the asset has determinable payments of dividends or interest, these are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Interest receivable is based on the amortised cost of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. Dividends are recognised when the Council’s right to receive the payment has been established and the amount can be measured reliably.

Values are based on the following principles:

- instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis

Changes in fair value are balanced by an entry in the Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve and the gain/loss is recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure and the Movement in Reserves Statement. Impairment of these assets, due to expected credit losses, is charged to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and credited to a loss allowance account which reduces the carrying value of the financial asset. Any gains and losses that arise on de-recognition of the asset are credited/debited to Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any accumulated gains/losses. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, the instrument is carried at cost (less any impairment losses).

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## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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**3) Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss** – assets which are neither measured at amortised cost nor where changes to fair value are presented in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

These assets are initially measured and carried at fair value. Where the asset has determinable payments of dividends or interest, these are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Interest receivable is based on the amortised cost of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. Dividends are recognised when the Council's right to receive the payment has been established and the amount can be measured reliably.

Values are based on the following principles:

- instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis

Changes in fair value are balanced by an entry in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

### **1.49. Interests in Companies and Other Entities**

Where the Council has material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, it is required to prepare group accounts. The Council does not currently have any such material interests that require group accounts to be prepared. In the Council's own single-entity accounts, the interests in companies and other entities are recorded as investments, i.e. at cost, less any provision for losses.

**Independent auditor's report to the members of Derbyshire County Council****Report on the audit of the financial statements****Disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements**

We were appointed to audit the financial statements of Derbyshire County Council ("the Council") for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, and the Movement in Reserves Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25.

We do not express an opinion on the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

**Basis for disclaimer of opinion**

On 30 September 2024, the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 ('The Amendment Regulations') came into force. The Amendment Regulations specify the date by which the Council is required to publish its Accountability Statements, which include the financial statements and the auditor's opinion, for each financial year. The Council is required to publish its Accountability Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, by 27 February 2026 ('the 2026 backstop date').

On 28 February 2025 a disclaimer of opinion was issued in relation to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The disclaimer of opinion was issued as there was insufficient time to perform all necessary audit procedures in relation to the valuation of buildings that had been valued based on depreciated replacement cost (DRC). Consequently, we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence upon which to form an opinion before the backstop date specified in the Amendment Regulations.

The Amendment Regulations required the Council to publish its draft financial statements for the year-ended 31 March 2025 by 30 June 2025. The Council did not comply with this requirement as its draft financial statements were not published until 5 November 2025. The delay in publishing the financial statements resulted in a significant reduction in the time that was available to complete our planned audit procedures.

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## **AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

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Within the time available it has not been possible to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence upon which to form an opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 before the 2026 backstop date.

We were unable to complete planned procedures in relation to the matter that led to the disclaimer in the previous year as the prior period adjustment included in the financial statements which corrects material errors relating to the valuation of buildings in the previous year has not been prepared in accordance with relevant accounting standards. This matter would have led to a modification to our audit report had we not disclaimed our opinion.

### **Responsibilities of the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Section 151 Officer is also responsible for such internal control as the Section 151 Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Section 151 Officer is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Section 151 Officer is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Council to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

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

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Council's financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and to issue an auditor's report. However, because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements. In reaching this judgement we have complied with the requirements of the Code of Audit Practice and have had regard to the Local Audit Reset and Recovery Implementation Guidance published by the National Audit Office and endorsed by the Financial Reporting Council.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

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We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

### **Report on the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources**

#### **Matter on which we are required to report by exception**

We are required to report to you if, in our opinion, we are not satisfied that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2025.

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2024, we have identified the following significant weaknesses in the Council's arrangements for the year ended 31 March 2025:

<b>Significant weakness in arrangements</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<p><b>Financial Sustainability</b></p> <p>The Government's statutory override for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficits, originally due to expire in March 2026, has been extended for a further two years to March 2028. The Council had a cumulative DSG deficit of £44.737m at 31 March 2025, forecast to rise to £83.874m by March 2026. On expiry of the override, the Council will need to incorporate the cumulative deficit in its useable reserves. Local authorities with DSG deficits are required to have a management plan, respond to Department for Education (DfE) information requests, and keep the</p>	<p>The Council should develop a clear management plan to fund the DSG deficit, as required by the Department for Education. The plan should set out specific actions to reduce the deficit and include a structured process for monitoring and evaluating progress.</p>

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**AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

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<p>Schools Forum informed. Whilst the Council has an ongoing dialogue with the DfE and the Schools Forum, it had not developed a formal management plan as at 31 March 2025. This in our view is evidence of a significant weakness in arrangements for financial sustainability.</p>	
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In February 2025 we identified significant weaknesses in relation to financial sustainability, and governance for the 2023/2024 year. In our view these significant weaknesses remained for the year ended 31 March 2025:

<b>Significant weakness in arrangements – issued in a previous year</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<p><b>Financial Sustainability</b></p> <p>The Council has relied on reserves to support its financial position in 2023/24 and fell significantly short on its aggregated target savings for 2023/24. In our view the level of unachieved savings, and the significant planned and unplanned use of reserves to fund the resulting budget gap is evidence of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for financial sustainability.</p> <p>In addition, the 2023/24 service plans were finalised after the budget had been approved. We believe the lack of connection between financial and operational plans is further evidence of a significant weakness in the Council's arrangements for financial sustainability.</p>	<p>The Council should develop sustainable, deliverable financial plans to ensure services can be provided within available resources.</p>

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

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<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p>The Head of Internal Audit's report for 2023/24 gave a limited opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's framework of governance, risk management, and control because of a high proportion of audits in year that gave limited assurance opinions, and the lack of clear evidence that previous audit recommendations raised had been fully implemented. In our view the Head of Internal Audit opinion, and the reasons underpinning it, is evidence of a significant weakness in the Council's governance arrangements.</p>	<p>The Council should appropriately respond to recommendations made by internal audit, take actions to address those recommendations, and implement robust monitoring processes to track progress made against internal audit recommendations.</p>
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### **Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer**

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources**

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, and to report where we have not been able to satisfy ourselves that it has done so. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2024.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice**

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

We are also required by the Code of Audit Practice, to give an opinion on whether other information published together with the audited financial statements, is consistent with the financial statements. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section we do not express an opinion on the financial statements. We also do not express an opinion on whether other information published together with the audited financial statements is consistent with the financial statements.

### **Use of the audit report**

This report is made solely to the members of Derbyshire County Council as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

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### Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until we have:

- received confirmation from the NAO that the group audit of the Whole of Government Account has been completed and that no further work is required to be completed by us
- completed our work on an objection raised in relation to the Council's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. As a result we have not yet issued our certificate for the year ended 31 March 2024.



Daniel Watson (Feb 24, 2026 16:00:58 GMT)

Daniel Watson, Key Audit Partner  
For and on behalf of Forvis Mazars LLP

One St Peter's Square  
Manchester  
M2 3DE

24 February 2026

# **Statement of Accounts Derbyshire Pension Fund 2024-25**

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD**

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Derbyshire County Council administers the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for employees, pensioners and dependents of a variety of bodies in Derbyshire, including Councils; Police and Fire Authorities (for civilian employees); the University of Derby, Colleges and Academies (non-teaching staff); Charities and some private companies providing services to local councils.

Derbyshire Pension Fund (the Pension Fund/Fund) has over 370 participating employers and over 110,000 membership records, relating to almost 97,000 members, either active contributors, pensioners or deferred pensioners who have stopped paying into the scheme but are not yet receiving a pension.

The benefits payable to members within the Fund are determined by regulations and are guaranteed. Assets in the Fund meet members' benefit payments when they fall due and are accumulated through a combination of contributions from employees and employers within the Fund and from investment returns (both income and capital). The profile of the Pension Fund is gradually maturing, benefit payments exceeded contribution payments during 2024-25, however, the Fund continues to be cashflow positive including investment income.

In February 2025, the Fund again achieved signatory status to the Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code 2020, which sets high standards for those investing on behalf of savers and pensioners by promoting transparency and accountability.

At the end of March 2025, the value of the Fund's investments assets had risen to just under £6.7bn, returning 3.7% over the year. The Fund underperformed its benchmark on a relative basis over 1 and 3 years but was broadly in line with the benchmark over 5 years and continued to outperform the benchmark over 10 years.

Equity markets continued to deliver positive returns in 2024-25 following very strong equity performance in 2023-24. The US Federal Reserve's first cut in interest rates since March 2020 was delivered in September 2024, following a sustained fall in the rate of inflation. In the UK, the Bank of England cut interest rates in November 2024, also for the first time in over four years, noting a continued reduction in the rate of inflation.

Markets were supported by the long awaited start to interest rate easing and by initial optimism around expected tax cuts and easier regulatory policies in the US, following the presidential election. However, in the final quarter of 2024-25, US equities were impacted by concerns about the potential impact of US trade policies on US growth and inflation and by concerns about the sustainability of US technology companies' earnings. Stronger performance from UK and Developed European equities restricted the downside impact on equities as an asset class, with the FTSE All World Index returning 5.5% in Sterling terms for the year. Returns from government bonds were disappointing, impacted by a slower than expected pace of interest rate cuts, with UK sovereign bonds registering negative returns for 2024-25.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD

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The Fund has continued to work closely with its partners in the LGPS Central Pool, overseeing the continued development of LGPS Central Limited (LGPSC/the Company), the Company established to manage investments on behalf of the LGPS Central Pool. An advisory agreement was finalised with LGPSC in December 2024, giving the Company oversight of the Fund's LGIM arrangements and stewardship of the Fund's LGIM assets. This increased the percentage of Fund assets under the management of LGPSC to over 50% of the Fund's total investment assets. Further Fund assets are expected to be transitioned to the management of LGPSC during 2025-26, in line with the Government's 'Fit for the Future' proposals, which were announced in November 2024.

The implementation of the McCloud remedy has continued to be a significant administrative undertaking for the Fund. Out of an estimated 28,000 in-scope cases, almost 23,000 cases have now been investigated, resulting in 64 members to date qualifying for a guaranteed amount of additional pension.

Registrations on My Pension Online (MPO), the Fund's member self-service system, and employer onboarding to i-Connect, continued to progress, with over 40% of the Pension Fund's combined active and deferred members registered on MPO and employers representing around 96% of the Fund's membership using i-Connect, the automated data submission and validation system, by the end of the year.

A separate Annual Report is produced for the Fund which, in addition to the Fund's accounts, includes the governance arrangements for the Fund, detailed performance information and the Fund's approved policy statements. The Annual Report is available on Derbyshire Pension Fund's website:

<https://www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk/publications/annual-report/annual-report.aspx>

### Membership Statistics

The Fund has over 111,000 membership records, relating to almost 97,000 members, either active contributors, pensioners, or deferred pensioners:

	Actuals		
	31 Mar 2023	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
Contributors	38,025	37,503	37,455
Pensioners and Dependants	34,751	36,178	37,883
Deferred Pensioners	34,866	35,797	36,003

### Employers' Contributions

Employers pay pension contributions into the Fund. The contribution rates payable by the County, Unitary and District Councils expressed as a percentage of pensionable payroll and fixed cash amounts are:

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD

Council	2024-25	2025-26
Derbyshire County Council	20.8% plus £0.582m	20.8% plus £0.582m
Derby City Council	20.3% plus £0.883m	20.3% plus £0.883m
Amber Valley Borough Council	21.1% plus £0.566m	21.1% plus £0.501m
Bolsover District Council	20.8% plus £0.262m	20.8% plus £0.262m
Chesterfield Borough Council	20.4% plus £0.726m	20.4% plus £0.726m
Derbyshire Dales District Council	20.5% plus £0.192m	20.5% plus £0.192m
Erewash Borough Council	20.7% plus £0.502m	20.7% plus £0.502m
High Peak Borough Council	20.9% plus £1.147m	20.9% plus £1.068m
North East Derbyshire District Council	20.6% plus £0.901m	20.6% plus £0.901m
South Derbyshire District Council	20.3% plus £0.174m	20.3% plus £0.174m

The percentage rates that were determined by the Actuary in the valuation of the Fund at 31 March 2022, for 2023-24 to 2025-26, are intended to cover the cost of future service of active Fund members, with the past service deficit being addressed by an annual fixed cash amount.

### Members' Contributions

For 2024-25 the contribution rates payable by members into the Fund are determined by The Local Government Pension Scheme 2013 Regulations. The rates are between 5.5% and 12.5% of members' pay, including non-contractual overtime, depending on their pay banding. There is no change to these rates for 2025-26.

### Investment Policy

During 2024-25, responsibility for policy matters rested with a Pensions and Investments Committee, which was comprised of eight County Councillors, two Derby City Councillors and one non-voting Trade Union representative. The Pensions and Investments Committee received advice from the Council's Section 151 Officer and from one independent external adviser.

Day-to-day management of the Fund is delegated to the Council's Section 151 Officer and their in-house staff, operating within a policy framework laid down by the Committee.

Policy is determined by reference to The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016, which require that advice is taken at regular intervals and place an onus on administering authorities to determine the balance of their investments and take account of risk.

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD

The Fund has a central (strategic) benchmark asset allocation which is designed to meet the performance requirements for the level of risk agreed by the Pensions and Investments Committee. The Fund's benchmark asset allocation was changed on 1 April 2024, following changes to the Fund's Investment Strategy Statement approved in March 2024. The changes to the asset allocation benchmark included a 5% switch from Growth Assets to Income Assets, together with some of the Fund's regional equity allocations being switched into Global Sustainable Equities. Given the size of the changes between the former and new asset allocation benchmark, the transition is split into two phases, through an intermediate asset allocation benchmark, which came into effect on 1 April 2024, and a final asset allocation benchmark, which was expected to come into effect on 1 April 2025, but was subsequently extended to 31 July 2025 because of heightened market volatility in March and April 2025 as market sentiment deteriorated on fears that potential US tariffs could usher in a period of stagflation.

The Pensions and Investments Committee has a degree of flexibility around the central benchmark allocation and decides the specific allocations (weights) for each asset class at its quarterly meetings. In the table below, the column showing the benchmark return is what would have been achieved via neutrally weighted index returns, whereas the actual Fund returns are a function of both active asset allocation and active stock selection decisions.

### Investment Returns

The table below shows the Fund's returns over 1, 3, 5 and 10 years to 31 March 2025, compared to those of its strategic benchmark, as well as the impact of inflation on Fund returns.

Periods to 31 Mar 2025	Return		Inflation	Derbyshire Pension Fund Real Return
	Derbyshire Pension Fund	Benchmark	CPI	Versus CPI Inflation
	% pa	% pa	%	%
1 Year	3.7	4.4	2.6	1.1
3 Years	3.2	3.5	5.3	(2.1)
5 Years	7.4	7.5	4.7	2.7
10 Years	6.1	5.9	3.2	2.9

On a year-by-year basis, returns tend to fluctuate significantly according to economic and market conditions. Long-term returns are a more appropriate guide to the performance of the Fund.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD**

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The Fund out-performed the benchmark on a ten-year basis and was broadly in line with benchmark on a five-year basis. The Fund underperformed the benchmark by 30 basis points per annum on a three-year basis and under-performed the benchmark by around 70 basis points in 2024-25, albeit it should be noted that the Fund still returned +3.7% over 2024-25. It is important to note that the Fund has delivered real returns over the long-term, with returns ahead of inflation on a five and ten-year basis. Global inflation increased significantly in 2022-23, with UK inflation peaking at 11.1% in October 2022, reflecting rising energy costs and tight global supply chains following the Covid-19 pandemic, together with the ongoing impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In response to rising inflation, the major central banks increased interest rates to slow down economic activity and reduce inflation. In the UK, the Bank of England raised interest rates from a record low of 0.10% in March 2020 to 5.25%, a sixteen year high, by March 2024. UK inflation gradually fell in 2023-24 and 2024-25, falling to 2.6% by March 2025. As inflation fell, the Bank of England reduced interest rates, with the Base Rate falling to 4.50% by March 2025.

Equity markets reported positive gains in 2024-25, with the FTSE All World reporting a total return of 5.5% in Sterling terms. Falling inflation, together with rate reductions by the major central banks, created a supportive backdrop for equity investors, albeit markets were weaker in the final quarter of 2024-25 (the FTSE All World returned -4.0% in Sterling terms) as market sentiment deteriorated on fears that US President's potential tariffs could usher in a period of stagflation. Shares in artificial intelligence (AI)- related companies also fell in the final quarter of 2024-25, following significant positive performance over several years, following news that a Chinese AI producer could potentially produce similar results but for a fraction of the cost.

By asset class, equity returns to Sterling investors in 2024-25 ranged from -3.4% in Japan to 10.5% in the UK. The FTSE All World returned 5.5% in Sterling terms, rising to 7.8% in US dollar terms, as Sterling strengthened relative to the US dollar. Government bond returns were poor in 2024-25. UK Gilts returned -1.2% and UK Index-Linked bonds returned -8.0%. UK Investment Grade Bonds returned 2.3%. Property returns were also positive at 6.3% in 2024-25, up from -1.0% in 2023-24, as the UK commercial property investment market recovered from the downturn of 2023.

### **Actuarial Position of the Fund**

Every three years an actuarial valuation of the Fund is undertaken, in accordance with the provisions of The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. The purpose of the valuation is to review the funding strategy and ensure that the Fund has a contribution plan and investment strategy in place that will enable it to pay members' benefits as they fall due. A valuation of the Fund was most recently undertaken as at 31 March 2022 and set the level of contributions payable by each participating employer for the three years commencing 1 April 2023.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD**

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At 31 March 2022, the Net Assets of the Fund were £6.132bn and the Past Service Liabilities were £6.131bn. The Fund had a small surplus of £1m at that date. The Fund's Funding Strategy Statement is available on the Council's website at:

<https://www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk/publications/policies-strategies-and-statements/funding-strategy.aspx>

The funding level is the Fund's ratio of assets to liabilities at the valuation date. The funding level at the 2022 valuation was 100%, which was an improvement on the funding level at the 2019 valuation of 97%. This means that the Fund's assets were sufficient to meet 100% of its liabilities (the present value of promised retirement benefits) accrued up to that date. For the purposes of reporting a funding level, an investment return of 3.8% was assumed.

A market-related approach was taken to valuing the Fund liabilities, for consistency with the valuation of the Fund assets at their market value. The liabilities were assessed using an accrued benefits method which takes into account pensionable membership up to the valuation date; and makes an allowance for expected future salary growth to retirement or expected earlier date of leaving pensionable membership. An allowance was also included at this valuation for the expected benefit change related to the McCloud remedy.

A number of factors, both positive and negative, impacted on the overall funding level in the 2022 valuation, with an overall improvement in funding of £0.164bn over the three years to 31 March 2022, an improvement of £0.304bn compared to the expected position.

The actual investment return on the Fund's assets for the period 31 March 2019 to 31 March 2022 was better than expected, increasing the market value of the Fund's assets, and improving the funding position, by £1.212bn, £0.655bn more than expected. The accrual of new benefits reduced the funding position by £0.575bn to 31 March 2022, albeit this reduction was £0.071bn lower than expected.

Other membership experience in the period since the last valuation increased the value of the Fund's liabilities and reduced the funding position by £0.172bn. Changes in future expectations further reduced the actual funding position at 31 March 2022 by £0.252bn, with an improvement in investment returns and other demographic assumptions being more than offset by changes in inflation, salary increases and longevity assumptions, used to calculate the present value of the Fund's liabilities.

Assumptions used in the March 2022 actuarial valuation:

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD

	<b>Assumption</b>
Benefit Increases (Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation)	2.70%
Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) Revaluation (CPI Inflation)	2.70%
CPI Inflation	2.70%
Future Investment Return*/Discount Rate	3.80%
Life Expectancy for Current Pensioners - Women Age 65	24.3 years
Life Expectancy for Future Pensioners - Women Age 45	25.8 years
Life Expectancy for Current Pensioners - Men Age 65	21.3 years
Life Expectancy for Future Pensioners - Men Age 45	22.2 years
Salary Increases**	3.70%

\* 77% likelihood that the Fund's assets will return at least 3.8% over the 20 years following the 2022 actuarial valuation date. This is the same methodology used for the 2019 actuarial valuation.

\*\* Plus a promotional salary scale.

The employer contribution rates required have been determined using a “risk based” approach. The level of contribution rate to give an appropriate likelihood of meeting an employer's funding target, within the agreed timeframe, is determined for each employer. The full rate of an employer's contribution provides for the cost of year-by-year accrual of benefits in respect of current Fund members and the amount required to meet any shortfall in respect of the assets required for pensions in payment (including those payable to survivors of former members) and benefits accrued by other members, which will become payable in the future (known as a past service deficiency).

