

Supplementary Agenda



Listening Learning Leading

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Date: 23 January 2023

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A MEETING OF THE

Scrutiny Committee

WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2023 AT 6.00 PM

At Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon OX14 3JE

To watch this virtual meeting, follow this link to the council's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTj2pCic8vzucpzlaSWE3UQ>

Members of the Committee:

Ian White (Chairman)

Mocky Khan (Vice-Chair)

Anna Badcock

David Bartholomew

Stefan Gawrysiak

Alexandrine Kantor

George Levy

Jo Robb

David Turner

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Patrick Arran

Head of Legal and Democratic Services

8. Revenue Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme to 2027/28 - Cabinet report (Pages 3 - 48)

For scrutiny committee to consider the report of the Head of Finance and make any recommendations to Cabinet. (Appendix E to follow)





Report to: Scrutiny Committee Cabinet Council

Report of Head of Finance

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To: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

26 January 2023

To: CABINET

2 February 2023

To: COUNCIL

16 February 2023

Revenue Budget 2023/24 and Capital Programme to 2027/28

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Cabinet recommends to Council that it:
 - a. sets the revenue budget for 2023/24 as set out in appendix A.1 to this report,
 - b. delegates authority to the head of finance in consultation with the cabinet member for finance to make a one-off contribution to the Oxfordshire County Council pension fund of up to £5 million, subject to confirmation of the results of the triennial pension fund valuation,
 - c. approves the capital programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in appendix D.1 to this report, together with the capital programme changes as set out in appendix D.2 and Appendix D.3 to this report,
 - d. sets the council's prudential limits as listed in appendix E to this report,
 - e. approves the medium-term financial plan to 2027/28 as set out in appendix F to this report,
 - f. allocates £500,000 to fund the Communities Capital and Revenue grant scheme,
 - g. asks officers to review the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) at the end of the current spending review period.
2. That Cabinet agrees that the cabinet member for finance, in conjunction with the head of finance, may make minor adjustments to this report and the prudential indicators should they prove necessary prior to its submission to Council on 16 February 2023.

Purpose of report

1. This report:
 - brings together all relevant information to allow Cabinet to recommend to Council a revenue budget for 2023/24 and a capital programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28;
 - recommends the prudential indicators to be set by the council in accordance with 'the Prudential Code' introduced as part of the Local Government Act 2003;
 - contains the opinion of the council's chief financial officer on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of the council's financial reserves;
 - contains the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) which provides details of the forward budget model for the next five years.

Strategic objectives

2. The allocation of financial resources within the revenue and capital budgets needs to match the objectives agreed by the council.

Revenue budget setting 2023/24

Background

3. The revenue budget for 2022/23 agreed by Council in February 2022 was balanced by a draw on revenue reserves of £2.1 million. Whilst a draw on reserves was anticipated to be required across all years of the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) agreed in February 2022, following the budget challenge activity undertaken during 2021/22 this was much lower than previously predicted.
4. As noted in the budget setting report, this use of reserves was considered manageable in the period covered by the MTFP and beyond (in light of the reserves and balances available to the council and the council's ability to vary budgets and redirect funding) but still needed to be addressed through the council's long term transformation programme, which will need to continue to evolve as the position of national funding settlements becomes clear in future years.
5. The background and approach to budget setting for 2023/24, reflecting the economic and political turmoil experienced during 2022, were covered in the "Budget setting 2023/24 update report" considered by Cabinet on 19 December 2022.

Revenue base budget setting 2023/24

6. The starting point for building the council's budget for 2023/24 is to determine the base budget. This represents the costs to the council of continuing to provide existing services on an ongoing basis.
7. Base budgets for 2023/24 have been constructed by heads of service and budget holders, supported by finance business partners from the Strategic Finance

Team. As with the 2022/23 base budgets, they have been tested through a two-stage “base budget challenge” exercise:

- Stage 1 is rigorous officer-based challenge undertaken by the Interim Head of Policy and Programmes and the Head of Finance supported by accountants from the Strategic Finance Team,
 - Stage 2 is a member-led challenge exercise, led by the relevant portfolio holder for the service under review and the cabinet member for finance.
8. The challenge process, which was completed before Christmas focussed on the following key areas:
- Identification and removal of any remaining surplus budgets,
 - Right-sizing budgets to reflect the current economic climate and pressures,
 - Ensuring that all discretionary fees and charges increase by a minimum of five per cent and that the Council delivers on its commitment to ensure that when setting discretionary charges, all relevant costs are included and recovered transparently,
 - Ongoing centralisation of budgets as the impact of our insourcing and increased corporate capacity, which has been a member priority, is utilised to ensure accurate budgeting, proper control of expenditure and the avoidance of potential over-budgeting through double provision.

Revenue budget 2023/24

Budget composition 2023/24

9. **Appendix A.1** summarises the movements in the base budget from £16,778,579 in 2022/23 to £18,118,029 in 2023/24. These movements are detailed below.
10. **Opening budget adjustment reduction (£1,326,938) (appendix A.2)**. This includes the removal of one-off growth items relating to previous years’ budgets.
11. Additions to the base budget:

- **inflation, salary increments and other salary adjustments £993,811 (appendix A.3)**. For all employees an increase in salary of 5.5 per cent is budgeted for 2023/24, reflecting the core settlement agreed with Ridgeway Unison. Increments payable to council employees not at the top of their salary range total £180,781. Other salary adjustments represent a reduction in cost of £263,475.

At this stage, the council has not received formal confirmation of the results of the triennial valuation of the council’s pension fund liability, as calculated by Oxfordshire County Council’s pension fund actuaries. The 2023/24 budget is based on the assumption that the valuation does not have a material impact on the pension costs incurred by the council as employer. In the event that the valuation does require a cost increase, it is proposed that consideration be given to making a one-off contribution to the pension scheme up front from either capital receipts or from prior year underspends. Any such contribution would need to be made during the current (2022/23) financial year.

- **essential growth – one-off £110,061 and ongoing £2,605,066 (appendix A.4)**, these items comprise additional expenditure items, and reductions in income, which have been identified by officers as unavoidable and reflect changes that have occurred in the current year or which are known will happen in 2023/24. Given the value of these additional essential growth items they have been tested and challenged during the base budget challenge by both officers and cabinet members.

12. Deductions from the base budget:

- **base budget reductions £984,129, (appendix A.5)** These base budget savings are reductions in costs identified by officers which may be the result of more efficient working or previously agreed policy decisions, cost reductions outside of the council's control, increases in income, or correction to budgets.
- **In year savings target £300,000.** In undertaking the base budget challenge exercise, officers consider that there is further potential to realise further savings from the base budgets from the long-term transformational programme as identified changes are implemented. As an illustration, further changes across the following areas will be made in 2023/24:
 - Development management,
 - Customer services,
 - Grounds maintenance

13. The contingency budget was raised to £400,000 as part of 2022/23 budget setting. Officers have concluded that this level should be unchanged for 2023/24 as it is reflective of wider economic uncertainty.