Since 31 March 2022, markets have generally been positive. Markets were affected in 2022 by the ongoing war in Ukraine and by inflationary pressures in 2022 and 2023, impacting on investment returns achieved by the Fund's assets. High levels of inflation in the UK (compared to recent experience) resulted in higher-than-expected LGPS benefit increases of 10.1% in April 2023 and 6.7% in April 2024. However, asset performance has generally improved since the end of 2023 and inflation has begun to return towards historical levels and the Bank of England's target (2% p.a.), with an LGPS benefits increase of 1.7% in April 2025. There has been a significant shift in the wider economic environment since 2022, resulting in generally higher than expected future investment returns and a reduction in the value placed on the Fund's liabilities. Overall, the funding position is likely to be stronger than at the previous formal valuation at 31 March 2022.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS EXPLANATORY FOREWORD**

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As an open scheme, with a strong covenant, the Fund takes a long-term view when considering the funding impact of economic and political events. For employers who have a very short time horizon, recent volatility may be more immediately impactful, and the Fund has engaged with these employers as appropriate. No explicit allowance has been made for this volatility in the valuation results or contribution rates detailed in the Rates & Adjustments Certificate. The Fund will continue to monitor changes in the financial and demographic environment as part of its ongoing risk management approach. The next actuarial valuation will be carried out as at 31 March 2025. The Funding Strategy Statement will also be reviewed at that time.

### **Further Information**

Derbyshire Pension Fund's Investment Strategy Statement, Funding Strategy Statement, Actuarial Valuation Report, Governance Policy and Compliance Statement, Communications Policy and Annual Report are available on the Derbyshire Pension Fund's website at <http://www.derbyshirepensionfund.org.uk> .

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**FUND ACCOUNT**

**FUND ACCOUNT**

2023-24 £m		Note	2024-25 £m
	<b>Dealings with Members, Employers and Others Directly Involved in the Fund</b>		
226.807	Contributions	6,21	234.619
12.463	Transfers in from Other Pension Funds		17.202
<b>239.270</b>			<b>251.821</b>
(224.351)	Benefits	7,21	(247.345)
(27.493)	Payments to and on Account of Leavers	8	(24.284)
<b>(251.844)</b>			<b>(271.629)</b>
<b>(12.574)</b>	<b>Net (Withdrawals) from Dealings with Members, Employers and Others Directly Involved in the Fund</b>		<b>(19.808)</b>
(33.299)	Management Expenses	9	(35.946)
<b>(45.873)</b>	<b>Net (Withdrawals) Including Fund Management Expenses</b>		<b>(55.754)</b>
	<b>Return on Investments</b>		
91.047	Investment Income	10	96.980
2.101	Taxes on Income	11	0.001
486.227	Profits and (Losses) on Disposal of Investments and Changes in Value of Investments	12	186.324
<b>579.375</b>	<b>Return on Investments</b>		<b>283.305</b>
<b>533.502</b>	<b>Net Increase in the Net Assets Available for Benefits During the Year</b>		<b>227.551</b>
5,930.668	Opening Net Assets of the Fund		6,464.170
<b>6,464.170</b>	<b>Closing Net Assets of the Fund</b>		<b>6,691.721</b>

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NET ASSETS STATEMENT**

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**NET ASSETS STATEMENT**

31 Mar 2024 £m		Note	31 Mar 2025 £m
6,448.033	Investment Assets	12-13	6,670.480
(1.199)	Investment Liabilities	12-13	(0.930)
32.481	Current Assets	15	32.340
(15.145)	Current Liabilities	16	(10.169)
<b>6,464.170</b>	<b>Net Assets of the Scheme Available to Fund Benefits at the Period End</b>		<b>6,691.721</b>

The accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and deal with the net assets at the disposal of the Pensions and Investments Committee. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the Fund year. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed in Note 20 of these accounts.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

### **NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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Derbyshire Pension Fund (“the Fund”) is administered by Derbyshire County Council and is governed by Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and associated pension legislation. The Fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended).
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended).
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

The Fund is a funded defined benefit scheme, administered locally by the Council on behalf of its own employees (except teachers, former NHS employees and new employees working in Public Health, for whom separate pension arrangements apply), Unitary and District Council employees within Derbyshire and employees of other bodies who are specifically authorised by the Regulations. On 1 April 2014, the Fund, which had previously been a final salary scheme, became a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme.

#### **1. Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, on the assumption that the functions of the authority will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024-25 (“the Code”), which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), which require the Fund’s accounts to comply with IAS 26 Accounting and Reporting by Retirement Benefit Plans, subject to the interpretations and adaptations for the Public Sector detailed in the Code.

The accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and deal with the net assets at the disposal of the Pensions and Investments Committee. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the Fund year. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed in Note 20 of these accounts.

The amount of separately invested Additional Voluntary Contributions (“AVCs”) paid by members during the year and their value at the net assets statement date are not included in the Pension Fund financial statements in accordance with Regulation 4 (1)(b) of The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016. Members’ AVCs are disclosed in Note 14 of these accounts.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

### **NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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#### **2. Accounting policies**

##### **Contributions**

Employee contributions are accounted for when deducted from members' pay. Employers' normal contributions are accounted for in the period to which the corresponding pay relates. Other employers' contributions, such as deficit funding contributions, are accounted for in accordance with the agreement under which they are paid, or in the absence of an agreement, on a cash basis.

##### **Benefits**

Benefits and payments to leavers are accounted for in the period they fall due for payment. Where a member has a choice about the form of their benefit, the benefit is accounted for and the liability is recognised when the member notifies the Council of their decision as to what form of benefit they will take. Where a member has no choice about the form of benefit, the benefit is accounted for in the period of leaving/retirement/death, being the period in which the liability to pay the benefit arises.

##### **Transfers**

Where past service liabilities do not transfer between schemes until assets/liabilities have been transferred, transfers are accounted for on a cash basis. Where it has been agreed that past service liabilities will be accepted in advance of the transfer of funds, the transfer is accounted for in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

##### **Management expenses**

Management expenses are accounted for on an accruals basis. They are analysed in accordance with CIPFA Guidance "Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Costs (2016)".

##### **Investment income**

Dividends from quoted securities are accounted for when the securities are quoted ex-dividend. Rent is accounted for in accordance with the terms of the lease. Any lease incentives granted are recognised as an integral part of the total rental income, over the term of the lease. Interest on cash and bonds is accrued on a daily basis. Distributions from pooled investment vehicles are recognised at the date of issue. Where the Fund holds accumulation units in pooled investment vehicles, no dividend or distribution is receivable by the Fund. All dividends and distributions are reinvested in the pooled investment vehicle and reflected in the unit price. Changes in the unit price are included in the change in market value of investments. Any investment income due but not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the net assets statements as an investment asset.

##### **Taxes on income**

The Fund is a registered public service scheme under Section 1(1) of Schedule 36 of The Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable taxation is accounted for as a Fund expense as it arises.

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

### **NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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#### **Foreign currency transactions**

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies are accounted for at the market exchange rate at the date of transaction. End of year market exchange rates are used to value overseas assets at the end of the accounting period.

Exchange gains and losses relating to the translation of investments are accounted for as part of change in market value included in the Fund Account.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash comprises cash in hand and on-demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

#### **Basis of valuation**

Financial assets and liabilities are included in the net assets statement on a fair value basis or at amortised cost as at the reporting date. A financial asset or liability is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the Fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset or liability. From this date any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the asset or liability are recognised in the fund account.

The values of investments as shown in the net assets statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS13 (Note 13). The basis of valuation of each class of financial investment asset and liability is set out in Note 13.

#### **Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits**

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the Fund actuary in accordance with the requirements of IAS19 and relevant actuarial standards, with an actuarial annual roll forward of the value carried out. As permitted under the Code, the Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits in Note 20 of these accounts.

### **3. Accounting Standards issued and not yet applied**

At the balance sheet date, the following interpretations, new standards and amendments to existing standards have been published but not yet adopted by the Code:

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## **PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

### **NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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- Changes to the measurement of non-investment assets within the 2025-26 Code include adaptations and interpretations of IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets. These include setting out three revaluation processes for operational property, plant and equipment, requiring indexation for tangible non-investment assets and a requirement to value intangible assets using the historical cost approach. These have the same effect as requiring a change in accounting policy due to an amendment to standards, which would normally be disclosed under IAS 8. However, the adaptations also include a relief from the requirements of IAS 8 following a change in accounting policy.

The Fund does not currently have any Property, Plant and Equipment or Intangible Assets. The Fund has therefore concluded that inclusion of these adaptations and interpretations in the 2025-26 Code will not have an impact on the Fund's 2025-26 accounts.

- IAS 21 The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rate (Lack of Exchangeability) issued in August 2023. The amendments to IAS 21 clarify how an entity should assess whether a currency is exchangeable and how it should determine a spot exchange rate when exchangeability is lacking, as well as require the disclosure of information that enables users of financial statements to understand the impact of a currency not being exchangeable.
- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts issued in May 2017. IFRS 17 replaces IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts and sets out principles for recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts.

The Fund has concluded that these amendments have a limited application and will not impact on the Fund's accounts in the year in which they are adopted.

#### **4. Critical judgements made in applying the accounting policies**

In applying the accounting policies in Note 2, it has not been necessary to make any critical judgements.

#### **5. Assumptions made and other estimation uncertainty**

##### **Valuation of investment assets**

###### **Basis of valuation**

The Fund's basis of valuation for each class of financial investment is set out in greater detail in Note 13 to these accounts, and there have been no changes to the valuation techniques used in the year. A significant proportion of the Fund's financial investments relate to Level 1 assets, where there is a readily available daily bid market price and Level 2 assets, where the fair value can be determined based on other market data or market prices, and cash deposits.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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The remainder of the Fund's financial investments relate to Level 3 assets, including equity index tracking funds, unquoted private equity, infrastructure, private debt investments and indirect property assets. These assets are valued using the most recently reported net assets statement for that investment, adjusted for drawdowns and distributions to the final day of the accounting period, if the net assets statement is not produced to that date.

Level 3 assets also include the Fund's direct property portfolio, which is independently valued by the Fund's external property valuer, Savills, at market value on the final day of the accounting period, determined in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Valuation Standards.

The value of the Fund's Level 3 assets at 31 March 2025 was £1,882.195m, accounting for 28.2% of total investment assets. The estimated impact of price risk in respect of Level 3 assets is  $\pm 6.0\%$ , equating to £112.932m at 31 March 2025. Potential price changes are determined based on the observed historical volatility of asset class returns, for example, 'riskier' assets such as equities display greater volatility than bonds. Note 13 provides further details, including a breakdown of the Level 3 assets, the nature of the assumptions that give rise to uncertainty, and a sensitivity analysis in respect of values at 31 March 2025.

The global economy continues to show growth, albeit this differs by country, and growth is muted in many developed nations. Inflation has fallen from its peak in 2023, allowing central banks to start reducing base rates, but with core inflation remaining persistent, the level of rate reductions has generally been lower than market expectations throughout 2024-25. Financial markets remain volatile, with market sentiment closely linked to expectations around the timing of future interest rate reductions, together with the ongoing geopolitical uncertainties and tensions. This includes the potential impact of US tariffs on global trade, which is having an impact on market sentiment.

#### 6. Contributions

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Employers</b>		
Normal	168.017	176.141
Deficit Funding	7.852	5.995
<b>Members</b>		
Normal	50.938	52.483
	<b>226.807</b>	<b>234.619</b>

Employers' contributions rates payable in 2023-24 and 2024-25 were set as part of the 2022 valuation which revealed an overall funding level of 100%.

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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An analysis of contributions by participating employer type is disclosed in Note 21 of these accounts.

**7. Benefits**

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Pensions	175.977	193.726
Commutation of pensions and lump sum retirement benefits	42.843	46.960
Lump sum death benefits	5.531	6.659
	<b>224.351</b>	<b>247.345</b>

An analysis of benefits by participating employer type is disclosed in Note 21 of these accounts.

**8. Payments to and on account of leavers**

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Refund of contributions to members leaving the Fund	0.784	0.696
Group transfers out to other pension funds	3.907	0
Individual transfers out to other pension funds	22.802	23.588
	<b>27.493</b>	<b>24.284</b>

**9. Management expenses**

Management expenses are analysed in accordance with CIPFA Guidance "Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Costs (2016)".

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Investment management expenses	28.331	30.917
Administrative costs	3.129	3.100
Oversight and governance costs	1.839	1.929
	<b>33.299</b>	<b>35.946</b>

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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Oversight and governance costs include external audit fees of £0.129m (2023-24: £0.120m), which are comprised of a scale fee of £0.121m for the 2024-25 audit (2023-24: £0.109m) and additional audit fees of £0.008m estimated in respect of 2023-24 work. For 2023-24 the statutory audit fee did not include fees chargeable to the Fund for pension assurance work undertaken at the request of employer auditors, which the Fund recharges to the respective employers. Fees payable for this work in in 2023-24 were estimated to be £0.022m. For 2024-25 the scale fee does include these fees relating to employer auditors.

#### 10. Investment income

	2023-24	2024-25
	£m	£m
Income from equities	10.301	10.356
Income from bonds	12.155	13.962
Net rents from properties	16.312	16.277
Income from pooled investment vehicles	45.566	46.526
Interest on cash deposits	6.713	9.859
	<b>91.047</b>	<b>96.980</b>

The increase in interest on cash deposits reflects a higher average cash balance in 2024-25 relative to 2023-24, with the average Bank of England Base Rate being broadly comparable over the two years.

Rents from properties are net of £1.238m of property expense (2023-24, net of £0.350m of property expense), which includes a £0.057m credit loss allowance expense adjustment for property rent debtors at the year-end (2023-24, £0.247m credit loss allowance income adjustment). The income or expense each year is the net of property management expenses recovered by service charges to tenants and irrecoverable property management expenses, for instance, rates on vacant properties, adjusted for the movement in credit loss allowance.

#### 11. Taxes on income

	2023-24	2024-25
	£m	£m
Taxation payable	<b>(2.101)</b>	<b>(0.001)</b>

From 6 April 2016 there are no notional tax charges for UK dividends. Taxes on income relate to withholding taxes in respect of overseas investment income, which are recoverable by the Fund.

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

**12. Investment assets and liabilities**

	Value at 31 Mar 2024	Purchases & hedging payments	Sales & hedging receipts	Profits & losses on disposal of investments & changes in value of investments	Value at 31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Investment assets</b>					
Equities	236.500	0.562	(7.769)	(6.502)	222.791
Bonds	669.164	0	(39.185)	(35.913)	594.066
Pooled investment vehicles	5,036.668	779.696	(763.210)	209.929	5,263.083
Properties	321.300	39.345	0	7.130	367.775
Currency hedging contracts	0.009	1,541.750	(1,552.835)	11.680	0.604
	<b>6,263.641</b>	<b>2,361.353</b>	<b>(2,362.999)</b>	<b>186.324</b>	<b>6,448.319</b>
Cash deposits & short term loans	147.077			0	197.909
Other investment balances	37.315			0	24.252
	<b>6,448.033</b>			<b>186.324</b>	<b>6,670.480</b>
<b>Investment liabilities</b>					
Other investment balances	(1.199)			0	(0.930)
	<b>(1.199)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>(0.930)</b>
	<b>6,446.834</b>			<b>186.324</b>	<b>6,669.550</b>

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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The total of profits and losses on disposal of investments and changes in value of investment assets and investment liabilities has increased the Fund's value by £186.324m during 2024-25 (2023-24, £486.227m increase). This total includes all increases and decreases in the market value of investments held at any time during the year and profits and losses realised on sales of investments during the year. All net gains and losses on financial instruments relate to financial assets held at fair value through profit and loss. In 2024-25, net gains on financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value are £179.194m (2023-24, £497.306m net gains). This differs to the total of profits and losses on disposal of investments and changes in value of investment assets and investment liabilities in the table as direct property investments are excluded from the total because they are not financial instruments.

At 31 March 2025 the Fund's investments accounting for more than 5% of the total value of the Fund's net assets available to fund benefits were:

- LGIM MSCI World Low Carbon Target Index Fund £907.932m, representing 13.6% (2024, £907.812m, 14.0%).
- LGIM UK Equity Index Fund £724.404m, representing 10.8% (2024, £703.210m, 10.9%).
- LGPS Central All World Equity Climate Multi Factor Fund £468.828m, representing 7.0% (2024, £373.231m, 5.8%).
- LGPS Central Global Active Corporate Bond Fund A (Acc) £420.659m, representing 6.3% (2024, £365.851m, 5.7%).

Additionally, there was one investment which did not meet the 5% threshold at 31 March 2025 but is included due to its significance at 31 March 2024, when it exceeded the reporting threshold:

- RBC Global Equity Focus Fund £256.438m, representing 3.8% (2024, £433.653m, 6.7%).

The 2023-24 position was:

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

	Value at 31 Mar 2023	Purchases & hedging payments	Sales & hedging receipts	Profits & losses on disposal of investments & changes in value of investments	Value at 31 Mar 2024
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Investment assets</b>					
Equities	297.381	2.438	(69.874)	6.555	236.500
Bonds	574.839	168.428	(49.574)	(24.529)	669.164
Pooled investment vehicles	4,595.156	332.438	(393.720)	502.794	5,036.668
Properties	331.275	1.104	0	(11.079)	321.300
Currency hedging contracts	0.988	1,432.880	(1,446.345)	12.486	0.009
	<b>5,799.639</b>	<b>1,937.288</b>	<b>(1,959.513)</b>	<b>486.227</b>	<b>6,263.641</b>
Cash deposits & short term loans	93.917			0	147.077
Other investment balances	5.953			0	37.315
	<b>5,899.509</b>			<b>486.227</b>	<b>6,448.033</b>
<b>Investment liabilities</b>					
Other investment balances	(1.519)			0	(1.199)
	<b>(1.519)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>(1.199)</b>
	<b>5,897.990</b>			<b>486.227</b>	<b>6,446.834</b>

Currency hedging receipts and payments represent the transactions settled during the year on currency hedging contracts relating to sovereign fixed income holdings and the Fund's Infrastructure, Multi-Asset Credit and Indirect Property investments. The Fund's objective is to decrease risk in the portfolio, by entering into forward contracts to match a proportion of assets that are already held in the portfolio without disturbing the underlying assets.

At the year end, there were two currency hedging contracts, with less than six months to expiry, with a gross contract value of £403.444m (2024, two contracts, with less than six months to expiry, with a gross contract value of £383.516m).

Pooled investment vehicles are further analysed below:

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
<b>Pooled Investment Vehicles</b>		
Equities	3,261.249	3,023.214
Bonds	883.161	1,269.702
Property	124.709	101.619
Private Equity	216.143	237.565
Infrastructure	551.406	630.983
	<b>5,036.668</b>	<b>5,263.083</b>

The proportion of the market value of net investment assets managed in-house (including the selection of pooled products) and by each external manager at the year-end is set out below.

	31 Mar 2024		31 Mar 2025	
	£m	%	£m	%
In-house	3,089.190	47.9	2,868.227	43.0
Colliers Capital Holdings Ltd	323.065	5.0	371.308	5.6
Legal and General Investment Management	1,905.869	29.6	2,097.881	31.4
LGPS Central Ltd	1,128.710	17.5	1,332.134	20.0
	<b>6,446.834</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,669.550</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 13. Basis of valuation

The basis of valuation of each class of financial investment asset and liability is set out below. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year. All investment assets and liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss to the Fund Account have been valued using fair value techniques as follows:

- Market quoted investments, where there is a readily available market price, are valued at the bid market price on the final day of the accounting period.
- Quoted bonds are valued at net market value excluding accrued income.
- Pooled investment vehicles are included at closing bid price for funds with bid/offer spreads, or if single priced, at the closing price. For unquoted pooled investment vehicles this is at the price advised by the fund manager.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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- Level 3 investments are valued at fair value; at the price, net asset value or the Fund's share of net assets at the year-end using the latest financial information available from the respective fund managers, adjusted for drawdowns and distributions to the final day of the accounting period, if the latest financial information is not produced to that date.
- Fair value for investment property is calculated using the investment method of valuation, the premise of which is that all current and future income streams are capitalised at a rate or rates compared against yields achieved in market investment transactions and adjusted for individual characteristics of the subject property, based on valuer's opinions, wholly derived from observable prices achieved in market transactions.
- Forward foreign exchange contracts are valued by determining the gain or loss that would arise from closing out the contract at the reporting date by entering into an equal and opposite contract on that date.

Property, which is a non-financial asset, is included at market value on the final day of the accounting period, 31 March 2025, determined in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Valuation Standards. The property portfolio was independently valued by Savills, Property Advisers.

Financial investment assets and liabilities valued using fair value techniques have been classified into the three levels of what is known as a fair value hierarchy. The hierarchy is ordered according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine recurring fair values, with Level 1 being of the highest quality and reliability.

- Level 1 – Assets and liabilities assigned to Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy are those derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. The Fund's investments classified as Level 1 are quoted UK and Overseas Equities and quoted UK and Overseas Bonds issued by governments.
- Level 2 – Assets and liabilities assigned to Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy are those where quoted market prices are not available, for example where the financial asset is traded in a market that is not considered to be active or valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data. The Fund's investments classified as Level 2 are quoted Pooled Investment Vehicles, Currency Hedging Contracts and unquoted LGPSC Bonds and Equity Pooled Investment Vehicles.
- Level 3 – Assets and liabilities assigned to Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy are those where at least one input which could have a significant effect on an instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. The Fund's investments classified as Level 3 are unquoted Pooled Investment Vehicles and Properties (non-financial assets).

The Fund's fair value hierarchy of investment financial assets and financial liabilities held at fair value through profit or loss, additionally including investment financial assets held at amortised cost, to reconcile to total financial assets and financial liabilities, is as follows:

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
<b>Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss</b>		
<b>Level 1</b>		
UK quoted equities	232.937	221.476
Overseas quoted equities	2.247	0
UK quoted bonds	570.584	511.103
Overseas quoted bonds	97.895	82.278
	<b>903.663</b>	<b>814.857</b>
<b>Level 2</b>		
Property - quoted pooled investment vehicles	15.720	14.030
Other quoted pooled investment vehicles	1,772.044	3,734.633
UK unquoted equities*	1.315	1.315
UK unquoted bonds	0.685	0.685
Currency hedging contracts	0.009	0.604
	<b>1,789.773</b>	<b>3,751.267</b>
<b>Level 3</b>		
Property – unquoted pooled investment vehicles	108.989	87.589
Other unquoted pooled investment vehicles	3,139.916	1,426.831
UK freehold properties (non-financial instruments)	270.450	317.075
UK leasehold properties (non-financial instruments)	50.850	50.700
	<b>3,570.205</b>	<b>1,882.195</b>
<b>Financial Assets at Amortised Cost</b>		
Sterling cash deposits	27.077	17.909
Money market funds	120.000	180.000
Other investment balances	37.315	24.252
	<b>184.392</b>	<b>222.161</b>
<b>Other Assets - Current Assets</b>	<b>32.481</b>	<b>32.340</b>
<b>Financial Assets</b>	<b>6,480.514</b>	<b>6,702.820</b>

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
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	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
<b>Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost</b>		
Other investment balances	(1.199)	(0.930)
	<b>(1.199)</b>	<b>(0.930)</b>
<b>Other Liabilities - Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(15.145)</b>	<b>(10.169)</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>(16.344)</b>	<b>(11.099)</b>
	<b>6,464.170</b>	<b>6,691.721</b>

\*The Fund had £1.315m invested in share capital and £0.685m in a loan to LGPSC at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £1.315m and £0.685m, respectively). The fair value of this share capital investment in LGPSC is deemed to approximate to the cost.

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
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Additional information in respect of the fair value measurement is provided below.

<b>Description of asset</b>	<b>Valuation hierarchy</b>	<b>Basis of valuation</b>	<b>Observable and unobservable inputs</b>	<b>Key sensitivities affecting the valuation</b>
UK quoted equities	Level 1	Bid market price	Not required	Not required
Overseas quoted equities	Level 1	Bid market price	Not required	Not required
UK quoted bonds	Level 1	Net market value excluding accrued income	Not required	Not required
Overseas quoted bonds	Level 1	Net market value excluding accrued income	Not required	Not required
Property quoted pooled investment vehicles	Level 2	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published, or closing single price where not	Net Asset Value (NAV) - based pricing	Not required
Other quoted pooled investment vehicles	Level 2	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published, or closing single price where not	Evaluated price feeds	Not required
UK unquoted equities	Level 2	Fair value based on price or net asset value advised by the fund manager	Evaluated price feeds	Not required
UK unquoted bonds	Level 2	Fair value based on price or net asset value advised by the fund manager	Evaluated price feeds	Not required
Currency hedging contracts	Level 2	Published exchange prices at the year-end date	Exchange rate risk	Not required

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
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Property unquoted pooled investment vehicles	Level 3	Investment method whereby all current and future income streams are capitalised at the rate or rates compared against yields achieved in market investment transactions and adjusted for individual characteristics of the subject property, based on valuer's opinion, wholly derived from observable prices achieved in market transactions	Net Asset Value (NAV) - based principal	Valuations could be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the year-end date, by changes to expected cash flows, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts
Other unquoted pooled investment vehicles (private equity; infrastructure; private debt)	Level 3	At the price or net asset value advised by the manager using the latest financial information available from the respective manager, adjusted for drawdowns and distributions to the final date of the accounting period, if the latest financial information is not produced to that date	Private Equity & Infrastructure: EBITDA; Revenue & EBITDA multiple; Discount for lack of marketability; Control premium; Discounted cash flows Private Debt: Comparable valuation of similar assets; Revenue & EBITDA; Discounted cash flows; Asset security; Enterprise value estimation	Valuations could be impacted by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the year-end date, by changes to expected cash flows, and any differences between the audited and unaudited accounts
UK freehold and leasehold properties (non-financial instruments)	Level 3	Determined in accordance with the RICS Valuation Standards	Existing lease term rentals; Independent market research; Covenant strength for existing tenants; Actual and assumed vacancy levels; Estimated rental growth; Discount rate	Significant changes in rental growth, vacancy levels or the discount rate could affect valuations as could more general changes in market prices

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

Below is a reconciliation of the movement in fair value measurements within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy from the start to the end of 2024-25:

	Value at 31 Mar 2024	Transfers to Level 2	Purchases	Sales	Unrealised gains/ (losses)	Realised gains/ (losses)	Value at 31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Financial Assets</b>							
<b>Level 3</b>							
<b>Pooled investment vehicles</b>							
Property – unquoted	108.989	0	4.890	(15.630)	(19.875)	9.215	87.589
Other unquoted	3,139.916	(1,906.072)	271.117	(115.583)	36.800	0.653	1,426.831
<b>Properties</b>							
UK freehold (non-financial instruments)	270.450	0	39.235	0	7.390	0	317.075
UK leasehold (non-financial instruments)	50.850	0	0.110	0	(0.260)	0	50.700
	<b>3,570.205</b>	<b>(1,906.072)</b>	<b>315.352</b>	<b>(131.213)</b>	<b>24.055</b>	<b>9.868</b>	<b>1,882.195</b>

Unrealised and realised gains and losses are recognised in the profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in value of investments line of the fund account.

The 2023-24 position was:

	Value at 31 Mar 2023	Transfers to Level 2	Purchases	Sales	Unrealised gains/ (losses)	Realised gains/ (losses)	Value at 31 Mar 2024
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Financial Assets</b>							
<b>Level 3</b>							
<b>Pooled investment vehicles</b>							
Property – unquoted	121.436	0	1.366	(8.660)	(6.930)	1.777	108.989
Other unquoted	2,941.247	(19.408)	160.026	(269.037)	293.629	33.459	3,139.916
<b>Properties</b>							
UK freehold (non-financial instruments)	279.275	0	1.104	0	(9.929)	0	270.450
UK leasehold (non-financial instruments)	52.000	0	0	0	(1.150)	0	50.850
	<b>3,393.958</b>	<b>(19.408)</b>	<b>162.496</b>	<b>(277.697)</b>	<b>275.620</b>	<b>35.236</b>	<b>3,570.205</b>

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

The impact of current global economic conditions on investment values is considered in Note 5. Having analysed historical data and current market levels, the Fund has determined that the Level 3 values at 31 March 2025 above are likely to be accurate to within the ranges set out in the sensitivity analysis below:

	Value at 31 Mar 2025 £m	Assessed valuation range %	Value on increase £m	Value on decrease £m
<b>Level 3 sensitivity</b>				
Direct property (non-financial instruments)	367.775	10.0	404.553	330.998
Diversified multi-asset credit funds	378.361	5.0	397.279	359.443
Indirect property	87.589	15.0	100.727	74.451
Infrastructure	630.983	12.5	709.856	552.110
Private debt	179.921	10.0	197.913	161.929
Private equity	237.566	15.0	273.201	201.931
	<b>1,882.195</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>1,995.127</b>	<b>1,769.263</b>

The position at 31 March 2024 was:

	Value at 31 Mar 2024 £m	Assessed valuation range %	Value on increase £m	Value on decrease £m
<b>Level 3 sensitivity</b>				
Direct property (non-financial instruments)	321.300	10.0	353.430	289.170
Diversified multi-asset credit funds	259.452	5.0	272.425	246.479
Equity index tracking funds	1,906.072	2.0	1,944.193	1,867.951
Indirect property	108.989	15.0	125.337	92.641
Infrastructure	551.407	12.5	620.333	482.481
Private debt	206.841	10.0	227.525	186.157
Private equity	216.144	15.0	248.566	183.722
	<b>3,570.205</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>3,784.417</b>	<b>3,355.993</b>

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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#### 14. Additional Voluntary Contributions

In accordance with Regulation 4(1)(b) of The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016, the Accounts do not include employees' Additional Voluntary Contributions ("AVCs"). Members may make AVCs which are invested separately from the Fund's assets. These investments are specifically allocated to the provision of additional benefits for those members. These are money purchase arrangements where the member uses the invested amount to provide an additional lump sum or to purchase an annuity or buy additional benefits in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The amount of AVC contributions paid by members during 2024-25 was £5.124m (2023-24: £4.045m).

The total value of funds provided by separately invested AVC contributions at 31 March 2025 was £20.068m (31 March 2024: £17.473m).

#### 15. Current assets

	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
Employers' contributions due	12.543	11.985
Employees' contributions due	3.352	3.062
Amounts owed by Derbyshire County Council	0	3.748
Sundry debtors	1.592	1.260
Cash balance	14.994	12.285
	<b>32.481</b>	<b>32.340</b>

Employers' and employees' contributions due at 31 March 2025 have been received since the year-end.

Sundry debtors at 31 March 2025 includes £0.326m of rent and service charges owed to the Fund in respect of 2024-25 (31 March 2024: £0.260m in respect of 2023-24). Whilst the Fund's discretionary direct property manager is actively managing the collection of this rent, inflationary pressures and challenging economic conditions have had a significant impact on the trading and cash flows of some of the Fund's tenants. As a result, the Fund has provided a credit loss allowance of £0.106m against these rents (2023-24: £0.049m).

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
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**16. Current liabilities**

	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
Unpaid benefits	2.905	1.742
Sundry creditors	8.685	8.427
Amounts owed to Derbyshire County Council	3.555	0
	<b>15.145</b>	<b>10.169</b>

**17. Related party transactions**

**Derbyshire County Council**

The Council is the administering authority for the purposes of the Fund under The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013.

Included in management expenses in 2024-25 are charges from the Council of £3.350m (2023-24: £3.360m), for expenses incurred in respect of oversight and governance of the Fund, for Fund administration and for the management of the Fund's in-house investments. At 31 March 2025, the Council owed the Fund £3.748m (31 March 2024: the Fund owed the Council £3.555m).

It has not been possible to apportion, on a reasonable basis, the costs and benefits of key management personnel between the Council and the Fund. However, Members' Allowances and Officers' Remuneration are disclosed in Notes 32 and 33 of the Council's Statement of Accounts.

**LGPS Central Limited**

LGPS Central Limited (LGPSC) has been established to manage investment assets on behalf of eight LGPS funds across the Midlands. It is jointly owned in equal shares by the eight administering authorities participating in the LGPSC Pool. The Fund is one of the shareholders.

The Council's Section 151 Officer, or their nominee, represents the Council on the LGPS Central Shareholders' Forum, with delegated authority to make decisions on any matters which require a decision by the shareholders of LGPS Central Limited. All decisions made by the Section 151 Officer or their nominee, using delegated powers, are reported to the Pensions and Investments Committee.

The Fund had £1.315m invested in share capital and £0.685m in a loan to LGPSC at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £1.315m and £0.685m, respectively) and was owed interest of £0.065m on the loan to LGPSC on the same date (2023-24: £0.065m).

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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The Fund incurred costs of £0.219m associated with LGPSC Investment Management and Monitoring Costs in respect of an Active Global Sustainable Equity Broad Strategy sub-fund, an Active Global Sustainable Equity Targeted Strategy sub-fund, an Active Emerging Markets Equities Multi Manager sub-fund, an index-tracking All World Equity Climate Multi Factor sub-fund, an Active Global Investment Grade Corporate Bond sub-fund, two Private Credit Funds, a Private Equity Primary Fund, a Core/Core+ Infrastructure Fund and a UK Residential Housing Fund in 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.200m), of which £0.070m was payable to LGPSC at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.036m). The charge excludes fees paid to the underlying investment managers of £4.203m in 2024-25 (2023-24: £1.903m), with the increase between 2023-24 and 2024-25 reflecting an increase in the level of investment assets managed through LGPSC products.

The Fund incurred £1.221m of Governance, Operator Running and Product Development costs in connection with LGPSC in 2024-25 (2023-24: £1.211m), of which £0.275m was payable to LGPSC at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.329m).

The Fund incurred Partner Fund Support Office costs of £0.025m in 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.029m). These costs were incurred by West Midlands Pension Fund (one of the LGPS pension funds comprising the LGPSC Pool) and were recharged to the Fund, of which £0.006m was payable to West Midlands Pension Fund at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024: £0.018m).

LGPSC leased office space from the Council. The lease commenced on 14 June 2018 and was for a duration of five years, with a break clause at 30 June 2021. In 2023-24, LGPSC notified the Council that it was not renewing the lease on expiry in June 2023. No rental income was received by the Council from LGPSC in 2024-25 (2023-24: £0.003m). There was no amount due at either 31 March 2024 or 31 March 2025.

From 29 March 2023, an amended guarantee was put in place to enable LGPSC to recognise an offsetting asset to the IAS19 liability on its balance sheet. The new agreement extends the definition of 'Outstanding Liabilities' to include the total IAS 19 defined benefit obligation. As the IAS 19 figure was previously used as a proxy to estimate the possible cost of cessation, this does not change the amount estimated under the guarantee. LGPSC is responsible for employer and employee contributions and pays these when due. At 31 March 2025, there was a total LGPSC surplus reported by its Actuary of £1.728m (31 March 2024: £0.047m surplus). Accounting Standard IAS19 imposes a limit on the net surplus which can be recognised in the Balance Sheet, known as an asset ceiling restriction. The limit depends on factors unique to each employer and the LGPSC Actuary has reflected this by carrying out additional calculations. At 31 March 2025, the LGPSC Actuary calculated a total asset ceiling restriction of £2.157m (31 March 2024: £nil) and there was a total net LGPSC IAS 19 pension liability of £0.429m (31 March 2024: £0.047m LGPSC IAS 19 pension asset) Derbyshire Pension Fund's share of this LGPSC IAS19 net pension liability at 31 March 2025 was £0.054m (31 March 2024: pension asset £0.006m). The partners are jointly and severally liable.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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#### Members of the Pensions and Investments Committee

At 31 March 2025 (and 31 March 2024) there was one non-voting Union Representative on the Fund's Pensions and Investments Committee who was an active member of the Fund. In addition, at 31 March 2025 (and 31 March 2024) there was one full Member on the Committee who was a deferred member of the Fund.

At 31 March 2025 (and 31 March 2024), one full Member on the Committee was also a director of one of the employers of the Fund, Derby Homes Ltd, whose employer contribution rates are determined by the Actuary in the valuation of the Fund.

At 31 March 2025 (and 31 March 2024), there were the following related parties where there were no transactions which are considered material to either party:  
The Derbyshire Environmental Trust and G S Musson & Associates Limited.

#### 18. Investment commitments

At the end of the financial year, investment commitments in respect of future payments were:

	31 Mar 2024	31 Mar 2025
	£m	£m
Unquoted investments	424.928	544.209

Unquoted investments commitments are commitments to invest in Multi-Asset Credit, Private Equity, Infrastructure and Indirect Property investments, not yet drawn down by the managers.

#### 19. Financial instruments

Many requirements of the financial instruments standards (IAS 39, IAS 32, IFRS 7 and IFRS 9), which govern the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial instruments, are not applicable to the Fund's accounts, since all material financial instruments are carried in the net assets statement at fair value.

#### Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments

Certain financial risks are a necessary and appropriate component of the investment strategy of the Fund in order for it to achieve the targeted long-term rate of return assumed by the Fund Actuary. This rate of return is used in drawing up the Funding Strategy Statement and setting employer contribution rates.

The overall financial risk for the Fund is that its assets could be insufficient to meet its liabilities to pay benefits. At the financial instrument level, the Fund's key risks are:

- **Credit risk** – the risk of the Fund suffering loss due to another party defaulting on its financial obligations.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that funds might not be available to meet commitments because the Fund’s assets are not readily marketable or easily turned into cash.
  
- **Market risk** – the risk that the Fund’s financial instruments may suffer an adverse change in value, which is common to an entire class of assets or liabilities.

Responsibility for Fund investments has been delegated to the Council’s Pensions and Investments Committee (the Committee). Day to day responsibility for the management of the Fund is delegated to the Director of Finance; the investments are managed by a combination of internal and external investment managers and investment advice is provided by an independent investment advisor. The Fund’s overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets and are structured to implement suitable controls to minimise these risks.

As required by the Fund’s Investment Strategy Statement, the Fund is invested in accordance with the Strategic Asset Allocation guidelines, to maximise returns within appropriate levels of risk, taking into account the Fund’s liabilities and projected cashflows.

These Strategic Asset Allocation guidelines were approved by the Pensions and Investments Committee.

Economic background, market returns, asset allocation, investment activity, investment strategy and investment performance are monitored and reviewed by the Committee on a quarterly basis.

#### **Credit risk**

The Fund is primarily exposed to credit risk through its daily treasury management activities and through its forward currency contracts, which address the currency risk on the Fund’s overseas bonds, infrastructure and property investments. Credit risk on cash deposits and short-term loans arises from deposits with banks, financial institutions and UK government and local authorities. Credit risk on forward currency contracts arises from contracts with large banks.

There is also a credit risk in respect of income due at the year end from the Fund’s direct property tenants. As at 31 March 2025, the Fund was owed rent and service charges totalling £0.326m (31 March 2024, the Fund was owed rent and service charges totalling £0.260m). Whilst the Fund’s discretionary direct property manager is actively managing the collection of this rent, inflationary pressures and challenging economic conditions have had a significant impact on the trading and cash flows of some of the Fund’s tenants. The Fund has provided a credit loss allowance of £0.106m (31 March 2024, £0.049m) against these rents and service charges in Note 15, Current Assets, calculated based on a tier risk rating system, using information provided by both the in-house investment management team and the discretionary direct property manager.

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
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	<b>Rental and Service Charge Income Debt £m</b>	<b>General Loss Allowance £m</b>	<b>Total Loss Allowance 31 Mar 2025 £m</b>
<b>Property Rental and Service Charge Income</b>	<b>0.326</b>	<b>0.106</b>	<b>0.106</b>

A reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of the potential credit losses on the Fund's financial assets for the year ended 31 March 2025 is provided as follows:

	<b>Value at 31 Mar 2024 £m</b>	<b>Change in average default risk rate £m</b>	<b>Value at 31 Mar 2025 £m</b>
<b>Credit Loss Allowance</b>	<b>0.049</b>	<b>0.057</b>	<b>0.106</b>

**Treasury activities** – The Fund places security of capital and liquidity ahead of investment return. Credit risk on treasury activities is minimised through the Fund's annual Treasury Management Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services and are approved counterparties on this basis. Investments with local authorities, the Government's Debt Management Office, UK Treasury Bills and Certificates of Deposit are also permissible. The Fund has agreed maximum loan durations and joint limits for each counterparty.

The limits for financial institutions are based on the above credit assessment and are approved each year. The financial institutions' credit ratings and supplementary information are monitored throughout the year to ensure compliance with the policy.

The Fund's Treasury Management Strategy for 2024-25 was approved by the Pensions and Investments Committee on 6 March 2024.

The Fund's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its treasury/cash deposit investments and operating cash in banks, building societies, money market funds and UK local authorities of £210.194m (2024, £162.071m) cannot be assessed generally, as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare, generally, for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments; the approach to risk assessment taken by the Fund makes this remote.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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A risk of non-recovery applies to all of the Fund's deposits, but there was no evidence at 31 March 2025 that this was likely to occur. No breaches of the Fund's counterparty criteria occurred during the reporting period. At 31 March 2025, the Fund had £12.285m (2024, £14.994m) in its operational account with Lloyds Bank.

**Forward currency contracts** – Credit risk from forward currency contracts is minimised by limiting the extent of these contracts to managing the US Dollar and Euro currency risk on sovereign fixed income holdings and the Fund's Infrastructure, Multi-Asset Credit and Indirect Property investment assets, the value of which comprise 6.0% (2024, 5.9%) of investment assets at the year end, and by selecting large banks as the counterparties. The two forward currency contracts at the year-end are with Bank of New York Mellon.

The maximum credit risk exposure on forward currency contracts is the full amount of the foreign currency which the Fund pays when settlement occurs, should the counterparty fail to pay the amount which it has committed to pay the Fund. At the year end, there were two currency hedging contracts, with less than six months to expiry, with a gross contract value of £403.444m (2024, two contracts, with less than six months to expiry, with a gross contract value of £383.516m). The Fund does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to these contracts. The investment asset in Note 12 associated with these forward currency contracts, which is the difference between the Sterling value the Fund has contracted to receive on expiry of the contracts and is what would theoretically have been receivable based on the exchange rate at the year end, is £0.604m (31 March 2024, £0.009m investment asset).