14. As a result of these changes the council's revised base budget for 2023/24 is **£18,118,029** some **£1,339,450** more than that set in 2022/23.

Revenue growth

15. Revenue growth of **£500,000** to support corporate plan priorities has been included in the budget for 2023/24 and also for 2024/25. This is detailed in **appendix B.1** and represents activity in support of increased staff resource focussed on the following corporate plan priorities and the continuation of the active community grants scheme developed in 2022/23:

- Climate action,
- Nature recovery, and
- Community well-being.

16. The previous year's budget also included £500,000 one-off funding. **Appendix B.2** is a report on the outcomes associated with that spending.

Revenue savings

17. Revenue savings total **£70,000** and are shown in **Appendix B.2**.

Borrowing costs

18. The latest capital programme has no requirement for payment of costs of borrowing in 2023/24.

Gross treasury income

19. Treasury income earned in 2023/24 is currently forecast to be **£5,205,754** and will be allocated as follows:
- £1,845,754 to support in year revenue expenditure;
 - £3,000,000 to support future revenue budgets; and
 - £360,000 reinvested in financial instruments.
20. This is a slight change from the normal practice of the council to use all monies earned in year to support future year's budgets. In the current economic climate, where interest rates have risen sharply in recent months but are expected to fall in future years, capping the transfers to future years at £3 million will have the effect of smoothing the use of treasury income over the earlier years of the MTFP period.
21. More details of treasury income can be found in the council's Treasury Management Strategy report¹.
22. Including revenue growth and savings, borrowing costs and treasury income results in a net expenditure budget for the council of **£13,342,275**.

Reserves and other funding

Transfers to/from reserves

23. The proposed transfers to earmarked reserves total **£2,045,754** and reflect:
- The transfer from reserves of projected treasury income earned in 2022/23 and earmarked to support the revenue account in 2023/24 - **£1,375,846**,
 - The transfer to reserves of treasury income earned in 2023/24 - **£3,360,000**,
 - The transfer to reserves of the affordable homes element of the New Homes Bonus (NHB) payment - **£61,600**.
24. Based on the above use of reserves and other funding, the amount of revenue expenditure to be financed from government settlement, council tax and unearmarked reserves in 2022/23 is **£15,388,029 (appendix A.1)**.

¹ Considered by Cabinet 2 February 2023, Council 16 February 2023

Funding

Local government settlement

25. The provisional local government settlement for 2023/24 was announced in December 2022. Whilst the settlement gave “details of funding in 2024/25”, in reality it did not provide certainty as to the numbers for 2024/25.
26. Table 1 below details the government’s funding for the council in 2023/24.

Table 1: provisional local government finance settlement 2023/24

	Provisional Settlement £
Settlement Funding Assessment	(2,817,863)
Indexation	(460,324)
NDR at safety net	202,678
Settlement Funding Assessment	(3,075,509)
Other funding	
New Homes Bonus	(1,280,336)
Rural Services Delivery Grant	(44,314)
Services grant	(101,187)
Funding guarantee	(883,142)
Grand total	(5,384,488)

27. The provisional settlement for 2023/24 represents an increase in “core revenue spending power” of 5.3 per cent compared to 2022/23. Whilst the provisional settlement, at a national level, includes an average increase in core revenue spending power of nine per cent, for district councils the average is five per cent. Council tax income is included in the definition of core revenue spending power and, in calculating the increase, government assumes that council tax will increase by the maximum allowed before a referendum is required.
28. Included within the government’s definition of core revenue spending power is NHB, which has become critical to the sustainability of the council’s MTFP. As identified above funding has been provisionally announced along with the settlement this year at **£1,280,336** for 2023/24. This represents one year’s worth of NHB only, which is much reduced from the original scheme.
29. Government has also provided Services grant funding of **£101,187**. It has also provided a one-off funding guarantee as part of this year’s settlement of **£883,142**.
30. At the time of writing this report the final settlement figures had not been received from the government. It is not anticipated that when this information is available it will be materially different to the provisional figures.
31. For budget setting purposes it has been assumed that the council’s “core revenue spending power” will be maintained for 2024/25, but then the one-off, funding guarantee element in this year’s settlement is assumed to fall out for

2025/26 onwards, to reflect the announcement made by the Secretary of State. It is conceivable that this may be too optimistic an approach, or indeed too pessimistic, but given the ongoing uncertainty over local government funding officers consider this to be a prudent approach at this time.

32. The actual funding generated in future years will depend on the outcome of the national review of the retained business rates scheme which will include changes to:

- The percentage of business rates growth that is retained by the different tiers of local government,
- the baseline in accordance with the fair funding review,

As identified in the update report presented to Cabinet before Christmas, it was confirmed by government that this review will not be implemented for the next two years. In respect of NHB, government has announced its intention to set out the future position ahead of the local government finance settlement for 2024/25.

33. Business rates retained by the council as planning authority relating to facilities generating renewable energy within the district is estimated at **£76,894**.

Collection fund

34. The surplus on the collection fund is estimated in 2023/24 to be **£617,971**.

Use of reserves

35. The difference between expenditure requirement and the funding available is smoothed over the medium-term financial plan by transfers to and from the general fund balance. The net impact of these budget proposals is a transfer from reserves of **£643,673** in 2023/24. This compares to a budgeted draw on reserves in 2022/23 of £2.108 million, and to the estimated draw of £1.752 million for 2023/24 when the 2022/23 budget was set.

Cabinet member for finance's revenue budget proposal

36. Based on the amendments detailed above, and as shown in **appendix A.1** of this report, the cabinet member's budget proposal, including growth, is for a net revenue budget of **£13,342,275**. This revenue budget as proposed would result in an increase of £5.00 to current band "D" council tax to **£141.24**.

37. **Appendix C** shows the breakdown of the revenue budget.

Capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28

Current capital programme

38. The latest capital programme (before growth) is attached at **appendix D.1** and is summarised in table 2 below. It is the capital programme as set by Council in February 2022 plus: -

- slippage (caused by delays to projects) carried forward from 2021/22,

- new schemes approved by Council during 2022/23,
 - re-profiling of expenditure on schemes from the 2022/23 financial year to future years where delays to schemes have occurred or additional information is now available to support more accurate profiling,
 - cabinet approved movement of schemes from the provisional to the approved capital programme,
 - the deletion of previously agreed schemes that have completed or are no longer being pursued at this time in their original form.
39. The capital programme also includes CIL receipts that are payable to Oxfordshire County Council and Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Cabinet capital programme proposals

40. **Appendix D.2** contains a list of capital schemes that are being recommended for inclusion and amendment in the capital programme. **Appendix D.3** contains a further list of proposals that will be funded from CIL. Officers will amend the provisional capital programme to include the proposals if approved by Cabinet and Council. All of the CIL funded schemes included in appendix D.3 can be funded from receipts already received by the council.
41. On Appendix D.2, item 5, the proposed Didcot North-East leisure centre, is shown as being fully funded by Section 106 receipts. It should be noted that one source of Section 106 receipts funding this project is the Valley Park development. Up to £3.186 million of those receipts are not scheduled to be paid until after 2030 and will be paid to Vale of White Horse District Council as that is where the Valley Park development is located. Vale of White Horse District Council is expected to confirm as part of its budget setting process that it will pay that element of receipts from Valley Park over to this council.
42. If the council commits to this scheme at this time it is accepting that it will forward fund this scheme, and there is a risk, albeit a risk considered low by officers, that those receipts will not materialise, or will materialise later than expected.
43. On Appendix D.3, item 4 the proposed Didcot Wave learner pool is also partly funded from Section 106 receipts. On this scheme, up to £666,000 of the receipts are not expected to be received until 2030. As with the Didcot North-East leisure centre above, these receipts are from the Valley Park development and will be paid to Vale of White Horse District Council, which is expected to confirm as part of its budget setting process that it will pay that element of receipts from Valley Park over to this council. The council will therefore also forward fund this scheme if its commits to it, albeit to a lesser amount and for a shorter time period than with the Didcot North-East leisure centre scheme.

Financing the capital programme

44. Where permitted, capital expenditure is funded in the first instance from specific government grants, earmarked reserves and other external contributions. The balance of the programme is funded from the council's capital receipts reserve or through prudential borrowing.

45. **Table 2** contains a schedule showing the current and proposed capital programme and how it will be financed, including the growth proposals, if they are approved. The total planned capital expenditure, including the current financial year is **£101.015 million** over five years.
46. The council's usable capital receipts, based on current estimates, are expected to be **£2.494 million** by the end of 2027/28.

Table 2: current and proposed capital programme with financing

	2022/23 latest estimate £000	2023/24 estimate £000	2024/25 estimate £000	2025/26 estimate £000	2026/27 estimate £000	2027/28 estimate £000	GRAND TOTAL £000
Capital programme before growth							
- approved	18,306	13,339	13,790	13,580	1,782	1,782	62,578
- provisional	14,900	3,251	652	626	626	626	20,681
	33,206	16,590	14,442	14,206	2,408	2,408	83,259
Capital growth proposals (Appendix D.2)	0	8,114	1,760	1,510	1,520	20	12,924
Capital growth proposals CIL funded (Appendix D.3)	0	2,280	2,600	107	26	26	5,039
Total expenditure	33,206	26,983	18,802	15,823	3,954	2,454	101,222
Financing							
Grant funding	11,297	2,786	1,518	1,518	1,518	1,518	20,155
Developers' contributions/CIL	12,445	12,738	2,600	107	26	26	27,942
Borrowing	0	8,000	14,500	5,000	0	0	27,500
Usable capital receipts/revenue reserves	9,464	3,460	184	9,198	2,410	910	25,625
Total financing	33,206	26,983	18,802	15,823	3,954	2,454	101,222
Estimated balances as at 31 March 2028 (excluding amounts ring-fenced as part of the the MTFS)							
Usable capital receipts							2,394
General fund balance							7,001
New homes bonus:							
Unringfenced							0
Affordable homes							1,884

Future pressures on the capital programme

47. **Table 2** also shows the use of council resources to fund the capital programme. As can be seen, borrowing of £27.5 million has been factored into the funding of the programme across the MTFP, although no borrowing is expected to be required during 2023/24. Given the likely need for borrowing, the Section 151 officer intends to conduct a full review of the current capital programme, including funding options, ahead of budget setting for 2024/25.
48. In terms of future capital spending, Cabinet has indicated that it would like to prioritise spending to support the following corporate plan priorities:
- Climate action,
 - Nature recovery,
 - Homes and infrastructure.

The prudential code and prudential indicators

49. In setting its revenue and capital budgets for 2023/24, the council must agree prudential indicators in accordance with the prudential code (see below). When recommending its budgets to Council, Cabinet must also recommend the prudential indicators.

50. From 1 April 2004, government control of local authorities' borrowing was abolished and replaced by a prudential system of self-regulation. Authorities are able to borrow based on need and affordability, which they demonstrate through compliance with the prudential code developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) which has statutory force by government regulation.
51. The key objectives of the prudential code are to ensure that the capital investment plans of the authority are affordable, prudent and sustainable. To demonstrate that authorities have had regard to these objectives, the prudential code sets out a number of indicators that must be considered covering five distinct areas – capital expenditure, affordability, prudence, external debt and treasury management. Council must approve the indicators through the budget process before 1 April each year, but they can be revised during the year if required.
52. The key indicators that will drive the capital budget decision making process will be those concerning long term affordability, as these measure the impact of capital investment decisions on the overall revenue budget and in particular the precept against the collection fund.
53. In setting or revising the prudential indicators the council is required to have regard to:
- affordability e.g. implications for the precept
 - prudence and sustainability e.g. implications for external borrowing
 - value for money e.g. option appraisal
 - stewardship of assets e.g. asset management planning
 - service objectives e.g. strategic planning for the council
 - Practicality e.g. achievability of the forward plan.
54. Under the code, the head of finance as chief finance officer is responsible for ensuring that the council considers all relevant matters when setting or revising indicators through a report. The head of finance is also required to establish procedures to monitor performance against all forward-looking indicators; and report upon any significant deviations from forward forecasts with proposed actions.
55. **Appendix E** contains the recommended prudential indicators, which have been calculated based on the budget proposals. The head of finance is satisfied that these indicators show that the council's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

The Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

56. The MTFP provides a forward budget model for the next five years. **Appendix F** contains the MTFP for 2023/24 to 2027/28. This is a projection of the revenue budget up to 31 March 2028. As identified above it assumes that core revenue spending power will remain unchanged for 2024/25 but will then be lower for the rest of the MTFP period. It also incorporates assumptions on interest income and other pressures on the council, such as inflation and salary increments. Clearly in the current economic climate, these assumptions are subject to greater volatility

than experienced in recent years. This therefore renders the estimates in the later years of the MTFP far more speculative than has been the case historically, particularly given the uncertainty around future government funding.

57. At the foot of the MTFP is an illustration on the use of reserves if, instead of core revenue spending power falling from 2025/26 it is in fact maintained at current levels. This illustration still represents a year-on-year reduction in government funding, but the reduction is less severe, with a consequent improvement in the council's predicted financial position.
58. Last year's budget included within the MTFP an estimate of costs associated with the exit and service transformation required when the Five Councils Partnership contract ends in September 2025. It was proposed that the council would, as allowed under the rules for the flexible use of capital receipts, fund these costs, anticipated at this time to be around £1.5 million, from those receipts. During the year ahead officers expect to be clearer on the timing and nature of such costs.
59. The MTFP also, through the "Future essential growth" row, makes provision in future years for increased costs associated with the delivery of council services. At this stage these costs reflect officers' best estimates of such future pressures. It is anticipated that there will be greater clarity on these costs ahead of budget setting for 2024/25.
60. As a result of the work undertaken over the last two years through the budget challenge process, the revenue budget for 2023/24 is in a much healthier state than that previously predicted and demonstrates the positive impact of decisions taken by the council in recent years. However, whilst the short-term position is more positive, looking ahead over the MTFP the picture is much less certain, due to the following factors:
 - Ongoing uncertainty around future local government funding, especially from 2025/26 onwards,
 - The uncertain economic position,
 - Growing uncertainty over the future cost of service provision as this is impacted by external economic factors, in respect of both services provided in-house and externally.