**Other financial assets** – Bonds mainly include investments in UK and US Government securities and certain corporate bond funds. The Fund does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to these financial assets.

Market prices generally incorporate credit assessments into valuations and risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the financial assets as they are marked to market. The market value of financial assets represents the Fund's exposure to credit risk in relation to those assets.

The selection of high-quality counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk that may occur during settlement of transactions.

#### **Liquidity risk**

The Fund continues to be cash flow positive, with combined contributions and investment income exceeding benefit payments. There is, therefore, no present requirement to realise assets in order to meet liabilities to pay benefits, as these are more than covered by contributions and investment income, and there is net cash available for investment. The Fund does, however, sell investments from time to time as part of normal investment management activities.

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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The majority of the Fund's investments are readily marketable and may be easily realised, if required. Emphasis is placed on treasury deposits of up to six months' duration to ensure that longer term investment strategy is not compromised by lack of liquidity. Listed equities may also be liquidated at short notice, normally two working days. Holdings of investments which may be less easy to realise are limited. In 2023-24, Pensions and Investments Committee guidelines limited investments in Property to 12%, Multi Asset Credit to 8%, Infrastructure to 13% and Private Equity to 6%. On 1 April 2024, these limits were increased as follows: Property to 12.5%, Multi Asset Credit to 8.5% (increased to 9.5% in December 2024), Infrastructure to 14.5% and Private Equity to 8.0%. It should be noted that on 1 July 2025, the limits will be increased as follows: Property to 13.0%, Multi Asset Credit to, Infrastructure to 16.0%. The limit in respect of Private Equity will remain unchanged at 8.0%.

Sufficient funds are retained on instant access accounts to ensure that payment of benefits and the settlement of investment transactions can be made without the need to borrow.

The Fund manages its liquidity position using a comprehensive cash flow management system, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice.

Maturity analysis for liabilities at the year-end:

- There were no financial liabilities within the portfolio at the year-end other than those that arose from the trading of investments. Such liabilities fall due within 12 months of the year end (2024, nil).
- There were no derivative financial liabilities held at the year-end in respect of the currency hedging contracts referred to above (2024, nil).

#### **Market risk**

The Fund is exposed to market risk because it is inherent in the investments the Fund makes. It can result from changes in such measures as interest and exchange rates and changes in prices due to factors other than these. This risk cannot be eliminated but it can be reduced. The sensitivity analysis for each of these risks are in the subsequent sections below.

The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposure to within acceptable parameters, whilst optimising the return on risk. Excessive volatility in market risk is managed through diversification. Risk reduction arises from the different investments not being perfectly correlated.

The Fund has applied diversification at various levels; that is, diversification between countries, asset classes, sectors and individual securities. Diversification reduces both the upside and downside potential and allows for more consistent performance under a wide range of economic conditions.

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

Risk of exposure to specific markets is limited by adhering to defined ranges within the asset allocation guidelines, which are monitored and reviewed by the Committee on a quarterly basis.

**Interest rate risk** – This risk primarily impacts on the valuation of the Fund’s bond holdings, in particular the Fund’s sovereign bond, non-Government investment grade bonds and diversified multi-asset credit portfolios. Interest rate sensitivity can be estimated by multiplying an assumed change in the prevailing market interest rate by the portfolio benchmark duration. The table below shows the estimated impact of a  $\pm 100$  basis points ( $\pm 100$  bps) in the prevailing market interest rate for these assets.

	Value at 31 Mar 2025	Benchmark duration	Change in prevailing market	Effect -100bps	Effect +100bps
	£m	Years	interest rate	£m	£m
<b>Asset type</b>					
Conventional gilts	418.778	7.84	$\pm 100$ bps	32.832	(32.832)
Index-linked bonds	411.248	14.17	$\pm 100$ bps	58.274	(58.274)
Non-Government investment grade bonds	420.659	6.52	$\pm 100$ bps	27.427	(27.427)
Short dated investment grade bonds	54.115	2.73	$\pm 100$ bps	1.477	(1.477)
Diversified multi-asset credit funds	378.361	1.42	$\pm 100$ bps	5.354	(5.354)
<b>Total change in asset values</b>	<b>1,683.161</b>			<b>125.364</b>	<b>(125.364)</b>

The position at 31 March 2024 was:

	Value at 31 Mar 2024	Benchmark duration	Change in prevailing market	Effect -100bps	Effect +100bps
	£m	Years	interest rate	£m	£m
<b>Asset type</b>					
Conventional gilts	324.879	8.53	$\pm 100$ bps	27.712	(27.712)
Index-linked bonds	343.600	15.47	$\pm 100$ bps	53.155	(53.155)
Non-Government investment grade bonds	365.851	7.15	$\pm 100$ bps	26.158	(26.158)
Short dated investment grade bonds	51.016	2.77	$\pm 100$ bps	1.413	(1.413)
Diversified multi-asset credit funds	259.452	1.09	$\pm 100$ bps	2.815	(2.815)
<b>Total change in asset values</b>	<b>1,344.798</b>			<b>111.253</b>	<b>(111.253)</b>

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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A 100 basis points increase in the prevailing market interest rate would reduce the aggregate value of the identified assets by an estimated £125.364m (2024, £111.253m), whereas a 100 basis points reduction in the prevailing market interest rate would increase the aggregate value of the identified assets by a comparable amount. It should also be noted that both non-Government investment grade bonds and diversified multi-asset credit funds are also sensitive to changes in the interest rate spread, which is the interest rate received relative to sovereign bonds, which can either increase (reducing asset values) or reduce (increasing asset values).

The duration in respect of the Fund's private debt assets, together with cash, is not significant.

The Fund has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. Interest rates and the durations of the bond portfolios are monitored during the year, by the Fund's in-house and external managers. Within the annual Treasury Management Strategy, maximum limits are set for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. During periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long-term returns, subject to liquidity requirements.

**Other price risk** – Other price risk originates from factors specific to the individual instrument or to its issuer, or from factors affecting all instruments in the market.

The Fund manages price risk by holding fixed interest bonds, index-linked stocks and property and by holding a diversified equity portfolio spread geographically, across market sectors and across investments. Contracts specify the level of risk to be taken by the external Fund managers investing in overseas equities. These external managers are monitored by in-house managers.

A Fund specific benchmark has been drawn up, which is designed to meet the Fund's performance requirements for the level of risk agreed by the Committee. Economic background, asset allocation, recent transactions, investment strategy and performance are monitored by the Committee on a quarterly basis.

The impact of current global economic conditions on investment values is considered in Note 5.

The table below quantifies the level of price risk that the Fund's investment assets and liabilities at 31 March 2025 are potentially exposed to. Potential price changes are determined based on the observed historical volatility of asset class returns, for example, 'riskier' assets such as equities display greater potential volatility than bonds. The potential volatilities are consistent with a one standard deviation movement in the change in value of the assets over the last three years. The volatility shown for total investment assets and liabilities in both tables below incorporates the impact of correlation across asset classes, which dampens volatility, therefore the value on increase/decrease figures of the asset classes will not sum to the total assets figure.

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

	Value at 31 Mar 2025		Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£m	Change %	£m	£m
<b>Underlying asset type</b>				
Government bonds - Short Term	150.493	2.0	153.503	147.483
Government bonds - Medium Term	161.678	5.5	170.570	152.786
Government bonds - Long Term	107.210	6.6	114.286	100.134
Government index-linked bonds - Short Term	77.143	4.1	80.306	73.980
Government index-linked bonds - Medium Term	87.877	6.7	93.765	81.989
Government index-linked bonds - Long Term	246.229	7.8	265.435	227.023
Corporate bonds	475.459	6.5	506.364	444.554
UK equities	775.160	16.3	901.511	648.809
Overseas equities	2,105.595	18.6	2,497.236	1,713.954
Emerging market equities	165.722	24.3	205.992	125.452
Private equities	349.554	26.6	442.535	256.573
Infrastructure	718.523	14.5	822.709	614.337
Multi asset credit	558.282	6.3	593.454	523.110
Cash	197.909	0.3	198.503	197.315
Other investment balances	23.322	0.0	23.322	23.322
Properties (non-financial instruments)	469.394	15.2	540.742	398.046
<b>Total investment assets and liabilities</b>	<b>6,669.550</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>7,376.522</b>	<b>5,962.578</b>

The position at 31 March 2024 was:

**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

	Value at 31 Mar 2024 £m	Change on increase on decrease %	Value on increase £m	Value on decrease £m
<b>Underlying asset type</b>				
Government bonds - Short Term	115.992	2.0	118.312	113.672
Government bonds - Medium Term	125.265	5.8	132.530	118.000
Government bonds - Long Term	83.632	7.2	89.654	77.610
Government index-linked bonds - Short Term	58.868	4.1	61.282	56.454
Government index-linked bonds - Medium Term	102.028	7.1	109.272	94.784
Government index-linked bonds - Long Term	182.704	8.4	198.051	167.357
Corporate bonds	417.552	7.0	446.781	388.323
UK equities	758.042	16.0	879.329	636.755
Overseas equities	2,238.274	16.7	2,612.066	1,864.482
Emerging market equities	291.175	23.0	358.145	224.205
Private equities	325.456	31.2	426.998	223.914
Infrastructure	652.350	13.6	741.070	563.630
Multi asset credit	466.294	7.1	499.401	433.187
Cash	147.077	0.3	147.518	146.636
Other investment balances	36.116	0.0	36.116	36.116
Properties (non-financial instruments)	446.009	15.6	515.586	376.432
<b>Total investment assets and liabilities</b>	<b>6,446.834</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>7,123.752</b>	<b>5,769.916</b>

**Currency risk** – The Fund is exposed to currency risk through its unhedged overseas currency denominated investment assets. Except for overseas sovereign bonds, infrastructure, multi-asset credit and indirect property investments, the Fund’s exposure to overseas currency risk is not hedged. If Sterling weakens, this currency exposure will make a positive contribution to the Fund’s performance in Sterling terms.

## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

The table below quantifies the level of currency risk that the Fund's overseas currency denominated investment assets at 31 March 2025 are potentially exposed to. For the categories of assets where there are investments denominated in overseas currencies, the potential aggregate currency exposure within the Fund at 31 March 2025 is determined using a currency "basket" based on that asset category's currency mix at that date. The weight of each currency multiplied by the change in its exchange rate relative to Sterling is summed to create the aggregate currency change of the basket. As currency risk on the hedged assets is managed using forward currency contracts, the currency risk on these assets is nil, and this is shown as 0.0% below. The outcomes are then applied to all overseas currency denominated assets.

	Value at 31 Mar 2025 £m	Change %	Value on increase £m	Value on decrease £m
<b>Underlying asset type</b>				
Overseas index-linked bonds	77.759	0.0	77.759	77.759
Overseas bonds	4.519	0.0	4.519	4.519
Overseas equities	2,105.595	9.1	2,297.204	1,913.986
Overseas private equities	119.121	8.4	129.127	109.115
Overseas infrastructure	447.045	0.0	447.045	447.045
Overseas multi asset credit	50.272	0.0	50.272	50.272
Overseas properties (funds)	43.904	0.0	43.904	43.904
<b>Overseas investment assets</b>	<b>2,848.215</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>3,049.830</b>	<b>2,646.600</b>

The position at 31 March 2024 was:

	Value at 31 Mar 2024 £m	Change %	Value on increase £m	Value on decrease £m
<b>Underlying asset type</b>				
Overseas index-linked bonds	76.913	0.0	76.913	76.913
Overseas bonds	20.983	0.0	20.983	20.983
Overseas equities	2,238.274	9.3	2,446.433	2,030.115
Overseas private equities	109.471	8.8	119.104	99.838
Overseas infrastructure	226.419	0.0	226.419	226.419
Overseas multi asset credit	69.743	0.0	69.743	69.743
Overseas properties (funds)	45.043	0.0	45.043	45.043
<b>Overseas investment assets</b>	<b>2,786.846</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>3,004.639</b>	<b>2,569.053</b>

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## PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

### NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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#### 20. Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

Below is an extract from the Report of the Actuary, showing the actuarial present value of the Fund's promised retirement benefits, required by the Code. If an actuarial valuation has not been prepared at the date of the financial statements, IAS 26 requires the most recent valuation to be used as a base and the date of the valuation disclosed. The valuation is carried out using assumptions in line with IAS 19 and not the Fund's funding assumptions.

*"The promised retirement benefits at 31 March 2025 have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2022. The approximation involved in the roll forward model means that the split of benefits between the three classes of member may not be reliable. However, I am satisfied that the total figure is a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of benefit promises.*

*The figures below include both vested and non-vested benefits, although the latter is assumed to have a negligible value. Further, I have not made any allowance for unfunded benefits.*

	<b>31 Mar 2024</b>	<b>31 Mar 2025</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Active members	2,508.000	2,240.000
Deferred members	992.000	827.000
Pensioners	2,384.000	2,081.000
<b>Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits</b>	<b>5,884.000</b>	<b>5,148.000</b>

*It should be noted the above figures are appropriate for the Administering Authority only for the preparation of the Pension Fund accounts. They should not be used for any other purpose (i.e. comparing against liability measures on a funding basis or a cessation basis).*

#### **Assumptions**

*The assumptions used are those adopted for the Administering Authority's IAS 19 report and are different as at 31 March 2025 and 31 March 2024. I estimate that the impact of the change in financial assumptions to 31 March 2025 is to decrease the actuarial present value by £941m. I estimate that the impact of the change in demographic assumptions is to decrease the actuarial present value by £12m.*

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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**Financial assumptions**

<b>Year ended (% p.a.)</b>	<b>31 Mar 2024</b> %	<b>31 Mar 2025</b> %
<i>Pension Increase Rate (CPI)</i>	2.75	2.75
<i>Salary Increase Rate</i>	3.75	3.75
<i>Discount Rate</i>	4.85	5.80

**Demographic assumptions**

*The longevity assumptions have changed since the previous IAS 26 disclosure for the Fund. Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2023 model, with a 15% weighting of 2023 (and 2022) data, 0% weighting of 2021 (and 2020) data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial adjustment of 0.25% and a long-term rate of improvement of 1.50% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:*

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
<i>Current Pensioners</i>	20.8 years	23.8 years
<i>Future Pensioners*</i>	21.5 years	25.3 years

*\*Future pensioners are assumed to be aged 45 at the latest funding valuation of the Fund.*

*All other demographic assumptions are unchanged from last year and are as per the latest funding valuation of the Fund.*

**Sensitivity Analysis**

*CIPFA guidance requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used. The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the obligations are set out below:*

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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<b>Change in assumption at 31 March 2025</b>	<b>Approximate increase to promised retirement benefits %</b>	<b>Approximate monetary amount £m</b>
<i>0.1% p.a. decrease in the Discount Rate</i>	2%	90.000
<i>1 year increase in member life expectancy</i>	4%	206.000
<i>0.1% p.a. increase in the Salary Increase Rate</i>	0%	5.000
<i>0.1% p.a. increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)</i>	2%	86.000

*Craig Alexander FFA C.Act  
9 April 2025  
For and on behalf of Hymans Robertson LLP*

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits in the Report from the Actuary above is £5,148.000m at 31 March 2025 (31 March 2024, £5,884.000m), compared to the net assets available for benefits at that date of £6,691.721m (31 March 2024, £6,464.170m).

On 25 July 2024, the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal in the Virgin Media Limited vs NTL Pension Trustees case. In June 2025, subsequent to the year end, the Government announced that it will introduce legislation to give pension schemes affected by the above Court of Appeal judgement the ability to retrospectively obtain written actuarial confirmation that historic benefit changes met the necessary standards, removing the uncertainty caused by the judgement.

## **21. Participating Employers**

The participating employers with active members in the Fund are Derbyshire County Council (which is also the Administering Authority), Derby City Council (Unitary Authority), District Councils (which are Scheduled Bodies) and further Scheduled Bodies and Admission Bodies.

Contributions and benefits, by participating employer type, in respect of the year, are as follows:

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**PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**  
**NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS**

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	2023-24		2024-25	
	Benefits	Contributions	Benefits	Contributions
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Derbyshire County Council	102.156	80.291	112.740	82.408
Scheduled Bodies	112.820	139.993	124.155	146.234
Admission Bodies	9.375	6.523	10.450	5.977
	<b>224.351</b>	<b>226.807</b>	<b>247.345</b>	<b>234.619</b>

## 22. Subsequent Events

There were no significant events between the net assets statement date and the approval of these financial statements which would require disclosure or adjustment of the statements.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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### Independent auditor's report to the members of Derbyshire County Council

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

##### Opinion on the financial statements of Derbyshire Pension Fund

We have audited the financial statements of Derbyshire Pension Fund ('the Pension Fund') for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of material accounting policy information.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2025, and the amount and disposition of the Pension Fund's assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2025; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25.

##### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Council, as administering authority for the Pension Fund, in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer)'s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, and taking into account the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the Annual Governance Statement, and information included in the Statement of Accounts other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the Pension Fund's financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) is also responsible for such internal control as the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless the Council is informed of the intention for dissolution of the Pension Fund without transfer of services or function to another entity. The Director of Finance (Section 151 officer) is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Pension Fund

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

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

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

Based on our understanding of the Pension Fund, we considered that non-compliance with the following laws and regulations might have a material effect on the financial statements: the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended).

To help us identify instances of non-compliance with these laws and regulations, and in identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect to non-compliance, our procedures included, but were not limited to:

- gaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Pension Fund, the environment in which it operates, and the structure of the Pension Fund, and considering the risk of acts by the Pension Fund which were contrary to the applicable laws and regulations, including fraud;
- inquiring with management and the Audit Committee as to whether the Pension Fund is in compliance with laws and regulations, and discussing their policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- inspecting correspondence, if any, with relevant licensing or regulatory authorities;
- reviewing relevant meeting minutes in the year;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- considering the risk of acts by the Pension Fund which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the preparation of the financial statements, such as the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

In addition, we evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- making enquiries of management, and the Audit Committee on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing, testing of accounting estimates and testing any unusual transactions.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud, rests with both management and the Audit Committee. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

We are also required to conclude on whether the Director of Finance (Section 151 officer)'s use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, (Revised 2024) and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in November 2024.

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

### **Use of the audit report**

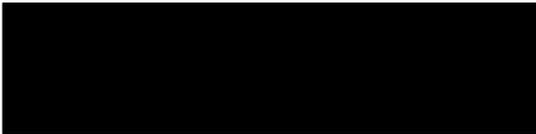
This report is made solely to the members of Derbyshire County Council, as a body and as administering authority for the Derbyshire Pension Fund, in accordance with part 5 of

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## AUDITOR'S OPINION – PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

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the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of Derbyshire County Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of Derbyshire County Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Alastair Newall, Key Audit Partner  
For and on behalf of Forvis Mazars LLP (Local Auditor)  
One St Peter's Square  
Manchester  
M2 3DE

24 February 2026

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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### **AA rated corporate bonds**

Financial indicator of very good quality, low risk debt securities. These are assigned by credit rating agencies such as Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings to have letter designations (such as AAA, B, CC).

### **Account**

A group of expenditure items or balances with similar qualities will be summated into an 'account' balance such as an individual reserve account, or revenue expenditure account.

### **Accounting Policies**

The Councils document outlining how it will account for all of its operations.

### **Accounting Principles**

Commonly accepted set of concepts or assumptions that have to be followed when producing financial statements.

### **Accounting Standard**

Statutory guidelines which explain how to treat financial activities in the financial statements. See International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

### **Accrual**

The accruals concept requires that the cost or benefit of a transaction is shown in the period to which the goods or services are received or provided, rather than when the cash is paid or received.

### **Accruals Concept**

Requires operations of the Council to be reported in the financial statements at the point which they took place, rather than when the cash was paid or received.

### **Accumulating Absences**

Types of leave which employees are entitled to each year; which if untaken in one financial year will be added to the entitlement for the following year.

### **Acquired / Acquisition**

Operations or assets which have become the responsibility of the Council, such as through purchase, a Government reorganisation, donation or merger.

### **Actuarial**

The estimation technique applied when estimating the liabilities to be recognised for defined benefit pension schemes in the financial statements of an organisation.

### **Actuaries**

An actuary is a professional who deals with the financial impact of risk and uncertainty. Actuaries provide assessments of financial systems and balances.

### **Amortisation**

The term used to describe the charge made for the cost of using intangible fixed assets. The charge for the year will represent the amount of economic benefits consumed for example wear and tear.

### **Amortised Cost – Financial Instruments**

The valuation of a financial asset or liability based on repayments of principal, interest accrued at a constant rate and the difference between the initial amount recognised and the maturity amount. For financial assets this is adjusted by any loss allowance.

### **Amortised Cost – Other Non-Current Assets**

The cost of intangible assets reduced by the amount of amortisation charged to date.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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### **Annual Leave**

Yearly entitlement of paid time off for Council staff.