It should be noted that these factors are out of the control of the Council and their impact is not, at this time, possible to predict with certainty.

61. In all financial years it is estimated that revenue expenditure exceeds revenue income, and there is an increasing draw on reserves to balance the budget towards the end of the MTFP period. Based on these latest estimates, revenue reserves are sufficient to set a balanced budget across the MTFP period to 2027/28, but not beyond. However, more so than in recent years, the estimates in later years of the MTFP should be treated with a degree of caution. Clearly if the potential pressures identified in the later years of the MTFP come to fruition then officers and members will need to work together to address the budget gap, but to do so, at this time, would not reflect the more positive position achieved for 2023/24 and 2024/25 and the positive approach to, and the direction of travel of, the Councils finances that has been sustained over the past three years.

Table 3: use of reserves during MTFP period to balance the revenue budget

Financial year	Use of revenue reserves	Use of capital receipts
	£000	£000
2023/24	644	0
2024/25	2,993	150
2025/26	5,224	1,350
2026/27	7,097	0
2027/28	8,495	0
Total	24,453	1,500

62. The council’s MTFs states that the council will hold £50 million of investments of which up to £35 million can be invested in capital schemes that will produce a return of certainty. The remaining balance can be invested in treasury investments. Whilst the treasury investments may in some cases be capable of being realised, investment in capital schemes is not capable of being realised. Such principles will need to be reviewed during the coming year and potentially adjusted in accordance with the level of future government funding and given the likely value of borrowing needed to support the capital programme.
63. As at 31 March 2028 the council is currently projected to have invested or earmarked at least £30 million of the £35 million permitted in capital schemes, including an ongoing £15 million loan to South Oxfordshire Housing Association. A further £15 million has been invested in long term financial instruments.
64. Excluding the £50 million investment, the council is projected to hold £7.0 million of general revenue balances and £7.0 million earmarked revenue reserves as at 31 March 2028.

Communities Capital and Revenue Grant Scheme

65. On an annual basis, the council has considered the amount to be made available for the Community Capital Grant Scheme. From 2018/19, some of this funding has been allocated to revenue projects. The council is asked to consider the amount to be made available for the Community Capital and Revenue Scheme and it is recommended that a grants budget of £500,000 be set for 2023/24 comprising:

- £180,000 for individual councillor grants,
- £320,000 for the communities’ capital grants scheme.

Any underspend on the individual councillor grants will be available to fund additional spend on the communities’ capital grants scheme.

The robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves

66. The Local Government Act 2003 places a statutory duty on the chief finance officer (i.e. the head of finance and section 151 officer) to comment and report on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves. The council must have regard to this report when making decisions about the setting of the budget.

67. The construction of the budget has been managed by qualified accountants and as identified above, has this year been subject to significant challenge both by strategic management team and cabinet members.
68. A report was presented to cabinet in December 2022 on progress with budget setting. A detailed briefing on this budget proposal will be given to the council's Scrutiny committee on 26 January 2023. As a public meeting, this session will be open to all councillors.
69. In view of the process undertaken and his own knowledge of the budget, the head of finance is satisfied that the budget for 2023/24 is both prudent and robust and reflects a positive improvement over previous estimated budget positions for that year, reflecting the continued positive direction of travel from 2021/22. However, as demonstrated above and based on current assumptions, revenue expenditure exceeds revenue income in all years of the MTFP. Whilst the council's revenue reserves are sufficient to cover that gap over the MTFP period, the ongoing budget gap will still need to be monitored closely and continue to be assessed and reacted to at the appropriate time, should that prove necessary, noting the significant level of uncertainty around future finances at this point.
70. The Head of Finance is satisfied, based on their knowledge of the current work to deliver the long-term transformation programme, that there is very strong member and officer commitment to ensure financial sustainability is achieved in the longer term, and that responsible action will continue to be taken in a timely manner, should that become necessary as the longer-term financial position becomes clearer as the funding intentions of Government become known in coming years.
71. The transformation activity, which was first agreed in the 2020/21 budget and forms part of the corporate plan delivery activity, is central to the council's efforts to deliver the corporate plan in a way that also ensures we address the ongoing budget gap.
72. The dedicated team of officers, supported by external consultants as appropriate, will drive and programme manage the delivery of the transformation work, which has initially been focussed on the following areas that have been identified in discussions between officers and cabinet members:
 - Implementation of the IT strategy,
 - Customer services including front of house,
 - Development management,
 - Cornerstone
 - Grounds maintenance.
73. Details of this work will continue to be presented to cabinet as they progress in accordance with the council's democratic process.
74. The head of finance's full report will be available at full Council.

Climate and ecological impact implications

75. Agreement of the revenue budget for 2023/24 and capital programme to 2027/28 agrees the allocation of funding to support the council's corporate objectives, including the objectives of Protect and Restore our Natural World and Action on the Climate Emergency, for which revenue growth has been included, as it was in previous years.

Legal Implications

76. The Cabinet needs to make recommendations to Council on its spending proposals. Under the Local Government Act 2000 it is Council that must agree the revenue and capital spending plans, and then set the council tax. Council will meet on 16 February 2023 in order to set the budget, and the council tax (including amounts set by Oxfordshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley).
77. The requirement placed on the council by the Local Government Act 2003 to set prudential indicators and for the chief finance officer to make a report to the authority on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves are addressed within the body of this report.

Other Implications

78. Agreement of the revenue and capital budgets authorises and grants permission for expenditure in accordance with the council's delegated powers and financial procedure rules. The officer, councillor or councillor body who agree to commit that expenditure will fully take into account the human resources, sustainability and equality and diversity implications of individual spending decisions, at the time they are made, as required by law.

Conclusion

79. This report provides details of the revenue base budget for 2023/24, the capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28, government grants (the settlement), uncommitted reserves and balances, the cabinet member for finance's budget proposals and the resulting prudential indicators.
80. In light of the information provided Cabinet must make a number of recommendations to Council regarding the revenue budget, the capital programme and the prudential indicators.

Appendices

- Appendix A.1 Revenue budget 2023/24
- Appendix A.2 Opening budget adjustments
- Appendix A.3 Inflation, salary increments and other salary adjustments
- Appendix A.4 Essential growth
- Appendix A.5 Base budget savings
- Appendix B.1 Budgeted corporate plan revenue growth
- Appendix B.2 2022/23 corporate plan revenue growth outcomes
- Appendix B.3 Revenue savings
- Appendix C Service budget analysis
- Appendix D.1 Capital programme before growth
- Appendix D.2 Capital growth bids
- Appendix D.3 Capital growth bids funded by CIL
- Appendix E Prudential indicators
- Appendix F Medium term financial plan

Background Papers

Provisional settlement figures (December 2022)
Council tax base 2023/24 – Cabinet 1 December 2022, Council 8 December 2022
Treasury management strategy – Cabinet 2 February 2023, Council 16 February 2023

South Oxfordshire DC - revenue budget summary 2023/24

	2022/23 Budget	2023/24 Budget	Appendix Ref:
Opening base budget 2023/24		16,778,579	
Revisions to base budget			
Opening budget adjustments		(1,326,938)	Appendix A.2
Inflation, salary increments and other salary adjustments		993,811	Appendix A.3
Essential growth - one-off		71,621	Appendix A.4
Essential growth - ongoing		2,643,505	
Base budget savings		(984,129)	Appendix A.5
Movement in managed vacancy factor		(58,420)	
Total base budget after revisions	16,778,579	18,118,029	
Revenue - one-off		500,000	Appendix B.1
Revenue - ongoing		0	
Savings proposals		(70,000)	Appendix B.3
Borrowing cost	101,500	0	
Gross treasury income	(1,776,730)	(5,205,754)	
Net expenditure	15,103,349	13,342,275	
Funding			
(Funding from reserves)/contribution to reserves	(1,561,909)	1,402,081	
Funding from government grants and council tax	(13,541,440)	(14,744,356)	
Total Funding	(15,103,349)	(13,342,275)	
Council tax yield requirement	8,221,226	8,665,003	

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Opening budget adjustments

Appendix A.2

				Spending profile				
	Year of bid	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/08	
			£	£	£	£	£	
Corporate Services								
1	CSVR	2013/14	Bi-annual residents survey	24,000		24,000	0	24,000
2	CSVR	2022/23	Community wellbeing	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)
			(176,000)	(200,000)	(176,000)	(200,000)	(176,000)	

Development & Corporate Landlord								
3	DCLR	2020/21	Savings relating to the move from 135 Milton Park	(265,126)	(265,126)	(265,126)	(265,126)	(265,126)
4	DCLR	2020/21	No longer receiving rent for the data centre	(5,134)	(5,134)	(5,134)	(5,134)	(5,134)
5	DCLR	2022/23	Anticipated additional net income from Didcot Gateway regeneration schemes		78,407	(418,340)	(418,340)	(418,340)
6	DCLR	2022/23	Additional one-off costs associated with hosting the Womens Cycle Tour event	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)
7	DCLR	2022/23	Net one-off expenditure on council property	(23,440)	(23,440)	(31,000)	(31,000)	(31,000)
8	DCLR	2022/23	SODC share of office accomodation on departure from 135MP	25,000	(49,107)	(123,214)	(123,214)	(123,214)
9	DCLR	2022/23	Additional costs associated with the strategic property review and the implementation of the corporate landlord model, including stock condition surveys	(79,838)	(79,838)	8,121	(79,838)	(79,838)
			(378,538)	(374,238)	(864,693)	(952,652)	(952,652)	

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Opening budget adjustments

Appendix A.2

				Spending profile				
	Year of bid	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/08	
			£	£	£	£	£	
Finance								
10	FINR	2020/21	Reduction in income from overpaid housing benefit debtors	20,219	26,636	26,636	26,636	26,636
			20,219	26,636	26,636	26,636	26,636	
Housing & Environment								
11	HAER	2021/22	Temp increase in Env/Housing officers (COVID)	(97,588)	(97,588)	(97,588)	(97,588)	(97,588)
12	HAER	2020/21	Additional resource for waste contract re-tender	0	(35,843)	(35,843)	(35,843)	(35,843)
13	HAER	2021/22	Homelessness prevention and supported accommodation	74,500	74,500	74,500	74,500	74,500
14	HAER	2022/23	Additional waste technical officers	(25,807)	(25,807)	(45,877)	(45,877)	(45,877)
			(48,895)	(84,738)	(104,808)	(104,808)	(104,808)	
Legal & Democratic								
15	LEGR	2020/21	Storage costs for election equipment	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
16	LEGR	2018/19	District and parish election 2019	50,000	(50,000)	(50,000)		(50,000)
17	LEGR	2020/21	District/parish elections 2023	40,000	0	0	0	0
			85,000	(55,000)	(55,000)	(5,000)	(55,000)	
Partnerships								
18	PAIR	2020/21	Reprofiling of Capita 5CP costs	(406,546)	(406,546)	(406,546)	(406,546)	(406,546)
19	PAIR	2020/21	Five Councils Costs associated with exit and service transformation		150,000	1,350,000	0	0
20	PAIR	2022/23	Additional contribution to Future Oxfordshire Partnership		(88,653)	(88,653)	(88,653)	(88,653)
21	PAIR	2022/23	Additional contribution to Future Oxfordshire Partnership	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)
			(466,546)	(405,199)	794,801	(555,199)	(555,199)	

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Opening budget adjustments

Appendix A.2

				Spending profile				
	Year of bid	Description	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/08	
			£	£	£	£	£	
Planning								
22	PLAR	2020/21	Development Income to return to 2017/18 levels by end of MTFP period	0	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)
23	PLAR	2020/21	Forecast Reduction in planning fees	(100,178)	(100,178)	(100,178)	(100,178)	(100,178)
24	PLAR	2020/21	Vacancies due to reduced workload#	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000
				(62,178)	(112,178)	(112,178)	(112,178)	(112,178)
Policy & Programmes								
25	POLR	2022/23	Climate Action	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)
26	POLR	2022/23	Nature Recovery	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)
				(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)
GRAND TOTAL				(1,326,938)	(1,504,717)	(791,242)	(2,203,201)	(2,229,201)

South Oxfordshire DC - 2023/24 budget build changes
Inflation, salary increments and other salary adjustments

Appendix A.3

Summary	Spending profile				
	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £
ALL SERVICES					
Salary inflation	829,780	1,621,842	2,111,337	2,444,193	2,783,706
Salary increments	180,781	370,602	566,117	761,707	963,146
Other salary adjustments	(263,475)	(276,649)	(284,948)	(290,647)	(296,460)
Other net inflation	246,725	503,642	674,920	762,272	851,371
GRAND TOTAL	993,811	2,219,437	3,067,425	3,677,525	4,301,763

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Essential growth

Appendix A.4

	Description	One off/ Ongoing	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/08 £
Corporate Services							
1	Additional staffing resources for customer services, IT and human resources	Ongoing	150,309	150,309	150,309	150,309	150,309
2	Other cost increases across the service	Ongoing	29,850	29,850	29,850	29,850	29,850
			180,159	180,159	180,159	180,159	180,159