### **Asset Register**

Listing of all property (for example land, buildings, furniture, infrastructure, software) owned by the Council. The register holds all financial information relating to the asset.

### **Assets**

Right or other access to future economic benefits.

### **Assets Held For Sale**

Non-Current Assets which meet the relevant criteria to be classified as held for sale.

### **Assets Under Construction**

Assets which are in the process of being constructed and are not yet operational.

### **Associates**

An entity (including partnerships) which is not a subsidiary or joint venture, where the Council has significant influence.

### **Authorised For Issue**

The date which the financial statements have been certified by External Audit and signed the relevant Officers and Members of the Council.

### **Balance Sheet**

Shows all balances including reserves, long-term debt, fixed and net current assets, together with summarised information on the fixed assets held.

### **Balance Sheet Date**

The date at which the Council reports its financial statements. For Derbyshire County Council, this date is the 31 March.

### **Bias**

Influence or direction.

### **Billing Authorities**

Councils who are responsible for issuing Council Tax Invoices and collection of income from local residents. The relevant share of that income is then transferred to the Council.

### **Borrowing Requirement**

The amount required to be loaned from Money Markets or other financial institutions or Councils in order to support capital expenditure.

### **Business Rates**

Local property taxation issued to businesses, similar to Council Tax on residential properties. Also known as National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR).

### **Cabinet**

Sub-committee of elected Councillors representing the functions and portfolios of the Council.

### **Capital**

Assets which have a long term value (more than one year) to the Council such as Buildings.

### **Capital Adjustment Account**

Capital reserve largely comprising of resource applied to capital financing and is not available to the Council to support new investment.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Capital Appreciation**

Increase in the worth of assets over time due to changes in market conditions or enhancements to the asset.

**Capital Costs**

Reflects the element of annual payment for PFI or Leased assets which is in relation to the reduction in the long term debt associated with the asset.

**Capital Expenditure**

Expenditure on the acquisition of, or enhancement to fixed assets. This cannot be merely to maintain the value of an existing asset.

**Capital Financing Requirement**

The Capital Financing Requirement measures the amount of capital spending that has not yet been financed by capital receipts, capital grants or contributions from revenue income. It is a measure of the underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose.

**Capital Grant**

Grant which is intended to fund capital expenditure.

**Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve**

Balance of capital grants received which is available to finance future capital expenditure.

**Capital Receipts**

Income received from the sale or utilisation of property, such as sale proceeds or rental income on finance leases.

**Capital Reserves**

Reserve balances held for capital purposes.

**Carrying Value**

The amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

**Cash Flow Statement**

This consolidated statement summarises the inflows and outflows of cash arising from transactions with third parties for revenue and capital purposes.

**Cash Flows**

Monies received or paid either as cash or bank transactions. Cash inflow denotes money received, cash outflow denotes money paid.

**Chartered Institute of Public Finance And Accountancy (CIPFA)**

The main authority on accountancy and financial management for the public services in the UK.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**CIPFA Code**

A publication produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) that provides comprehensive guidance on the content of a Council's Statement of Accounts

**Collection Fund**

The fund maintained by authorities who have responsibility to bill Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rate payers (billing authorities).

**Collection Fund Adjustment Account**

Revenue reserve to represent the difference between the income received by a local authority in Council Tax and the amount attributable to them.

**Collection Fund Statements**

The statutory financial statements produced as part of the Statement of Accounts by authorities who have responsibility to bill Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rate payers (billing authorities).

**Community Assets**

Assets which are held for the benefit of the community where there is no determinable useful life.

**Comparative Year**

The previous year to that which is being reported.

**Component Accounting**

The concept that individual parts of an asset (such as land, building, roof, sheds) should be treated differently in the financial statements dependent on the expected useful life or value of those individual parts. The concept expects that some parts of an asset require repair or replacement sooner than others.

**Comprehensive Income And Expenditure Statement**

Financial Statement detailing the revenue operations of the Council. This represents the private sector equivalent of a Profit and Loss Statement.

**Condition**

A requirement which must be met for an asset or liability to be recognised by the Council. For example, a donation which can only be spent within a specific service area such as museums or to support children.

**Contingent Assets And Liabilities**

A possible asset or obligation that arises from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

**Contract Asset**

The Council's right to receive consideration in exchange for goods or services that it has transferred to a service recipient where that right is conditional on something other than the passage of time (such as the Council's future performance).

**Contract Liability**

The Council's obligation to deliver goods or services to a service recipient for which it has already received consideration.

**Contributions**

Income received by the council which is not a grant, donation, fine, or in direct exchange for goods or services.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Core Service Areas**

The services provided by the Council externally, such as education, highway maintenance and adult social care.

**Corporate And Democratic Core**

Costs associated with maintaining a democratic representation and management within the Council. For example Members Allowances and administrative costs associated with supporting elected Members.

**Council**

The Council comprises all of the democratically elected Councillors who represent the various electoral divisions.

**Council Tax**

Council Tax is a local taxation that is levied on dwellings within the local Council area, and funds all Council services.

**Credit**

A credit represents income to a revenue account.

**Credit Loss**

The difference between contractual amounts due to the Council and the amounts it expects to receive.

**Creditor**

Represents the amount that the Council owes other parties.

**Current**

Less than 365 days from the balance sheet date.

**Current Service Cost**

The current service cost is the increase in the value of the pension schemes future pension liabilities arising from the employees on-going membership of the pension scheme.

**Current Value**

IFRS13 introduces the concept of current value and defines it as the measurements that reflect the economic environment prevailing for a service or function the asset is supporting at the reporting date. Current value can be fair value, existing use value, existing use value – Social Housing and depreciable replacement cost.

**Current Year Entry**

A transaction which has occurred in the financial year being reported.

**Curtailments**

Materially reducing the expected years of future services of current employees or eliminating for a significant number of employees the accrual of defined benefits for some or all of their future services.

**Debit**

A debit represents expenditure against a revenue account.

**Debt Outstanding**

The remaining principal balance owed on a loans or investments.

**Debtors**

Represents the amounts owed to the Council.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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### **Equity Instrument**

A contract which evidences a residual interest in the assets of another entity after deducting all of its liabilities. Examples include shares and derivatives that give the Council the right to receive a fixed number of shares for a fixed amount of cash (or another financial asset) in an exchange which is expected to be favourable to the Council.

### **Defined Benefit Scheme**

Also known as a Final Salary Scheme. Pension scheme arrangement where the benefits payable to the members are determined by the scheme rules. In most cases there is a compulsory members' contribution but over and above this all costs of meeting the quoted benefits are the responsibility of the employer.

### **Defined Contribution Scheme**

Also known as a Money Purchase Scheme. Pension scheme arrangement where the employer's liability is restricted to the amount that they contribute. Benefits payable to the members depend on the performance of the invested contributions of the members and the employer, the level of contributions invested, the charges deducted by the product provider and the annuity rate at retirement.

### **De-Minimis**

Minimum level required. For example expenditure below the capital de-minimis is below the minimum level required to be treated as a capital expenditure item.

### **Department For Education**

Central Government Department, responsible for education and children's services in England.

### **Depreciable Replacement Cost (DRC)**

DRC is a method of valuation that provides the current cost of replacing an asset with its Modern Equivalent Asset less deductions for all physical deterioration and all relevant forms of obsolescence and optimisation.

### **Depreciation**

The term used to describe the charge made for the cost of using tangible fixed assets. The charge for the year will represent the amount of economic benefits consumed by, for example, wear and tear.

### **Derecognition**

The process whereby a component is replaced to avoid double counting when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or upon disposal.

### **Discount**

An allowance received through the early repayment of debt.

### **Discounted**

Reflecting the equivalent value today of a payment or income made or due in the past or future.

### **Discounted Cash Flow**

A method of analysing future cash flows, by removing the impact time has on the value of money, and producing an equivalent current value (present value).

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Discretionary Benefits**

Benefits given to employees which are not statutorily obliged.

**Disposal**

Operations or assets which have left the responsibility of the Council, such as through sale, a Government reorganisation, donation or merger.

**Donated Assets**

Assets which have been acquired at below market cost.

**Dowry**

One off payment made as donation, contribution or pre-payment of an obligation.

**Earmarked Reserves**

Reserve balances which have been set aside for future spending in a specific area.

**Economic Life**

The number of years the Council is expected to receive economic benefits to deliver services.

**Effective Rate**

The interest rate embedded within a contract or lease, allowing for regular annual payments and the time value of money.

**Employee**

**A person who holds an office within the Council, but does not include a person who is an elected Councillor.**

**Employee Benefits**

Monetary or other awards to employees of the Council in exchange for services provided. For example, pay, holidays, and pensions.

**Employee Costs**

The costs directly associated with employees, including but not exhaustively salaries and wages, National Insurance contributions and pension's costs.

**Employer Contributions**

The payments made to an employee's pension scheme by the Council.

**Enhancement Expenditure**

Expenditure which increases the value of an asset.

**Entity**

Something with a legal status such as the Council, a company, or an individual.

**Events After The Balance Sheet Date**

An event which occurs between 31 March and the date that the accounts are signed which would alter the conclusion reached by any reader of the accounts.

**Exceptional Items**

Material items that result from the ordinary activities of the Council, but to a value so significantly abnormal that is not expected to recur at that level.

**Existing Use Value (EUV)**

The value of an asset based on what it is currently being used for. For example, two identical buildings in construction and design may have different values where one is used as a school and another is used as offices.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Exit Packages**

The payment made to an employee upon leaving the Council.

**Expenditure**

Payments made of goods or services.

**Fair Value**

The income that would be received on sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

**Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI)**

Measurement of a financial asset at fair value where any gain or loss on revaluation is recognised in other comprehensive income and expenditure and taken to the Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve.

**Fair Value Through Profit or Loss**

Measurement of a financial asset at fair value where any gain or loss on revaluation is recognised as a credit or charge to Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services within the CIES.

**Finance Income**

Interest receipts.

**Finance Lease**

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

**Financial Assets**

A type of financial instrument which gives the Council the right to receive future economic benefits.

**Financial Instruments**

An umbrella term to describe all financial services and trading with which the Council may operate, including loans, borrowings, bank accounts and debtors.

**Financial Instruments Adjustment Account**

Revenue reserve which records the timing differences between the rate at which gains and losses are recognised and the rate at which debits and credits are required to be made against Council tax.

**Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve**

This reserve contains the cumulative gains and losses relating to the valuation of financial assets held at fair value through other comprehensive income. When the underlying financial assets are de-recognised any gains or losses held in this reserve are credited or expensed to the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services.

**Financial Liabilities**

A type of financial instrument that confers an obligation on the Council to transfer economic benefits under its control.

**Financial Statements**

Published document, consisting of the Balance Sheet, Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, Movement in Reserves Statement, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Accounts.

**Financial Year**

The current year being reported upon running from 1 April to 31 March.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Five Year Financial Plan**

The Councils Medium Term Financial Plan, setting out the financial projection for the Council over the coming 5 years.

**Fixed Assets**

See Non-Current Assets.

**Flexi-Time**

Time owed to employees who have worked above the contracted hours.

**Gain**

Where income exceeds expenditure.

**General Provisions**

Money set aside in the Balance Sheet where its future use is not known.

**General Reserve**

The reserve held by the County Council for general purposes, i.e. against which there are no specific commitments.

**General Revenue Government Grants**

Grant income received from Central Government (or Government Department) which is not restricted in its use.

**Going Concern**

The going concern accounting concept assumes that the organisation will not significantly curtail the scale of its operation in the foreseeable future.

**Goods Or Services**

Supplies required by the Council to perform its operations. Examples of goods; paper, bricks or light bulbs, and services; electricity, petrol or agency staff.

**Grants**

Payment towards the cost of local authority services. These are either for particular purposes or services (specific grants) or in aid of local services generally (formula grant).

**Group Accounts**

Where a Council has a controlling interest in another organisation, group accounts have to be produced. These accounts report the financial position of all of the group entities.

**Hire Purchase**

A contract for the provision of an asset which becomes the property of the lessee at the end of the contract period.

**Historic Cost**

The cash paid in obtaining an asset in its current form. Inclusive of purchase price and enhancement expenditure.

**HM Revenue & Customs**

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs is a non-ministerial department of the UK Government responsible for the collection of taxes, the payment of some forms of state support, and the administration of other regulatory regimes including the national minimum wage.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**HM Treasury**

Her Majesty's Treasury, sometimes referred to as the Exchequer, or more informally the Treasury, is the United Kingdom government department responsible for developing and executing the British government's public finance policy and economic policy.

**IFRIC**

International Financial Reporting Interpretation Committee.

**Immateriality**

Immateriality is an expression of the relative insignificance or unimportance of a particular matter in the context of the financial statements as a whole.

**Impairment**

Impairment is the amount by which the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount.

**Inception**

The point in time which something began such as a project, contract or lease.

**Income**

Cash flows into the Council.

**Income From Service Recipients**

Consideration a party, that has contracted with the Council, has given in exchange for goods or services that are the output of the Council's normal operating activities. Such a contract may be in writing, orally or in accordance with customary business practices.

**Income In Advance**

Income received before the point at which an obligation to receive it has occurred.

**Infrastructure**

A network and grouping of inalienable components, expenditure on which is only recoverable by continued use of the asset created i.e. there is no prospect of sale or alternative use. The inalienable components include carriageways, footways, cycle tracks, structures, street furniture, street lighting, traffic management systems and land.

**Intangible Asset**

Non-current assets which do not have physical form such as software.

**Interest Accrued**

Accrued interest is the interest on a bond or loan that has accumulated since the principal investment or since the previous coupon payment if there has been one already.

**Interest Payable**

The amount of interest due for payment within a financial year.

**Interest Rate**

The rate at which interest is calculated on a loan or investment.

**Interest Receivable**

The amount of interest due for receipt within a financial year.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**International Accounting Standards (IAS)**

Regulations outlining the method of accounting for activities, IAS's are currently being replaced with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS's) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

**International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)**

Regulations outlining the method of accounting for activities, issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

**International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)**

Public Sector regulations outlining the method of accounting for activities.

**Inventories**

Goods purchased in advance of their use which are held in store.

**Investment Property**

Assets held solely for the purposes of rental generation or for increasing the value pre-sale (capital appreciation) or both.

**Joint Venture**

An organisation which the Council has partial control and ownership, but decisions require the consent of all participants.

**Lease**

Financial contract for the continuing use of an asset.

**Lease Interest**

The interest rate inherent within a lease allowing for regular rental payments and an adjustment for the time value of money.

**Lease Payments**

Regular payment made in exchange for the use of an asset.

**Leases**

A method of funding expenditure by payment over a defined period of time.

**Lessee**

The person or organisation that is using or occupying an asset under lease (tenant).

**Lessor**

The person or organisation that owns an asset under lease (landlord).

**Liabilities**

An obligation to transfer economic benefits. Current liabilities are payable within one year.

**Loans And Receivables**

Financial assets which are not quoted in an active market and have either a fixed or determinable payment.

**Loan Modification**

A change to the terms of an existing loan. Changes may include a reduction in the interest rate, an extension of the loan term, or a reduction in the principal balance.

**Loan Modification Gain/Loss**

An amount arising from adjusting the carrying value of a loan to reflect the cash flows under the renegotiated terms of the loan, but accruing interest at the rate specified in the original loan terms.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Long Term Debtor**

Income due in more than 365 days of the balance sheet date.

**Long Term Liability**

Payment due in more than 365 days of the balance sheet date.

**Loss**

Where expenditure exceeds income.

**Loss Allowance**

A reduction to the value of financial assets for the expected credit losses relating to those assets.

**Materiality / Material**

Materiality is an expression of the relative significance or importance of a particular matter in the context of the financial statements as a whole.

**Maternity Leave**

Statutory time off due to pregnant women and new mothers.

**Members**

Elected Councillors responsible for the democratic leadership of the Council.

**Members Allowances**

Allowances paid to members in association with their roles and responsibilities.

**Minimum Lease Payments**

The minimum which will be paid or received over the life of a lease agreement.

**Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)**

A prudent amount of revenue set aside to contribute towards capital expenditure which has been financed by borrowing or credit arrangements.

**Misstatement**

An error whereby something was included in the accounts wrongly.

**Modern Equivalent Asset (MEA)**

The MEA should give the same service and performance as the existing asset, but should use modern materials and technology.

**Movement In Reserves Statement (MiRS)**

The statement detailing the movement in the reserves of the Council.

**Net Cost Of Services**

The direct cost of delivering the Councils services after allowing for specific income received by those services.

**Net Operating Expenditure**

The cost of operational items which are not direct services, such as disposing of the Councils assets, after allowing for specific income received.

**Net Realisable Value**

The estimated selling price of an asset in the ordinary course of operations less any completion costs and costs to make the sale, exchange or distribution.

**Non Distributed Costs**

The value of revenue operating expenditure that is not able to be apportioned to one of the authorities core service areas.

**Non-Accumulating Absences**

Types of leave an employee may take in a financial year, which if are not taken do not get added to the following year's entitlement. For example Sick Leave.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Non-Current Assets**

Assets that yield benefits to the Council for a period of more than one year, examples include land, buildings and vehicles.

**Non-Current Debtor**

Income due in more than 365 days of the balance sheet date.

**Non-Current Liability**

Payment due in more than 365 days of the balance sheet date.

**Non-Vesting**

An obligation which cannot be settled by a monetary payment.

**Notes To The Accounts**

A set of supplementary comments, tables and information which further explains the main Financial Statements.

**Obligation**

The requirement to transfer economic benefits.

**Operating Lease**

A lease where an asset is used only for a small proportion of its economic life.

**Operational**

The normal activities of the Council.

**Past Service Cost**

Past service cost is the change in the present value of defined benefit obligations caused by employee service in prior periods.

**Payment In Advance**

A payment made which is before the point of any obligation.

**Pension Liabilities**

The cost, calculated by an Actuary, of providing the current members of a pension scheme with retirement benefits as set out in the pension scheme rules.

**Pensions Costs**

The benefits paid by the Council which are accrued during the period of employment and paid to ex-employees after retirement.

**PFI**

See Private Finance Initiative.

**PFI Credits**

The financial support provided to Local Authorities to part fund PFI capital projects.

**Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account**

This reserve contains the cumulative gains and losses related to pooled investment funds measured at FVPL as required by the statutory override effective for financial years 2018-19 to 2022-23.

**Premium**

A payment made in association with the early repayment of debt.

**Pre-Payments**

See payment in advance.

**Present Value**

See Discounted.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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### **Previous Year Adjustments**

These are material adjustments relating to prior year accounts that are reported in subsequent years and arise from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

### **Principal**

The amount of repayment to a lender which relates to the reduction in the loan, rather than the interest paid on the loan.

### **Private Finance Initiative (PFI)**

A Government initiative that enables, through the provision of financial support, Authorities to carry out capital projects through partnership with the private sector.

### **Projected Unit Method**

This is a common actuarial funding method to value pension scheme liabilities.

### **Property, Plant And Equipment Assets (PPE)**

Assets with a long Term value and physical substance such as buildings, land, IT equipment or vehicles.

### **Provisions**

Potential costs that the Council may incur in the future because of something that happened in the past, which are likely or certain to be incurred and a reliable estimate can be made to the costs.

### **Prudent**

A cautious approach to present the Financial Statements without significant risk of failure to achieve the assets presented.

### **Quoted Market Prices**

A method of determining the fair value of financial assets via prices quoted on an active market.

### **Recognition**

The process upon which assets are deemed to belong to the Council either by purchase, construction or other form of acquisition.

### **Receivable**

The Council's unconditional right to receive consideration in exchange for goods or services that it has transferred to a service recipient.

### **Residual**

The remaining value in an asset at the end of a contract or lease.

### **Retirement Benefits**

Remuneration package received by employees after their retirement from the Council.

### **Retrospectively**

Changes made to previous years accounts to alter the treatment which has previously been reported.

### **Revaluation Gain**

The increase to the fair value of an asset following a valuation.

### **Revaluation Reserve**

This reserve contains revaluation gains on assets recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation.

### **Revenue**

The cost associated with providing Council services.

### **Revenue Expenditure**

Expenditure which is not capital.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Revenue Expenditure Funded From Capital Under Statute (REFCUS)**

This is expenditure that is classified as capital although it does not result in the creation of a fixed asset.

**Revenue Grant**

Grant which is not capital.

**Right-of-Use Asset**

An asset representing the Council's right to use an underlying asset, such as a vehicle or building, for a period of time.

**Risk**

The chance of an asset not coming to fruition or a liability being greater than anticipated.

**Royal Institute Or Chartered Surveyors (RICS)**

An international organisation who represent everything professional and ethical in land, property and construction.

**Salaries And Wages**

Payments made to employees in exchange for service worked at the Council.

**Service Concession Arrangements**

Arrangements which involve the supply and maintenance of assets and service delivery.

**Service Costs**

Reflects the element of annual payment for PFI or Leased assets which is in relation to services provided within the contract.

**Service Expenditure Reporting Code of Practice (SERCOP)**

CIPFA guidelines on reporting revenue expenditure.

**Service Level Agreements**

Contract of service.

**Short Term**

Less than 365 days from the balance sheet date.

**Short Term Benefits**

Employee benefits earned and consumed during employment.

**Significant**

A measure of materiality where the value is deemed to be almost all of the total value in question.

**Soft Loans**

Low interest rate loans.

**Spot Yields**

A calculation of the projected return on bonds if held to maturity.

**Staff**

See employee.

**Statute**

Set out in legislation.

**Straight Line Basis**

The method of calculation of depreciation to allocate an equal amount of depreciation each year over an asset's useful life.

**Support Services**

Indirect costs of providing Council services including HR, Finance, Legal and Property Maintenance.

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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**Surplus**

Arises when income exceeds expenditure or when expenditure is less than available budget.

**Surplus Assets**

Assets which are no longer in operation.

**Tangible**

Physical, can be touched.

**Tenant**

The person or organisation that is occupying an asset under lease.

**Termination Benefits**

Employee benefits paid upon termination of employment such as redundancy.

**The Code**

CIPFA guidelines on accounting within Local Government.

**Transactions**

Individual items of income or expenditure.

**Treasury Management**

Utilisation of cash flows through investments and loans.

**Unidentified Income**

Income received by the Council where the reason for the income is unknown.

**Unusable**

Balances which are not available to support future spending.

**Usable**

Balances which are available to support future spending.

**Useful Life**

The period with which an asset is expected to be useful to the Council in its current state.

**Value Added Tax**

National taxation charged on goods and services.

**Vesting**

Obligation due which can be paid in cash.

**Work In Progress**

The fair value of incomplete contracts for goods and services which are to be charged to external customers.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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If you require any further assistance

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01629 533190

# Annual Governance Statement 2024-25

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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### Introduction and the Purpose of the Governance Framework

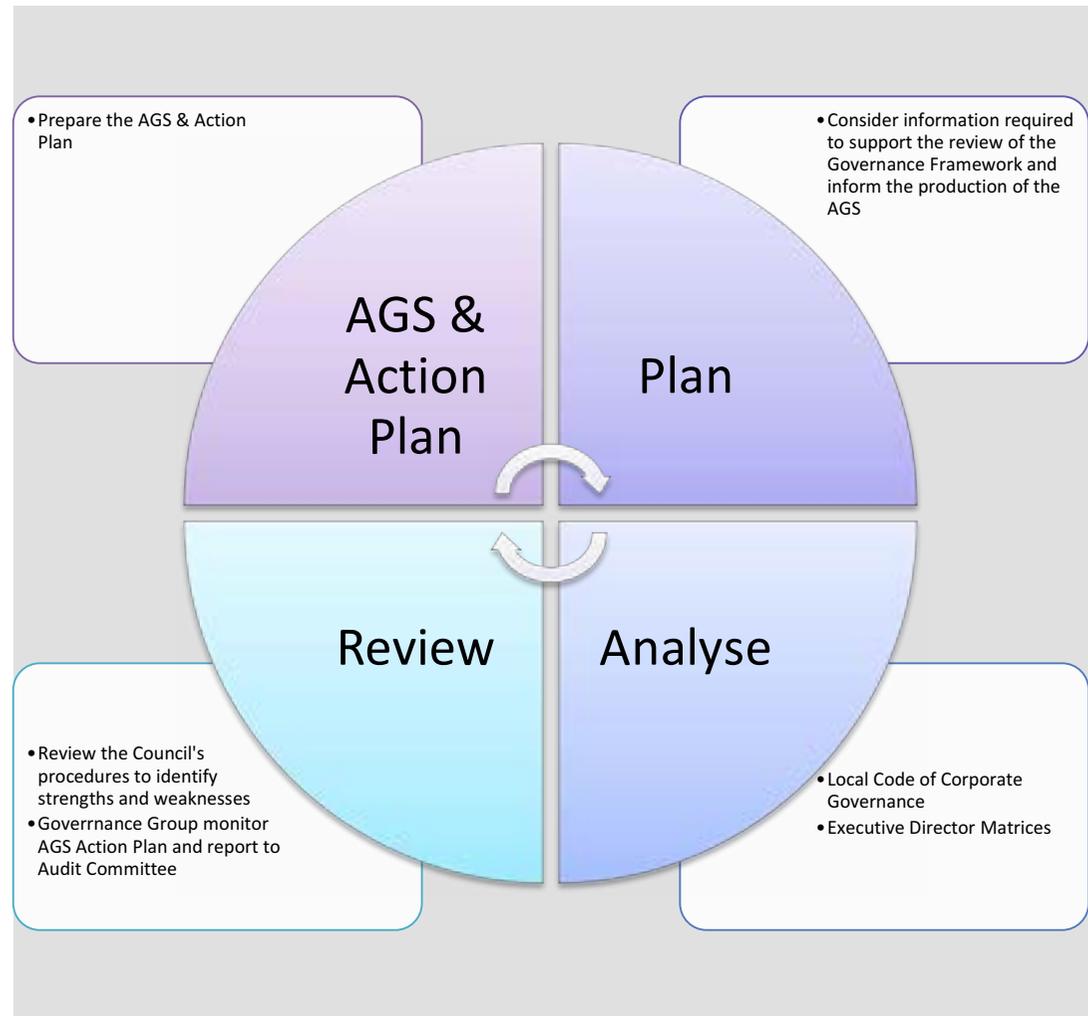
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#### Defining Corporate Governance

Corporate governance includes the systems, processes, and values by which councils operate and through which they engage with, and are held accountable to, their communities and stakeholders. Good corporate governance underpins credibility and confidence in public services.

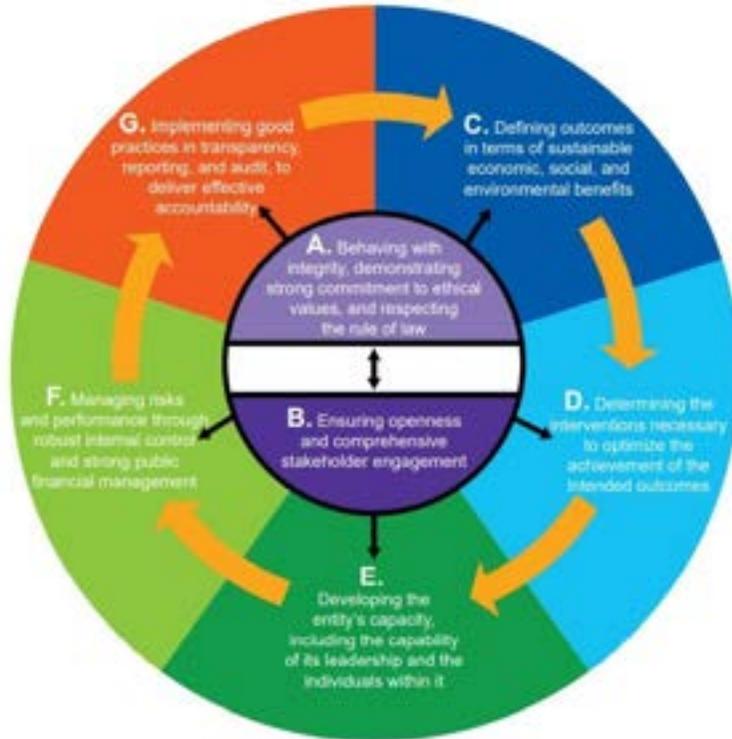
Derbyshire County Council is committed to effective corporate governance and has prepared the Annual Governance Statement by: -

- Reviewing the Council's Governance Arrangements against the CIPFA/SOLACE Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework;
- Assessed the effectiveness of the Governance Arrangements against the Local Code of Corporate Governance;
- Obtaining Executive Director Assurance Matrices;
- Considering the impact of External Assessments; and
- Monitoring the progress against the recommendations in the 2023-24 AGS Action Plan.



## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### Scope of Responsibility



Source: International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector (CIPFA)

The Council has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised and is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and relevant standards, that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs and facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including arrangements for the management of risk. The Council has developed an approach to corporate governance to ensure that it is consistent with the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government and demonstrates its commitment to corporate governance as “good corporate governance underpins credibility and confidence in our public services”.

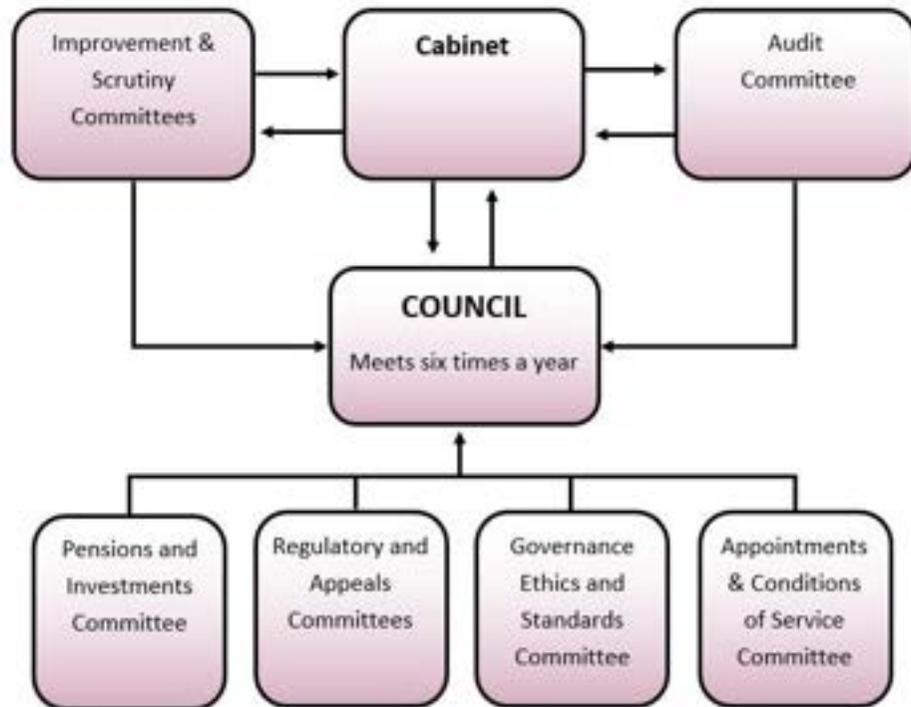
This Statement explains how the Council demonstrates compliance with the Framework whilst meeting the requirements of Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in relation to the publication of an Annual Governance Statement.

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### Derbyshire County Council's Governance Framework and Structure

The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, and values by which the Council is directed and controlled and the activities through which it accounts to, engages with, and leads the community. It enables the Authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them effectively, efficiently, and economically. The governance framework has been in place at the County Council for the year ended 31 March 2025 and up to the date of the Statement of Accounts being certified by the Director of Finance.



## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### Council

- 64 Elected Members who are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division
- Members follow a Code of Conduct to ensure high standards in the way they undertake their duties
- Meetings are generally open for the public to attend except where exempt or confidential matters are being discussed
- Decides the policy framework and sets the budget each year and major plans

### Cabinet

- Consists of the Leader of the Council and eight Cabinet Members
- Responsible for guiding the Council in the formulation of its corporate plan of objectives and key priorities
- Has executive responsibility for the implementation of the Council's key goals and objectives

### Governance, Ethics and Standards Committee

- Promotes and maintains high standards
- Assists Members in observing the Code of Conduct
- Advises the Council on matters relating to the Code
- Receives regular reports on corporate complaints
- Advises on amendments to the Constitution

### Appointments & Conditions of Service Committee

- Approves corporate employment policies
- Determines terms and conditions of service
- Specific role in the appointment and disciplinary procedure for certain senior officers

### Improvement and Scrutiny Committees

- Five Committees which support the work of the Cabinet and the Council as a whole
- Allow citizens to have a greater say in Council matters by holding inquiries in public into matters of local concern
- Lead to reports and recommendations which advise the Cabinet and the Council as a whole on its policies, budget and service delivery, and other public bodies
- Monitor the decisions of the Cabinet
- They can 'call-in' a decision which has been made by the Executive but not yet implemented

### Audit Committee

- Independently contributes to the Council's process of ensuring internal control systems are maintained
- Responsible for approving and monitoring progress of the annual Audit Plan
- Considers matters referred to the Committee by the Council's external auditor
- Approves the Annual Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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### **The Annual Governance Statement 2024-25**

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Departmental Representatives attend the Governance Group and progress has been made to address the areas for improvement identified in the 2023-24 action plan. Where items have not been completed the Group seeks to assure itself that there is a plan to do so. The Audit Committee receives regular updates on the progress of delivering actions in the action plan.

The Group has reviewed its terms of reference and has defined its role in ensuring good governance across the Council, the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Transformation has continued to chair the meetings throughout 2024-25.

During the year the Local Code of Corporate Governance has been reviewed by the internal Governance Group and will be submitted for approval by the Audit Committee and lessons learnt from other public bodies and public interest reports have been considered. In addition, the Council's constitution continues to be kept under review and is updated, as and when required, to strengthen the robustness and integrity of the governance framework.

The main changes in 2024-25 include:

- Revised Financial Regulations and Standing Orders relating to Contracts included.
- References to D2 Economic Prosperity Committee, Vision Derbyshire removed and replaced with the newly formed Strategic Leadership Board.
- Revised terms of reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board included.
- Changes to the SIRO role updated.
- Revised Improvement and Scrutiny Rules included.
- Members Allowances Scheme for 2025-26 approved.

The Council continued to review key governance documents during the year. The review of the scheme of delegation remains ongoing and will be finalised during 2025-26. A full review and simplification of the financial scheme of delegation was completed in 2024-25, standardising delegations where possible and hence improving understanding of the financial delegations in place across the Council.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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In addition, a full review of the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders Relating to Contracts was approved for introduction in April 2024. For the first time the responsibilities of budget holders are now set out in these regulations. It is likely that the Standing Orders Relating to Contracts will require a further revision consequent to the introduction of the Procurement Act in 2025. Also the Standing Orders may be amended further to improve the useability and understanding across the organisation.

There is a Head of Paid Service liaison meeting that takes place on a regular basis. The purpose of this meeting is to enable the three statutory officers (Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 officer) together with the Head of Internal Audit and Director of HR, to work together effectively to uphold the seven standards of the “Golden Triangle” as defined in the Code of Practice on Good Governance for Local Authority Statutory Officers. The focus of the meetings is on strategic rather than operational issues, although operational issues are discussed if they raise strategic concerns or are indicative of a cultural issue regarding the leadership of governance and/or a deeper-seated issue which needs review or resolution from a governance perspective. The liaison meeting has recently reviewed how the Council complies with the Code of Practice on Good Governance for Local Authority Statutory Officers. The Council is mainly compliant with the Code and an action plan has been developed to enable improvements to be made again the Code.

The Council works with the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) to respond promptly and effectively to recommendations identifying areas for improvement.

The Annual Review Letter of the Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman 2023-24, which was reported to Cabinet on 17 October 2024 and Governance Ethics and Standards Committee on 10 October 2024, confirmed the Council complied with all the recommended remedies giving a compliance rate of 100%. In 2023-24 there were 158 complaints made to the LGSCO, compared to 97 complaints for the period 2022-23 (an increase of 61.39 %). Of the 158 complaints made, 45 were upheld, but there were no findings of maladministration. Of the 47 upheld decisions the Ombudsman found the Council had provided a satisfactory remedy in 6% of the cases before the complaint reached the Ombudsman.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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The LGSCO has noted that during the year 2023-24 there were many occasions where responses to the LGSCO were delayed. 40% of the responses to the LGSCO's enquiries were late. The delays were mainly within Children's Services but there was also a small proportion of Adult Care cases. These delays were mainly attributable to staff shortages and, particularly in Children's Services, a substantial increase in the number of complaints made and the number of complaints which were investigated. Focussed attention will need to be given to ensure timeliness of responses. 110 of the 158 complaints made to the LGSCO and 43 of the 47 complaints upheld related to Children's Services. This was a significant increase from 2022-23, when 50 Children's Services complaints were made and 11 upheld. The majority of the complaints during 2023-24 related to SEND and Educational Health and Care Plans.

The internal audit annual opinion is a crucial element of the governance and assurance framework within the public sector. It represents the conclusion reached by the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's risk management, control, and governance processes for the reporting period. This opinion is essential for providing assurance to senior management and other stakeholders about the organisation's control environment and its capacity to achieve its objectives. For 2024-25 the opinion is one of limited assurance which is reflective of the requirement to improve due to the significant risks being faced by the organisation to achieve its objectives.

The Council continues to monitor the views of employees through the employee survey and has developed wellbeing and engagement strategies to support our employees. However, as had been noted in previous statements, there remains pressures in terms of staffing levels and recruitment to certain jobs and roles. To a large extent this is a function of a national shortage of skilled workforce supply which is proving to be a challenge for some services and functions. The consequence of this workforce pressure will increase the strain on front line services and the Council's financial position.

Over the last few years, the Council has implemented a new approach to strategic planning, designed to achieve a closer integration of service and financial planning and strengthen the golden thread linking operational activity to the vision and outcomes of the organisation. The approach consists of 5 stages as follows:

Step One	Review of the Strategic Context (April)
Step Two	Define the Vision, Outcomes and Strategic Objectives (May – June)
Step Three	Define the Strategic Options (July – August)
Step Four	Risk and Contingency (September – October)

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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Step Five            Final Draft Council Plan and Budget completed (November)

The planning cycle begins with understanding the broader strategic context the Council will operate in during forthcoming years. This involves anticipating potential changes in government policy, financial pressures, key risks and constraints on service delivery. The Strategic Context is developed through a comprehensive review of comparative data on outcomes, expenditure, public perceptions, user satisfaction, demographic changes, and wider-socio economic trends.

Work began in April 2025 to refresh the 2025-29 Plan for 2026-27 onwards and the Council is currently updating the Strategic Context. The headlines from the Strategic Context are as follows:

- Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – The Council awaits feedback from government and the new administration on its interim plan for LGR, which will impact on the direction of local policy.
- Demographic and service demand pressures - Demand for services continues to rise, particularly in adult social care and SEND, and coupled with the potential removal of the SEND statutory override by 2026, this creates further financial uncertainty and increased service delivery strain.
- Resident satisfaction – There are clear challenges around resident satisfaction and perceptions of value for money, which require further work to fully understand the underlying drivers.
- Financial Pressures – The Council continues to face severe financial challenges, with high operating costs driven by inflation and a provider-driven market; comparatively higher revenue spend per head of the population (10% above) and correspondingly higher numbers of FTEs (20% above); an unsustainable reliance on reserves (£158m used 2022-23 to 2024-25); and comparatively higher spend on social care. Over the last year the Council has made considerable progress against the identified savings for 2024-25 and a balanced budget for 2025-26 has been set but this remains subject to the delivery of further significant savings. A five-year budget savings programme has been agreed, targeting £96.4 million in savings by the end of 2029-30. The current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) requires £50m of these savings to be identified from the period 2026-27 to 2029-30.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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- Transforming our operating model - External factors that could significantly alter the Council's financial position, such as additional financial support from central government, are unlikely to materialise in the short to medium term, except through targeted, ring-fenced grants. In this environment, the current operating model remains unsustainable.

This is evidenced by the continued reliance on reserves, increasing demand pressures, and relatively high service delivery costs. The planned savings programme of £96.4 million must be delivered and closely monitored, alongside current and future programmes of activity aimed at transforming the way that the Council operates to support long-term financial sustainability and enable meaningful investment in key services.

A key focus should be the expansion of the One Council Support Functions project, which has completed the first stage of the centralisation and streamlining of Council support services. The Council will also need to build capacity to conduct systematic reviews of service delivery, focusing on high-cost or low-outcome areas. These reviews should be informed by the recent analysis by PwC and include digital transformation as a key enabler, as well an assessment of the viability of in-house versus traded services.

The Statement of Accounts for 2023-24 were signed in February 2025, as explained in last year's Annual Governance Statement the delay was caused by a variety of complex technical factors largely related to capital accounting and the valuation of assets. The external auditors disclaimed to provide an audit opinion on the accounts as they were unable to complete their work on capital asset values by the statutory backstop of 28 February 2025. An alternative approach to calculating the value of the County's assets in accordance with relevant accounting standards has been adopted and work is underway to implement this approach

Last year's Annual Governance Statement commented upon the challenging economic circumstance facing the Council. Whilst levels of inflation and interest rates have reverted to what may be seen to be more reflective of the longer term normal, significant risk remain given the unsettled nature of the international economy and the pressure on the UK public finances which will inevitably impact on local Government funding levels

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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The Council is particularly exposed to cost increases for social care services, which in turn are affected by inflationary factors and changes to costs of employment. Given the significant proportion of the Council's spend which is allocated to social care (for both adults and children), increases in the demand for and cost of these services will place material stress on the Council's finances. This has been seen throughout 2024/25 with Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care reporting significant budget variances.

The medium-term Financial Strategy has been refreshed in the year to coincide with production of the updated Council Plan 2025-29 and was published in the budget documentation in February 2025. To achieve a balanced position in the revenue account over the period of the plan, additional savings of £50.097m will need to be developed and delivered, on top of the savings included within the existing approved budget.