Development & Corporate Landlord							
3	Increase in utilities costs across the service	Ongoing	102,129	203,129	203,129	203,129	203,129
4	Net increase in car parking costs, including reduction of car parking income	Ongoing	166,534	166,534	166,534	166,534	166,534
5	Other cost increases across the service	Ongoing	16,224	16,224	16,224	16,224	16,224
6	Development and Corporate landlord proposed restructure additional staffing cost	Ongoing	620,071	617,919	617,919	617,919	617,919
7	Anticipated additional net income from Didcot Gateway regeneration schemes - revision to opening budget adjustments	One Off	0	(78,407)	418,340	248,374	0
8	SODC share of office accommodation on departure from 135MP - revision to opening budget adjustments	One Off	0	74,107	148,214	0	0
9	Car park consultant for new car park service from 2025	One Off	10,000	0	0	0	0
10	Additional ongoing costs of grounds maintenance service	Ongoing	11,671	29,671	29,671	29,671	29,671
			926,629	1,029,177	1,600,031	1,281,851	1,033,477

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Essential growth

Appendix A.4

	Description	One off/ Ongoing	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/08 £
Finance							
11	Anticipated increase in external audit fees following national retendering exercise	Ongoing	55,500	55,500	55,500	55,500	55,500
12	Additional staffing resource in procurement	Ongoing	22,645	22,645	22,645	22,645	22,645
13	Net increase in housing benefit costs	Ongoing	188,350	228,350	228,350	228,350	228,350
14	Local Council Tax Support Administration Subsidy grant rolled into settlement figure	Ongoing	88,607	88,607	88,607	88,607	88,607
15	Reduction in benefit admin subsidy	Ongoing	10,895	10,895	10,895	10,895	10,895
			365,997	405,997	405,997	405,997	405,997

Housing & Environment							
16	Increase in waste contract costs as a result of higher than expected indexation costs.	Ongoing	640,867	640,867	640,867	640,867	640,867
17	Additional staff due to ongoing high levels of work following pandemic	Ongoing	51,387	51,387	51,387	51,387	51,387
18	Additional waste project officers to support work on future waste service	One Off	52,056	52,056	0	0	0
19	Fixed term housing officer required due to increase in workload	One Off	15,881	5,294	0	0	0
20	Housing Delivery Manager post added to establishment following restructure	Ongoing	51,036	51,036	51,036	51,036	51,036
			811,227	800,639	743,290	743,290	743,290

Legal & Democratic							
21	Councillors allowance - increase in employer National Insurance contributions	Ongoing	19,581	19,581	19,581	19,581	19,581
22	Increase in anticipated elections costs	Ongoing	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
23	Additional staffing resources in legal services	Ongoing	174,942	174,942	174,942	174,942	174,942
			244,523	244,523	244,523	244,523	244,523

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Essential growth

Appendix A.4

	Description	One off/ Ongoing	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/08 £
Planning							
23	Delays in larger applications due to market conditions and forecast downward pressure on house process and activity will reduce planning income	Ongoing	92,975	92,975	92,975	92,975	92,975
			92,975	92,975	92,975	92,975	92,975
Policy & Programmes							
25	Removal of unachievable external income budget	Ongoing	19,606	19,606	19,606	19,606	19,606
26	Additional fixed term staffing resource to support service delivery	One Off	32,124	2,677	0	0	0
27	Staff salary allocations amended to reflect current work distribution between councils in Neighbourhood Planning	Ongoing	41,887	41,887	41,887	41,887	41,887
			93,617	64,170	61,493	61,493	61,493
Total			2,715,126	2,817,640	3,328,468	3,010,287	2,761,914

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Unused budget release

Appendix A.5

	Description	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £
Strategic Management Board						
1	CIL contribution to admin costs	(11,500)	0	0	0	0
		(11,500)	0	0	0	0
Corporate Services						
2	CIL contribution to admin costs	(39,500)	0	0	0	0
3	Pension current and past service costs reduced	(61,000)	(61,000)	(61,000)	(61,000)	(61,000)
4	Biennial residents survey budget deleted	(24,000)	0	(24,000)	0	(24,000)
5	Other savings across the service	(5,280)	(5,280)	(5,280)	(5,280)	(5,280)
		(129,780)	(66,280)	(90,280)	(66,280)	(90,280)
Development & Corporate Landlord						
6	Non-operational car park rent income increase	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)
7	Savings on office accommodation	(133,809)	(247,189)	(247,189)	(247,189)	(247,189)
8	CIL contribution to admin costs	(18,600)				
9	Correction to head office rent budget	(42,741)	(42,741)	(42,741)	(42,741)	(42,741)
10	Other savings across the service	(155,825)	(169,861)	(169,861)	(164,861)	(169,861)
		(375,975)	(484,791)	(484,791)	(479,791)	(484,791)
Finance						
11	CIL contribution to admin costs	(43,700)	0	0	0	0
12	Other savings across the service	(1,110)	(1,110)	(1,110)	(1,110)	(1,110)
		(44,810)	(1,110)	(1,110)	(1,110)	(1,110)
Housing & Environment						
13	Minor savings across the service	(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)
		(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)	(58,349)
Legal & Democratic						
14	Minor savings across the service	(79,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)

South Oxfordshire - 2023/24 budget build changes
Unused budget release

Appendix A.5

	Description	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £
15	CIL contribution to admin costs	(48,000)	0	0	0	0
		(127,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)	(79,096)
	Partnerships					
16	Five Councils' Partnership - reduction in contract costs	(62,542)	(62,542)	(62,542)	(62,542)	(62,542)
17	Removal of subscription to Ox-Cam Arc	(13,500)	(13,500)	(13,500)	(13,500)	(13,500)
		(76,042)	(76,042)	(76,042)	(76,042)	(76,042)
	Planning					
18	Increase in fee budgets	(24,500)	(24,500)	(24,500)	(24,500)	(24,500)
19	Other savings across the service	(21,844)	(21,844)	(21,844)	(21,844)	(21,844)
		(46,344)	(46,344)	(46,344)	(46,344)	(46,344)
	Policy & Programmes					
20	Minor savings across the service	(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)
		(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)	(1,733)
	Contingency					
21	One-off budget to cover increase in national insurance in 2022/23 now included in salary budgets	(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)
		(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)	(112,500)
	Total	(984,129)	(926,245)	(950,245)	(921,245)	(950,245)
		(984,129)	(926,245)	(950,245)	(921,245)	(950,245)

South Oxfordshire DC - 2023/24 revenue budgets bids

No	Title of bid	Summary	One-off or ongoing?	South only or joint bid?	Spending profile:				
					2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £
POLICY AND PROGRAMMES									
1	Community hub	Revenue growth to continue to provide a Community Hub service for individuals and families across the district. The Community Hub workstream administers the household support fund, and provides practical support and advice helping our most vulnerable residents. Additionally, it supports the work across the asylum and refugee schemes the council is responding to, and works with partners to lead and deliver programmes linked to the council's food strategy and wider Oxfordshire health agenda.	One-off	Joint	200,000	200,000	0	0	0
2	Activity grants	Revenue growth to deliver an active communities grant scheme, offering up to £1000 for projects that increase resident activity either through gardening, sport or movement.	One-off	South only	50,000	50,000			
3	Corporate plan priorities staffing	Revenue growth to continue to provide staff resource focused on climate related projects in line with the council's corporate plan - comms and engagement, retrofit, delivery of tree and hedge planting, enhancing access and use of blue and green natural assets and supporting local engagement and delivery of car sharing schemes.	One-off	South only	250,000	250,000			
					500,000	500,000	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL					500,000	500,000	0	0	0