During the year the Council implemented an enhanced process to monitor the delivery of planned savings, with all initiatives subject to the scrutiny of a Savings Board chaired by the Chief Financial Officer and supported by the Programme Management Office. The overall delivery of in-year planned savings was good, with 93% of the planned £31.94m savings rated as "achieved" or "on track" at the year end.

The improvements made to the budget setting process, reported last year were retained for the setting of the 2025-26 budget. The budget preparation was undertaken through extensive engagement with all departments, and ongoing review and scrutiny of draft budget pressure bids and potential savings proposals by the Managing Director, Director of Finance & ICT and Lead Members.

Budget savings and efficiency proposals being reported to Improvement and Scrutiny Committee, Resources for comment prior to consideration by Cabinet, maintaining transparency and enabling budget savings to be reviewed comprehensively before budget decision-making processes commenced.

To reinforce financial control, Executive Directors will each be required to sign budget responsibility memorandums to reinforce their accountability for delivering services within the allocated budgets.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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Embedded within the Digital Strategy, Cloud Technical Infrastructure Strategy, and Digital Services Structure Strategy (ICT Strategy, Target Operating Model and Implementation Plan) are a series of essential deliverables aimed at fortifying our organisational framework. These encompass comprehensive reviews of internal processes to ensure optimal efficiency, a steadfast commitment to adhering to architectural principles for enhanced system robustness, proactive measures towards reducing technical debt to streamline operations, and a pivotal shift towards cloud adoption / integration. The strategic intention to migrate to cloud-based infrastructure will not only modernise our Digital landscape but also significantly bolster our cyber security resilience, positioning us advantageously in safeguarding against emerging threats and vulnerabilities.

The Corporate Peer Challenge follow-up visit in October 2021 reviewed the progress the Council had made against the recommendations identified by the original report in 2018 where it was considered that the Council's approach to governance was sound. This follow-up review identified a range of areas where the Council's approach is positive, many of which are fundamental to good governance including leadership, priorities and performance management, partnerships and financial management and decision making. Although generally positive, the review made three recommendations to ensure that the Council maintains its momentum and continues to improve. Whilst the Council considered that it was already making progress in these areas, it outlined and agreed the next steps to address the recommendations. A report on progress towards implementation of these recommendations was submitted to Cabinet in July 2024.

The Council created 3 joint ventures with other organisations during 2020 to help deliver property services. In May 2020, PSP (Derbyshire) Limited was created to review, develop, and renew our property and land assets, subsequently changing its name to Develop Renew. In September 2020, Concertus Derbyshire Limited was created to provide design services for capital projects that the Council delivers. At the same time Vertas Derbyshire Limited was created to provide caretaking and cleaning services to schools and the Council's other buildings. In November 2020, Vertas also took over responsibility for the Council's grounds maintenance service. The DCC Trading Committee continues to exercise oversight of the JVs performance.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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The Council continues to collaborate with neighbouring local authorities and partners in health and the police, to ensure we are best placed for local delivery of the Government's levelling up strategy. In August 2022 a devolution deal was signed by the four upper tier councils of Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council. Pursuant to this agreement, the East Midlands Combined County Authority was created in February 2024 and met for the first time in March 2024, with the first Mayor elected in May 2024. The County Council continues to work closely with and support EMCCA as we arrange the transfer of public transport functions to the new Combined County Authority and cooperate to identify the best opportunities to leverage the new funding which it can access.

Following the government's announcement local government reorganisation (LGR) across England, ordering all 2-tier council areas to move to single-tier unitary authorities, the County Council submitted a proposal to have 1 single unitary council on the current county footprint, with Derby remaining in its current form as a city unitary council. Feedback from Government was provided on the County Council's proposal in May 2025 and the organisation is now required to submit a more detailed proposal in November 2025. LGR will have significant impact on the operation of local government across Derbyshire, with reorganisation planned to be completed by April 2028. Therefore, the County Council will work to ensure appropriate governance arrangements are in place to effectively manage the reorganisation.

The Council's Audit Committee completed a self-assessment exercise and one of the key development opportunities it identified was the recruitment of Independent Audit Committee members to add further skills and experience to support the existing members. The Council successfully recruited two independent members to its Audit Committee during 2024-25 bringing additional skills to the committee. The independent members provide a level of continuity and consistency, which is particularly pertinent given the local elections in May 2025 may change the make up of the existing Committee. The induction of any new Committee Members will take place during 2025-26 with the independent members supporting the development and upskilling of the Committee.

The Annual Governance Statement for 2024-25 follows a similar format to those published in previous years, aligned with the CIPFA/Solace Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework.

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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### **The Effectiveness of the Council's Governance Arrangements**

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As part of this process, an assessment has been made of the Council's performance against each of the seven core principles using the following criteria:-

<b>Category</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Strong</b>	The governance framework is effective and fit for purpose, although some minor weaknesses and improvements may have been identified.
<b>Good</b>	Whilst the governance arrangements are generally effective, there are gaps within the framework which need to be addressed. Should these issues remain unaddressed, there is an increased risk that the Council may be exposed to reputational risk.
<b>Review</b>	Significant weaknesses have been identified in the governance arrangements which expose the Council to reputational risk.
<b>Action</b>	The governance arrangements are considered to be deficient as weaknesses have been identified in a number of key areas rendering the overall framework ineffective and leaving the Council open to a high risk of error/abuse and significant reputational risk/damage.

Arising from this assessment of governance arrangements an Action Plan has been developed and is attached. Detailed actions and dates for completion will be determined to address each area for improvement which will be reported to the Audit Committee who will, in turn, monitor progress.

The Annual Governance Statement summarises the findings of the review of the Council's existing governance arrangements.

The review examined the Council's position against the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government which defines the seven core principles, each supported by sub-principles which underpin the governance framework of the Council.

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

What is working well and areas for improvement			
Core Principles of the Framework	Overall Assessment	Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<p><b>Principle A</b></p> <p>Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values and respecting the rule of law</p>	<p><b>Good</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Constitution sets out the roles of Cabinet, full Council, Committees, Executive Directors and Statutory Officers, alongside details of their decision-making powers;</li> <li>➤ Codes of Conducts are in place for Members and officers. The Code of Conduct for Employees has been refreshed and updated and communicated in October 2023 to all colleagues. The Members' Code of Conduct was reviewed in 2023 by a working group set up by the Governance, Ethics and Standards Committee and a revised version approved by Council on 27 March 2024.</li> <li>➤ A process for dealing with Members' Code of Conduct complaints is embedded;</li> <li>➤ There is an electronic process for officers to make declarations of gifts and hospitality, this data is then reported on a quarterly basis to departmental management teams. Continued officer awareness of the gifts and hospitality process is provided by departmental reps to ensure the online process is effectively embedded;</li> <li>➤ Quarterly reminders are sent to Members by the Monitoring Officer to keep their register of interests up to date and report offers of gifts and hospitality;</li> <li>➤ The Authority operates an Equality and Diversity Policy , Whistleblowing Policy and Complaints Procedures.</li> <li>➤ The Monitoring Officer is responsible for ensuring the lawfulness of decisions taken by Council, Cabinet, Committees and officers;</li> <li>➤ The organisational engagement cycle encourages open and honest feedback from employees on a range of issues with an annual employee engagement survey in place.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Whistleblowing Policy was updated 2021-22 and will be reviewed in 2025. Further work is also required to complete and promote a Whistleblowing Referral Form and continue to ensure that the policy is communicated widely, understood and embedded;</li> <li>➤ Employees and Members to be provided with formal ethical awareness training to embed high ethical standards, in accordance with the Nolan principles, an understanding of ethical risks and ability to make decisions with integrity and confidence.</li> <li>➤ Training for the amended Financial Regulations and Standing Orders has been introduced onto Derbyshire learning online but this needs to be further embedded.</li> </ul>

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

What is working well and areas for improvement			
Core Principles of the Framework	Overall Assessment	Strengths	Areas for Improvement
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A process and timetable is in place for production of reports to ensure they are not presented to decision makers without being appropriately considered for legal and financial implications</li> <li>➤ Financial Management Arrangements conform to the Financial Management Code, and a self-review of arrangements was considered by the Audit Committee in March 2025</li> <li>➤ The Governance, Ethics and Standards Committee monitors and reviews the operation of the Constitution and has recommended a number of amendments during the year that have been agreed by Council;</li> <li>➤ Role profiles have been agreed for Members;</li> <li>➤ Clear channels of communication are in place for all sections of the community and stakeholders, including digital and social media, internal communications, publications and campaigns;</li> <li>➤ The Council's Corporate Governance Group is chaired by the Executive Director of Corporate Services &amp; Transformation and attended by representatives from each Department, Audit Services and the Section 151 and Monitoring Officers, as well as deputies for the statutory roles;</li> <li>➤ The Council reviews how it best protects its vulnerable residents and seeks to take on board learning from all relevant reviews whether they are Derbyshire focussed or not;</li> <li>➤ The Council's corporate complaints procedure has been reviewed to ensure alignment with the LGSCO complaints handling code</li> <li>➤ An online learning introduction to equality, diversity and inclusion is available for current employees to complete</li> </ul>	

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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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What is working well and areas for improvement			
Core Principles of the Framework	Overall Assessment	Strengths	Areas for Improvement
		and this is now part of the induction programme for all new starters.	

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

<p><b>Principle B</b></p> <p>Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement</p>	<p><b>Review</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Assistant Director of Finance (Audit) produces an Annual Report which is considered by Audit Committee, highlights both significant areas of good practice and those where improvements can be made. This Report includes the annual internal audit opinion which concludes on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control;</li> <li>➤ The Council seeks the involvement of public and service users in providing feedback and assisting with the design of services. The Council has been very active in consulting stakeholders, service users and the public over proposed changes to services, including being transparent as to the rationale for the proposed policy changes. A range of consultation and engagement techniques are used in line with Consultation and Engagement Framework which is due to be refreshed and aligned to the development of the customer experience strategy.</li> <li>➤ The Council engages with the citizens of Derbyshire and consults stakeholders as part of the decision-making process where appropriate. Revised reporting has assisted in consistently ensuring openness and consideration of stakeholder consultation. Citizens, trade unions and business ratepayers are all engaged when setting the budget. This consultation sits within the wider context of the annual Your Council, Your Voice Survey which measures resident satisfaction with Council services as well as identifying residents' priorities;</li> <li>➤ The Council has reinstated its Parish and Town Council Liaison Forum with six monthly meetings in place. These have been highly successful with increased attendance, greater involvement of Council Services and opportunities to undertake networking across the sector;</li> <li>➤ The Council undertakes a wider range of partnership and stakeholder activity to support the development of key programmes of work which enhance services,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It is proposed that a redesign of the Partnership Protocol and Toolkit is undertaken. The approach will commence with a review of existing partnerships which will provide the baseline for the wider redesign of tools and create a clearer picture of current arrangements and a mechanism for on-going corporate oversight;</li> <li>➤ The Council should improve how the organisation interacts and delivers services with partners. This includes the risks of particular partnerships on the Council;</li> <li>➤ A new streamlined process for Officer decisions to be published through Mod.gov. requires roll out and embedding;</li> <li>➤ Improved engagement in the production and use of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment:</li> </ul>
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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

		<p>improve systems and increase investment into the county, examples of this include the development of the Devolution Deal for the East Midlands which has resulted in the region securing £38 million of funding each year for 30 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ An annual Employee engagement cycle is in place with annual employee survey and feedback on outcomes and progress against the organisation action plan;</li> <li>➤ Decision making protocols are in place which include the use of Equality Impact Assessments;</li> <li>➤ A Communications Strategy is in place;</li> <li>➤ The Council's "Enterprising Council" Strategy and approach seeks to ensure services meet needs of users, utilising the best delivery vehicle in each circumstance;</li> <li>➤ The Council has an online Committee Management System (mod.gov) to improve access to councillors, decision making and democracy;</li> <li>➤ Decisions are published on the Council's Derbyshire Democracy Website</li> <li>➤ The Forward Plan of forthcoming key decisions to be considered by Cabinet and Cabinet members is embedded, published online and reported to CMT and Cabinet;</li> <li>➤ The template report contains a specific paragraph heading to ensure consultation feedback, including comments from Improvement and Scrutiny Committee where they have carried out pre-decision scrutiny, is clear and transparent.</li> </ul>	
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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

<p><b>Principle C</b></p> <p>Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits</p>	<p><b>Good</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Council Plan 2025–2029 outlines the Authority’s strategy and vision, defining key priorities, values and intended outcomes;</li> <li>➤ The Council Plan outlines the Council’s strategy and vision;</li> <li>➤ Departmental and Service Plans are developed which are consistent with the overarching Council Plan and incorporate a range of performance measures;</li> <li>➤ Progress against a range of targets is monitored. Performance against financial and performance targets is formally monitored on a quarterly basis within the Performance Monitoring and Budget Monitoring / Forecast Outturn Report;</li> <li>➤ The Council has in place an effective risk management framework which will be updated in 2025-26 to directly support delivery of the Council Plan and business-as usual activities. A Strategic Risk Register is subject to regular review;</li> <li>➤ The existing customer charter has been updated in the form of a set of Customer Commitments, which were co designed by cross-council working groups during 2024, and which form part of the new Council Plan</li> <li>➤ Capital investment is structured and in line with the Investment Strategy;</li> <li>➤ The Asset Management Strategy provides the vision and strategy for the alignment of assets with Council goals and objectives;</li> <li>➤ Reporting templates prompt consideration of a longer-term view in the decision-making process, with more emphasis placed on measuring and monitoring outcomes as opposed to outputs. The templates also ensure that the decision maker is advised on the wider implications of the decision, including Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding;</li> <li>➤ A social value approach is in place to ensure that the economic, environmental and social benefits are embedded, realised and captured consistently for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Council’s updated complaints policy and process will be implemented</li> <li>➤ The current guidance on risk assessments will be reviewed and updated if required</li> <li>➤ Training related to health and safety will be reviewed and updated if required</li> </ul>
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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

		<p>Derbyshire when procuring services. This has been supported by introduction of the Council's Sustainable Procurement Policy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan are in place with specific and measurable targets.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Principle D</b></p> <p>Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes</p>	<p><b>Review</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Financial and Procurement Strategies are in place;</li> <li>➤ The Council has Improvement and Scrutiny Committees in place;</li> <li>➤ The Council produces its plan through an Integrated Strategic Planning Cycle, which includes public engagement in developing the Council Plan</li> <li>➤ The People Strategy has been approved and implemented to ensure a consistent, council-wide approach for future investment in its workforce; This will be refreshed for 2025-29</li> <li>➤ The Council updates its Five-Year Financial Plan as part of the annual budget setting process, alongside a review of its reserves position;</li> <li>➤ The Council undertakes Equality Impact Assessments to support decision making. Work is underway to develop an electronic portal to ensure these are collated and opportunities for sharing best practice exploited; training is available to support consistency of approach when developing EIAs</li> <li>➤ Briefings between officers and Cabinet members are embedded to ensure information needs to support decision making are met;</li> <li>➤ The People Strategy has been deployed with departmental people plans in place, and HR deliverable plans focused on key workforce priorities for action. Quarterly reports on performance against the People Strategy are provided to CMT</li> <li>➤ The Council upgraded its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, SAP to S4, which in turn has mitigated technical infrastructure risk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Council's new Digital Strategy, which describes the Council's future approach to Digital, and the Cloud Technical Infrastructure Strategy, which defines the technical infrastructure necessary to deliver the Digital Strategy were completed and agreed by the Council in the financial year The Digital Services Structure Strategy (ICT Strategy, Target Operating Model and Implementation Plan) has been completed since the end of the financial year and agreed by the council. A Digital Transformation Programme is now being planned, to implement the changes described in the three strategies.</li> <li>➤ Following risk mitigation work on its technical infrastructure as the strategies were compiled (above), the Council received a PSN Connection Compliance Certification from the Cabinet Office on 4 Mar 2024, for the first time since Jan 2021. The Council is working to develop a more proactive approach to the use of collective intelligence to guide decision making, rather than data. This is expected to be achieved through the development of cloud, SAP S4/HANA, other software, roles and use of intelligence during 2024;</li> <li>➤ Where departments have unachieved savings, alternative initiatives need to be developed to ensure the Council continues to achieve a balanced budget;</li> <li>➤ Improvements to be made to align budget and Council plan development;</li> <li>➤ The Council has reviewed the Code of Practice on good governance for Statutory officers and should implement approved recommendations and actions flowing from that review</li> </ul>

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

<p><b>Principle E</b></p> <p>Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it</p>	<p><b>Good</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Members and officers work together to deliver a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles;</li> <li>➤ The arrangements for Member training and development are in place, with steps being taken to determine the future approach to the Member Development Working Group;</li> <li>➤ Induction policies, procedures and programmes are in place to support newly elected Members and employees;</li> <li>➤ Employee development is supported through the provision of generic and specific learning interventions, including initiatives on DLO and supporting the maintenance of professional standards and qualification training. Improved awareness and utilisation of key talent pipelines, including apprenticeships, have been deployed, alongside the successful development and deployment of a graduate development scheme.</li> <li>➤ The approach to engaging, informing and developing leaders has been deployed with the Shaping the Future forum regularly held and the leadership forum recently re-launched;</li> <li>➤ Meetings attended by senior management from the individual departments held on a weekly basis. Shaping the Future Forums are attended by EDs, Directors and Assistant Directors on a quarterly basis and a Leadership Forums take place twice a year for all Grade 14 leaders and above. Executive directors and statutory officers attend weekly Corporate Management Team (CMT) meetings to bring the Council together as a whole. Attendees are party to the development of policy from an early stage. Cabinet meetings are held in conjunction with CMT on a monthly basis</li> <li>➤ The Inspiring Leaders development programme has now launched phase 1 to circa 1200 leaders, with plans progressing to develop phase 2. Mandatory development programme for all line managers and leaders at G12+, which aims to develop the leadership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Whilst departmental people plans are in place aligned to the People Strategy, the organisation would benefit from a strategic workforce plan to support future talent provision and workforce changes; work is underway to validate workforce structural accuracy and develop a costed Strategic Workforce Plan</li> <li>➤ Awareness of the anti-fraud, anti-corruption and Whistleblowing policies needs to be reinforced across the Council</li> <li>➤ The Scheme of delegation in the Constitution is in the process of review. Executive Directors will be requested to liaise with the Monitoring officer to complete this review in 2025</li> <li>➤ The number of senior roles held by interim appointments should be reduced; recruiting permanent staff to promote stability</li> </ul>
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## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

		<p>behaviours needed to lead change and inspire our people and teams to high performance. The programme takes 5 months to complete and will be delivered through a top-down approach over 3 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Council has implemented a revised employee performance management policy and has implemented the Performance and Development Review (PDR) across leadership cohorts, replacing the former MyPlan approach. Talent reviews have been held to consider the performance and potential of all leaders undertaking roles at grade 14 and above;</li> <li>➤ Employees are able to access training in new technology and IT systems to ensure effective use of systems;</li> <li>➤ The Constitution contains a clear statement of the roles and responsibilities of the Leader and Head of Paid Service;</li> <li>➤ The Member and Officer Relationships Protocol in the Constitution sets out the different roles of Members and Officers.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Principle F</b></p> <p>Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management</p>	<p><b>Review</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Audit Committee operates in accordance with prescribed terms of reference. The Committee receives, approves and monitors the Audit Plans for internal and external audit;</li> <li>➤ The Audit Committee monitors the effectiveness of the Authority's risk management arrangements. Executive directors attend the Committee to discuss key risk within their department;</li> <li>➤ The effectiveness of the governance framework including the system of internal control is reviewed annually;</li> <li>➤ Audit Services review the effectiveness of the Authority's internal controls;</li> <li>➤ The Strategic Risk Register is subject to regular review;</li> <li>➤ Horizon scanning activity is undertaken to identify new and emerging risks;</li> <li>➤ The Council has been proactive in its approach to the data protection, information governance and dealing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Cyber security threats require ongoing monitoring and development of appropriate responses. The need for a Cyber Security working group requires reviewed in light of the ICT Strategy, currently under development;</li> <li>➤ There have been delays in revaluing property for insurance purposes;</li> <li>➤ A Data Management Strategy has not yet been introduced. This will be developed as part of the three year digital roadmap</li> <li>➤ The follow-up report to the Corporate Peer Review recommended "Reviewing the financial plan to recognise the new financial environment as the Council emerges from the pandemic"</li> <li>➤ Develop the process for lessons learnt from internal incidents and external Public Interest Reports;</li> <li>➤ Access to financial information needs to be improved to build budget ownership and therefore improve financial management</li> </ul>

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

		<p>with data breaches which are continually monitored by the officer Groups;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Embedded Financial Regulations and Standing Orders which were reviewed during 2024/25, Procurement policies and practices which are subject to periodic review by officers and the Audit Committee;</li> <li>➤ The Council has a Medium-Term Financial Plan and Budget Monitoring policies in place, endorsed by the LGA's Corporate Peer Review;</li> <li>➤ The Improvement and Scrutiny Committees scrutinise decisions made, or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;</li> <li>➤ The standards of behaviour and conduct are detailed in the Member and Officer Relationships Protocol and Code of Conduct;</li> <li>➤ Quarterly corporate performance and financial management reports are produced and presented to Cabinet. This supplements performance management arrangements operating within individual Departments;</li> <li>➤ The Audit Charter formalises procedures including the independence of Internal Audit and unrestricted access to all Members, officers and documentation as appropriate;</li> <li>➤ The Council has a designated Data Protection Officer, who provides an annual report to CMT.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Standing Orders are complex and require simplification</li> <li>➤ Improve and strengthen the Council's Business Continuity Planning Arrangements. Review all Business Continuity Plans and refresh where required</li> <li>➤ Further embedding of Risk management Strategy required alongside further embedding and increased understanding of risk management at an operational level</li> <li>➤ Reinforce the importance of Information Governance across the Council</li> <li>➤ Assurance is required over the quality of performance monitoring below divisional level</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle G</b></p> <p>Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability</p>	<p><b>Review</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Constitution defines how the Council operates and the decision-making processes to ensure the Council is efficient, transparent and accountable to local people;</li> <li>➤ Two independent Members have been appointed to the Audit Committee</li> <li>➤ The Audit Plan determines how Audit resources will be focused, allowing formation of an annual internal opinion on the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control;</li> <li>➤ The Council's Audit function is subject to an external quality assessment;</li> <li>➤ Assurance mapping has identified opportunities to leverage assurance on the control environment from third parties and regulatory bodies, permitting Internal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The process to produce the AGS in a timely manner needs further embedding</li> <li>➤ Plans are being developed to undertake a self assessment of audit committee skills and experience</li> <li>➤ Understanding and compliance with terms and conditions associated with grant funding, failure to adhere may result in the partial or full recovery of funding.</li> <li>➤ The systems and protocols to support and monitor partnership working require review and improvement The Council is creating a comprehensive picture of all current partnership arrangements. The register is</li> </ul>

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

		<p>Audit resources to be targeted on areas which add most value;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Council, Departmental and Service Plans set out objectives and include performance targets;</li> <li>➤ Council, Cabinet and Committee meetings are open to the public, unless exempt or confidential information is being considered, and minutes are published on the website to aid transparency;</li> <li>➤ Financial Statements have generally been produced and published on a consistent and timely basis;</li> <li>➤ Departmental Financial Schemes of Delegation supplement the Council's Financial Regulations and Standing Orders relating to Contracts;</li> <li>➤ The Assistant Director of Finance (Audit) produces their Annual Report which is considered by Audit Committee and highlights both significant areas of good practice and those where improvements can be made;</li> <li>➤ The Council routinely publishes data and meets requirements of Local Government Transparency Code;</li> <li>➤ A Forward Plan of 'key decisions' is now embedded that looks to the future for a period longer than the statutory requirement;</li> <li>➤ Resource has been made for an Internal Audit Service; and regular progress reports on audit findings are received by Audit Committee to provide assurance on the risk management, governance and internal control arrangements of the Council;</li> <li>➤ The Monitoring Officer reports the Annual Review Letter of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman to Governance Ethics and Standards Committee and Cabinet on an annual basis.</li> </ul>	<p>intended to bring oversight, governance and assurance to partnership activity so that risk can be appropriately managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improvements in officer training required for Financial Regulations, Schemes of Delegation and associated policies given the high number of new employees joining the Council without local government experience. E-learning module to be rolled out following ongoing update of policies;</li> <li>➤ The recent developments in scenario planning should be built upon to enhance the Council's compliance with the CIPFA financial management code</li> <li>➤ The Council has recently reviewed its MTFS process to align with the Council plan but needs to further develop its medium term financial planning, especially related to capital expenditure</li> </ul>
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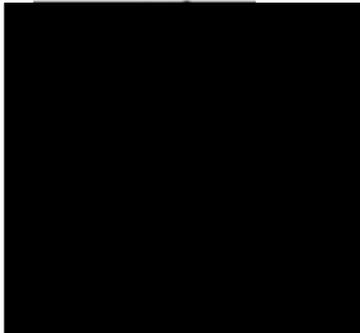
## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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### **The Annual Governance Statement & Opinion**

We have been advised on the implications of the results of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework by the Audit Committee. It is our opinion that whilst the Council's corporate governance framework is considered generally fit for purpose, there are areas that require improvement to enable it to be considered fully adequate. Where there is an area which requires improvement, the Council has a plan to address identified weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place. This plan is attached to this document.

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address those opportunities for improvement highlighted above to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements which were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.



**Councillor Alan Graves**  
**Leader of the Council**

**October 2025**

For Derbyshire County Council



**Neil Crittenden**  
**Chief Executive**

**February 2026**

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Date	Amended Due Date	Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q1 25-26 Comments
24-25	AGS-A A01 Approve the referral form, post to website and ensure communicated across the organization	Work required to develop a Whistleblowing Referral Form and continue to ensure Whistleblowing Policy is communicated widely, understood and embedded. This is to be completed after review of Whistleblowing Policy.	Approve the referral form, publish on the website and ensure the policy is appropriately communicated across the organization	Dir Legal and Dem services	Legal	31/03/2025	31/03/2026	In Progress	The review of the Whistleblowing Policy is in progress and referral form being drafted.	
24-25	AGS-A A02 To be scheduled, learning request to be completed.	Employees and Members to be provided with formal ethical awareness, in accordance with the Nolan principles, training to embed high ethical standards, an understanding of ethical risks and ability to make decisions with integrity and confidence.	To be scheduled, learning request to be completed.	AD HR	POC	31/03/2025	01/09/2025	In Progress		Work is progressing. LSD have developed an assessment of external provision and scheduled to meet with the MD to agree the scope and specification for the training.
24-25	AGS-A B02 Redesign of the Partnership Protocol and Toolkit	Review of the Derbyshire Partnership Toolkit and development of systems and protocols to support and monitor partnership working. Improvement also required in how the organization interacts and delivers services with partners. This includes risks of particular partnerships on the Council.	Redesign of the Partnership Protocol and Toolkit	AD Strategy & Policy	POC	31/03/2025	30/09/2025	In Progress	Strategic consultation framework and toolkit in draft and due for consideration at CMT in Feb 2025	Scope of the work has been expanded to include 3rd party arrangements following an Audit report and recommendation. The additional scope will be expanded to capture 3rd party arrangements (excluding contractual arrangements).
24-25	AGS-A B03 Roll out process to coincide with publication of the revised scheme of delegation	A new streamlined process for Officer decisions to be published through Mod.gov. requires further development.	Roll out process to coincide with publication of the revised scheme of delegation	Dir. Legal and Dem services	Legal	31/03/2025	31/03/2026	In Progress	This action is linked with the activity to review the Scheme of Delegation, which is in progress.	
24-25	AGS-A B05 The new approach to JSNA has been widely shared across the Council.	Improved engagement in the production and use of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	The new approach to JSNA has been widely shared across the Council. The updated interim JSNA will be available in a Powerpoint from April 2024	Dir. Public Health	Public Health	31/03/2025	31/10/2025	In Progress	The new approach to JSNA has been widely shared across the Council. The updated interim JSNA will be available in a Powerpoint from April 2024	The JSNA continues to evolve, further power BI licenses are required to ensure it can be proactively accessed and used across the Council
24-25	AGS-A D01 Implement Strategies	The Council's new Digital Strategy, which describes the council's future approach to Digital, and the Cloud Technical Infrastructure Strategy, which defines the technical infrastructure necessary to deliver the Digital Strategy were completed and agreed by the council in 2023/24. The Digital Services Structure Strategy (ICT Strategy, Target Operating Model and Implementation Plan) has been completed since the end of 2023/24 and agreed by the council. A Digital Transformation Programme is now being planned, to implement the changes described in the three strategies.	Implement Strategies	Dir. Digital	Digital	31/03/2025		In Progress	Target Operating Model Phase 1 has been completed in September 2024. We are now executing TOM Phase 2 due to complete by the end of March 2025. Cloud Mandate going to PDG in February.	

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Dt	Amended Due Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q1 25-26 Comments
24-25	AGS-A D02 Achieved through the development of cloud, other software, roles and use of intelligence	The Council could develop a more proactive approach to the use of collective intelligence to guide decision making, rather than data.	This is expected to be achieved through the adoption and development of cloud, SAP S/4HANA, other software, roles and use of intelligence	Dir. Digital	Digital	31/03/2025	31/03/2026 In Progress	This will part of the SAP Get Well Programme that is expected to be approved by PDG. Additionally there is a Cloud Mandate going to PDG in February.	Business case with funding implications scheduled for June/July with SAP Get Well Business case being presented to CST Change Board in May.
24-25	AGS-A D03 Monitor through savings programme board and escalate where appropriate	Where departments have unachieved savings, alternative initiatives need to be developed to ensure the Council continues to achieve a balanced budget.	Monitor through savings programme board and escalate where appropriate	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/03/2025	31/03/2026 In Progress	The delivery of savings in 2024/25 is closely monitored and where savings are unable to be delivered alternatives will be found by Executive Directors. This is monitored monthly at the Corporate Management Team and reported to Cabinet quarterly.	
24-25	AGS-A D04 Council plan and budget setting process were aligned as part of budget 2024/25	Improvements to be made to align budget and Council plan development.	Council plan and budget setting process were aligned as part of budget 2024/25. Further work required to ensure MTPS and Council plan fully aligned	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/03/2025	31/03/2026 In Progress	The integrated planning framework for the 2025/26 and beyond is aligned to the budget setting process S/160. This is progressed through to approval in Feb 2025	
24-25	AGS-A E02 Ongoing	Whilst departmental people plans are in place aligned to the People Strategy, the organization would benefit from a strategic workforce plan to support future talent provision and workforce changes.	Ongoing	Dir. POC	POC	30/04/2025	31/03/2026 In Progress		Workforce planning resource to be increased to bring together individual dept plans and align with the other ongoing projects.
24-25	AGS-A E05 Continue to progress the review of the officer scheme of delegation.	The Scheme of delegation in the Constitution requires review.	Complete the review of the officer scheme of delegation.	Dir. Legal and Dem. services	Legal	31/03/2025	31/03/2026 In Progress		The review of the officer delegation scheme is continuing
24-25	AGS-A F01 On going monitoring of threats by Cyber Security Group established.	Cyber security threats will require ongoing monitoring and development of appropriate responses. The need for a Cyber Security working group requires review in light of the ICT Strategy, currently in implementation.	On going monitoring of threats by Cyber Security Group established. Security role being formally established under AD of Digital Architecture and Strategy	Dir. Digital	Digital	01/12/2025	In Progress		The new structure under the AD for Architecture and Strategy comes into effect in May 2025 with the new AD starting in July. Establishment of a new group, terms of reference and membership will be a priority for the postholder once in place.
24-25	AGS-A F02 On going work to deliver valuations in line with insurance requirements	There have been delays in revaluing property for insurance purposes	On going work to deliver valuations in line with insurance requirements	AD Finance (audit)	Audit	31/03/2025	30/09/2025 In Progress		Initial discussions with the Property Division have meant further work is required due to the availability of valuers internally. Therefore, proposals for a solution to the current issue will need further exploration and agreement.

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Dt	Amended Due Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q1 25-26 Comments
24-25	AGS-A P03 Data management working group established and will work to producing strategy	A Data Management Strategy has not yet been introduced.	Data management working group established and will work to produce and implement a strategy. New Head of Service Appointed and in post by end June 25	Dir Digital	Digital	31/05/2025	31/05/2026	In Progress	The Data Management strategy needs to be developed but in lieu of that, mandates to begin the move to a strategic records management platform (Sharepoint) will be presented to PDG in June 25. This will begin to shape the road map for a new records management approach and related governance.
24-25	AGS-A P04 Review MTFS to align with new Council plan	The follow-up report to the Corporate Peer Review recommended "Reviewing the financial plan to recognise the new financial environment as the Council emerges from the pandemic"	Review MTFS to align with new Council plan	Dir Finance	Finance	31/12/2024	31/12/2025	In Progress	
24-25	AGS-A P05 Create "library" of known incidents and share recommended best practice	Develop the process for lessons learnt from internal incidents and external Public Interest Reports	Create "library" of known incidents and share recommended best practice	Dir Finance	Finance	31/12/2025		In Progress	
24-25	AGS-A P06 Arrange training to build risk assessment and management knowledge	Further embedding of Risk Management Strategy required, alongside further embedding and increased understanding of risk management at an operational level. Frequency and quality of review of departmental risk registers has been highlighted as an area requiring improvement. Mitigation actions are not currently allocated to specific managers and do not have defined timescales for action.	Arrange training to build risk assessment and management knowledge	AD Strategy & Policy	POC	31/12/2024	31/05/2026	In Progress	<p>Committee members, senior officers and managers as required. In-depth reviews of the strategic risk register conducted by CMT. CMT risk deep dive programme to commence in April 2025. Risk management now discussed more regularly across the Council. Online training module for managers to be delivered in 2025/26. Intention to link risks more directly with strategic and service objectives for corporate management and reporting purposes to emphasise relevance to delivery. All senior leadership and management teams to regularly discuss and review risk registers to improve assessment and challenge, ensure sufficiency of management actions in controlling risks, and ensure actions are completed within reasonable timescales. Further work needed to strengthen challenge, and to embed understanding at Head of Service</p> <p>Introductory training for new Audit Committee will be delivered on 17 June 2025. Development of online training module for managers in hand. Work is ongoing to ensure that risk management actions are allocated to the most appropriate person. Estimated completion dates for actions are now largely up-to-date. This is now being monitored and reported on to CMT each quarter.</p>

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Date	Amended Due Date	Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q1 25-26 Comments
24-25	AGS-A F07 Review BCG Terms of Reference, Priority Services and Councils BC Plans	Improve and strengthen the Council's Business Continuity Planning Arrangements	Review and update BCG Terms of Reference, Priority Services and the Councils BC Plans	Dir. POC	POC	31/03/2025	31/03/2026	In Progress	Terms of reference and associated documents (agenda, membership, etc) have been drafted and in a position to be formally adopted once approved by the next Business Continuity Group meeting. Priority services: - Priority list is to be circulated to all departments for completion/further review in order to create an up to date 2025 version. Council BC plans: work ongoing. This will be highlighted/discussed at the next Business Continuity Group	
24-25	AGS-A F08 Improve financial processes and link to PMO	Improve financial reporting, linking to service activity and performance. Improve access to financial information	Improve financial processes and link to PMO. Make better use of technology to provide increased access to financial information, review contents of reports and consider inclusion of wider financial performance/activity data	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/12/2024	31/12/2025	In Progress		Linked to finance improvement and SAP get well project
24-25	AGS-A F10 Improve Information governance awareness across the Council	Reinforce the importance of Information Governance across the Council	Improve information governance awareness across the Council	Dir. Digital	Digital	31/12/2024	31/03/2026	In Progress		Information Governance Group key metrics includes organisational takeup and completion of mandatory Information Governance training, and metrics such as reduction in reported security breaches, will continue to be monitored. ISO 27001 re-accreditation planned for Autumn 2026 which will also provide assurances against this principle.

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Dt	Amended Due Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q3 25-26 Comments
24-25	AGS-A F11 Maintain and further develop the corporate performance management framework	Review performance monitoring arrangements	Maintain and further develop the corporate performance management framework to promote a high performing culture, including: - Review and development of new performance management framework (PMF) and outcomes framework aligned to the new council plan - Review of Apex (corporate performance management system) and procurement of corporate solution that meets requirements of integrated management of performance, risk and project management	AD Strategy & Policy	POC	31/03/2025	31/03/2026	In Progress	PMF review has been completed and will be considered by CMT in June with a view to implement in 2025/26 subject to capacity. Outcomes framework is complete and baseline information and dashboard is pending publication. Apex review is underway including technical spec/requirements - Awaiting agreement of one year extension pending a decision on future solution and implementation. *
24-25	AGS-A G03 Revised timetable, including progress reviews has been approved by the Governance Group	Embed the process to produce the AGS in a timely manner.	Revised timetable, including progress reviews has recently been approved by the Governance Group.	Dir. Finance	Finance		31/12/2026	In Progress	
24-25	AGS-A G05 Work ongoing to improve central grants register and associated procedures	Understanding and compliance with terms and conditions associated with grant funding, failure to adhere may result in the partial or full recovery of funding.	Work ongoing to improve central grants register and associated procedures. Awareness of grant funding requirements to be promoted.	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/03/2024	31/12/2025	In Progress	
25-26	AGS-A A10 Embed knowledge on financial regulations and standing orders	Training for the amended Financial Regulations and Standing Orders has been introduced onto Derbyshire learning online but this needs to be further embedded.	Develop and implement plan to embed knowledge, report on training undertaken	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/12/2025			
25-26	AGS -A A11 Implement the Officers' Declaration of Interests Policy	Process for officer declaration of interests needs to be implemented and embedded	Process and form for declaring interests to introduced	Dir. POC	POC	31/03/2026		In Progress	Initial progress made. Policy to be linked to the Code of Conduct policy. References made to link in the recording of interests. Comm to raise awareness to also be developed once this work completed.
25-26	AGS-A G03 Implement the Council's new complaints policy and process	The Council has updated its existing customer charter, changes to the complaints process need implementing across the Council	The new complaints policy has been approved by Cabinet and is now live. Further work will be carried out as part of the new Customer Experience programme to developed further guidance and to make the way complaints are reported upon more uniform.	AD Comms and customer	POC	31/03/2026			

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Dv	Amended Due Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q3 25-26 Comments
25-26	AGS-A C04 Review and update guidance on risk assessments	Review and update risk assessment guidance as part of update to risk management framework in 2025/26. Seek to ensure a common risk assessment model where appropriate	Review and update risk assessment guidance as part of update to risk management framework in 2025/26. Seek to ensure a common risk assessment model where appropriate	AD Strategy & Policy	POC	31/03/2026			Common risk framework agreed and used as part of the APEX risk management module. This will be reviewed as part of an update to support delivery of the new Council Plan and integration with the Performance Framework. Common risk assessment will be supported by an updated risk management toolkit, an online risk management training module for managers and face-to-face training if required.
25-26	AGS-A C05 Review and update health and safety training	Self review indicated a need for a review of health and safety training	To undertake a review of health and safety training	AD HR	POC	31/03/2026		Initial review of available courses on DfD undertaken and additional courses added to available Health and Safety Offer	Further areas of health and safety training requiring reviewing or new content identified. HSW team working with L&D to determine best way to deliver these. Ongoing throughout year.
25-26	AGS-A E06 Implement structural accuracy programme and develop a strategic workforce plan	Whilst departmental people plans are in place aligned to the People Strategy, the organisation would benefit from a strategic workforce plan to support future talent provision and workforce changes	To develop a strategic workforce plan to ensure right people, right place, right time	AD HR	POC	31/03/2026	In progress		Finalising proposed vision for Strategic Workforce Plan - by the end Q3. Supporting the completion of the structural accuracy programme to ensure accuracy of information
25-26	AGS-A E12 Strengthen organisational awareness of anti-fraud, anti-corruption and whistleblowing policies	Ongoing requirement to ensure organisational knowledge and awareness of anti-fraud, anti-corruption and whistleblowing policies	Ensure arrangements are in place to increase organisational awareness.	Dir legal and Dem services. AD Finance (Audit)	Finance	31/03/2026			
25-26	AGS-A E13 Develop plans to reduce the number of interim appointments	The number of senior roles held by interim appointments should be reduced; recruiting permanent staff to promote stability		Executive Directors					
25-26	AGS-A F12 Seek to simplify standing orders	The Councils standing orders for procurement are considered complex and could benefit from simplification	review and update standing orders	Dir. Finance	Finance	30/09/2025			
25-26	Improve MTFS scenario planning to inform financial resilience assessment	The recent developments in scenario planning should be built upon to enhance the Councils compliance with the CIPFA financial management code	Improve MTFS scenario planning to inform financial resilience assessment	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/12/2025			

## ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2025-26 – ACTION PLAN

YEAR	Action Title	Area For Improvement	Agreed Action	Lead Officer	Dept	Original Due Dt	Amended Due Stage	Q4 24-25 Comments	Q1 25-26 Comments
25-26	Review Capital budget process and integration with MTPS	The Council has recently reviewed its MTPS process to align with the Council plan but needs to further develop its medium term financial planning, especially related to capital expenditure	Improve capital planning process to better inform MTPS and facilitate resource allocation over medium term	Dir. Finance	Finance	31/12/2025			
25-26	AGS-A D07 Implement the agreed recommendations following consideration of the Code of Practice on Good Governance for LA Statutory Officers	The Council has reviewed the Code of Practice and should implement approved recommendations and actions flowing from that review	Implement the agreed recommendations following consideration of the Code of Practice on Good Governance for LA Statutory Officers	Dir. Legal and Dem services	Legal	31/12/2025			