South Oxfordshire DC - 2022/23 Outcomes Report

This update relates to outcomes delivered following the allocation of £500k in the 2022/23 budget to bring forward priority projects. The financial sums are rounded and where used for officer resource, reflect 12 months of activity

1	£60k	<p>1FTE communications and engagement resource focused on climate related projects</p> <p>Examples of activity delivered throughout the year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the climate team to complete the new Action on Climate and Nature section on the website, involving the creation and enhancement of 17 pages. Topics include retrofitting, sustainable travel and the council’s work with partners to enhance biodiversity. • Promotion of the economic development team’s very popular Didcot Eco Fair in November which hosted 37 local businesses involved in the zero waste or the circular economy. • Highlighting of the council’s work to increase the use of EVs, with publicity of the completion of the Park and Charge project across Oxfordshire. • Supporting the new Climate Action Oxfordshire website, led by Oxfordshire County Council, and contributing to the content. e.g) the article entitled 'Making savings not waste at Christmas'. • Delivering a communications campaign to promote National Tree Week 24 Nov to 4 Dec, highlighting how we’re accelerating tree planting through our grants schemes, partnerships, tree planting guide, and policy for planting trees on council-owned land. <p>Current work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting the enhanced information on the council’s website • an internal communications campaign on the new climate change training for staff <p>promoting the council’s new Let It Bee Project which is an extension of last year’s No Mow May trial to increase biodiversity on council land.</p>
2.	£225k	<p>2FTEs climate officer resource and delivery of activity focused on retrofit, delivery of tree and hedge planting, enhancing access and use of blue and green natural assets and supporting local engagement and delivery of the car sharing schemes</p> <p><u>Retrofit</u></p> <p>Officers have worked with Oxfordshire partners to finalise the Pazco Net Zero Route Map and Action Plan, presented to EAG on 12 December, which focuses on retrofit and particularly looking at ways</p>

	<p>to address the skills gap and supply chain issues which are currently affecting the rate at which retrofit can be rolled out.</p> <p>A retrofit options paper for the council has been finalised and was discussed at the CEEAC meeting on 16 January 2023.</p> <p><u>Tree and hedge planting</u> Officers updated the Councils Guide to Planting Trees for Community Groups, and supported a successful application to the Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund which allowed the employment of two additional tree officers to deliver new tree and woodland planting throughout the county.</p> <p>A tree planting and meadow creation programme has been designed with support from the Parks team. The tree planting will be delivered at five sites in Didcot and one site in Woodcote in the next 3 months.</p> <p>The team is developing a new partnership project with the Trust for Oxfordshire’s Environment (TOE) to develop a small number of biodiversity and tree planting schemes which it will deliver through its existing grant making programme.</p> <p>Officers have been working with the Oxfordshire’s Tree’s Collaborate Group, promoting details of their Garden Tree Giveaway to south Oxfordshire’s residents.</p> <p><u>Access and use of blue and green natural assets</u> A joint application from South Oxfordshire DC and Wallingford Town Council for Bathing Water Status was submitted to Defra on 31/10/22. We are now awaiting the results of the application which are expected in March/April 2023. In the meantime, the project is continuing with the support of volunteers to monitor the river over the winter months and collect data that can be used to highlight water quality issues in the autumn/winter months.</p> <p>Thames Valley Rivers Network (TVRN) – Officers have met with the councils Thames Champion on a number of occasions to look at how best to take forward the work of the TVRN. Following a review by officers, a decision was taken to re-focus this work on working more proactively with pre-existing Catchment Partnerships which collectively cover the whole of the Thames catchment. There are three Catchment partnerships which cover the SODC area, which include the South Chilterns Catchment Partnership, the River Thame Catchment Partnership and the Ock Catchment Partnership. Each of these partnerships has a wide-ranging membership and access to significant resources to enable both practical improvements to the catchments as well as being able to lobby for improvements to water quality. Officers from the Climate and Biodiversity Team are now represented on all three of the partnerships and are looking to take an active role in developing their work in our district.</p>
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		<p><u>Car sharing clubs</u></p> <p>Officers have been engaging with Oxfordshire County Council's iHub Innovation Team, about their Oxfordshire wide project for a 12-month pilot scheme to establish EV car clubs in council car parks based at Park and Charge hubs. The intended outcomes for the project will include understanding customer preferences and uptake, whether a commercial EV car club can be profitable in a rural area and the support car clubs need from councils.</p> <p>Officers are also drafting a car clubs information page for the council's website which will go live in Q4.</p> <p>Discussion have taken place regarding Henley Town Council's request for funding support for an EV to enhance their already established community car club.</p> <p>The Climate officers have also been liaising with the Technical Services team, to understand the work they are doing in this area in an attempt to link together various strands of work currently underway to help inform an agreed approach to car clubs and EV usage across the council.</p>
3	£50k	<p>Delivery of an active communities grant scheme</p> <p>The Everyone Active grant scheme, which offered up to £1000 for projects that increased residents activity either through gardening, sport or movement, opened in July and closed on 30 September. The whole fund was allocated successfully across 56 projects.</p>
4	£40k	<p>Delivery of additional deep cleans and enhanced maintenance of SODC public toilet sites</p> <p>An additional staff resource was recruited to undertake the deep clean and enhanced maintenance work programme for public toilet sites. This included the redecoration and maintenance work at all South public toilet sites. Further works have been picked up on a reactive basis through regular proactive surveys.</p> <p>New UPVC fascias and soffits have been fitted to Kings Road, Henley and Thame Cattle Market toilets. New LED lighting has been installed at Wallingford and Dorchester, with Goring to be completed this quarter. A deep clean was undertaken at Goring. Unfortunately further progress was hampered by works required to respond to vandalism, breakages and misuse, particularly at Greys Road Henley and Thame Cattle Market. No current change in extent of antisocial behaviour has been reported.</p> <p>The ambulant disabled WC at Greys Road Henley does not have Radar key, but the Space for Change facility does. As future capital schemes are delivered, a mixture of Radar and non-radar access for disabled will be included.</p>
5	£85k	<p>Additional resource to increase deep cleansing work.</p>

		<p>A two-person crew from Biffa started work on 1 June 2022 to undertake additional deep cleansing work across the district. Officers regularly contact all Town and Parish Councils for suggestions on priority locations to visit as part of deep cleansing work, so were able to add additional priority areas for the additional crew to attend to, particularly in the larger towns. Work has been carried out in Didcot, Wallingford, Thame, Watlington and Chalgrove.</p>
6	£5k	<p>Increase promotion and support of litter picking activity</p> <p>The waste team increased work, in conjunction with additional communications officer support (above), to promote The Great British Spring Clean – Keep Britain Tidy campaign. It was promoted on the council’s website and the waste team directly supported several parishes that had events during the period. Work was undertaken to promote and encourage more litter picking groups to form, through local Town and Parish newsletters. The website sets out what equipment we can loan to groups either on a short or long-term basis, and how to arrange for the waste to be collected after an event. Additional equipment was purchased to provide to groups on a longer-term basis.</p> <p>This has raised the profile of the support we can offer communities, for instance over the last quarter we have provided seven sets of litter picking equipment to community litter picking groups. One of these was on a permanent loan basis for ongoing use. The others ranged from bookings of 10 pickers to 60.</p>
7	£10k	<p>Delivery of two green business fairs</p> <p>The Didcot Eco Fair was held at Cornerstone Arts Centre on 5 November. The event attracted 38 exhibitors and was attended by over 800 guests on the day. Traders ranged from those displaying e-vehicles, to environmentally friendly local businesses selling sustainable products, through to the low carbon hub, who offered advice on energy bills. There were also arts, cooking, & storytelling sessions ensuring that the event appealed to families. Post event enquiries revealed that the eco-fair was positively regarded by traders and attendees alike.</p> <p>Partners for the event, Sustainable Didcot, were able to sign up 43 new members on the day, all of whom have since followed up with the group and are now engaged in local sustainability activities.</p> <p>The second fair (badged as the Thame Green Business Expo) is scheduled to take place on 16 March 2023 at Thame Town Hall. The event will be primarily business to business and serves to engage local businesses with sustainability projects in the area. This will include engaging businesses with the Council’s decarbonisation support plans linked to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and training available via our Greentech Partnership. At the time of writing, there are 8 exhibitors registered, and Economic Development Officers are working with Thame Town Council to deliver the event.</p>

South Oxfordshire DC - 2023/24 Revenue savings

No	Summary	One-off or ongoing?	Spending profile:				
			2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £
DEVELOPMENT & CORPORATE LANDLORD							
1	Changes to car parking fees	Ongoing	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)
			(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)
Overall total			(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)

South Oxfordshire DC Service budget analysis 2023/24		
	£	£
Strategic Management Team		871,842
Corporate Services		2,998,197
Development & Corporate Landlord		511,117
Finance		534,631
Housing & Environment		6,653,702
Legal Services		1,542,368
Partnerships		2,275,925
Planning		431,403
Policy & Programmes		3,353,005
Managed vacancy factor		(796,545)
Contingency		400,000
In year savings target		(300,000)
All services		72,385
Net cost of delivering services		18,548,029
Gross treasury income		(5,205,754)
Net expenditure		13,342,275
Transfer to reserves		
Interest and dividends	3,360,000	
New Homes Bonus	61,600	
Transfer from reserves		
Previous years interest	(1,375,846)	2,045,754
Total net revenue budget		15,388,029

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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APPROVED PROGRAMME									
Corporate Services	App			55	0	0	0	0	0
Development & Corporate Landlord	App			1,573	433	319	109	109	109
Finance	APP			6,554	8,958	0	0	0	0
Housing & Environment	App			2,587	1,680	1,673	1,673	1,673	1,673
Legal Services	App			40	0	0	0	0	0
Planning	App			0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy & Programmes	App			7,497	2,268	11,798	11,798	0	0
TOTAL APPROVED PROGRAMME	App			18,306	13,339	13,790	13,580	1,782	1,782
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME	Prov			14,900	3,251	652	626	626	626
GRAND TOTAL	Both			33,206	16,590	14,442	14,206	2,408	2,408

Cumulative Total Budget (Approved & Provisional)

83,259

CAPITAL FINANCING									
Grants	Both			11,297	2,786	1,518	1,518	1,518	1,518
Developers contributions & CIL	Both			12,445	10,458	0	0	0	0
Borrowing	Both			0	0	7,500	7,500	0	0
Usable capital receipts	Both			9,464	3,346	5,424	5,188	890	890
GRAND TOTAL	Both			33,206	16,590	14,442	14,206	2,408	2,408
Capital receipts b/f from previous year				29,519	20,055	16,709	11,135	4,597	3,707
Capital receipts earmarked for transformation funding						150	1,350		
Capital receipt balance to c/f				20,055	16,709	11,135	4,597	3,707	2,817

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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Corporate Services

IT Operations									
It Hardware	321		A321	50					
Upgrade GIS	088	APP	A088	5					
				55	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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Development and Corporate Landlord

Property Development										
Operational Property Assets - essential works	326	App	202122 (5)	A326	199	109	109	109	109	109
Wallingford Moorings Access	354	App	202223 (11)	A354	75	74				
Radnor Road, Wallingford - Open space improvements	338	App	S106	A338	75					
Leisure										
		APP								
Henley Leisure Centre - spend to save	274	APP		A274	82					
Park Sports Centre - gym equipment	275	App		A275			69			
Abbey Sports Centre - gym equipment	285	App		A285			40			
Thame Leisure Centre - gym equipment replacement	287	APP		A287	0		101			
Sports Hall Floor Berinsfield	318	App	2019/20 (dc)	A318	60					
Abbey Sports Hall Lighting	324	App	s106	A324	20					
Didcot Wave Pool Filters	327	App	CIL	A327	21					
Abbey Sports Centre - ATP renovation	330	App	CIL	A330	0	250				
Henley Leisure Centre sports hall lighting	336	App	s106	A336	11					
Wallingford Riverside - splashpad extension	344	APP	CIL	A344	296					
Wallingford Riverside - campsite improvements	345	App	CIL	A345	150					
Henley LC - sauna & steam replacement	348	App	CIL	A348	55					
Abbey Sports Centre - wetside refurbishment	360	APP	s106	A360	87					
Leisure Centre - capital works	078	APP	201314 (8)	X155	335					
Car Parking										
Civil Parking Enforcement	341	App		A341	39					
Technical										
		App								
Housing Act Works Refurbishment	103	App		X170						
Flood Alleviation	143	App		A143	3					
Grounds Team Equipment	310	App		A310	14					
Greys Road WC	291	App	2016/17 (7)	A291	51					
					1,573	433	319	109	109	109

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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Finance

Development										
CIL - OCC		App		A334	6,528	2,667				
CIL - CCG		App		A335	0	6,291				
General Ledger	325	App		A325	26					
					6,554	8,958	0	0	0	0

Housing and Environment

Private housing renovation										
Mandatory disabled facilities grants	011	App	201516 (1)	X108	1,425	1,518	1,518	1,518	1,518	1,518
Discretionary assistance	012	App		X109	52	52	45	45	45	45
Waste										
Wheeled Bins	279	App		A068	110	110	110	110	110	110
Housing										
Temporary Accommodation	312	App	Council 10/17	A312	1,000					
					2,587	1,680	1,673	1,673	1,673	1,673

Legal Services

Customer Service, Licensing & Land Charges										
Licensing Software Project		App		A259	1					
Community Safety										
Replacement CCTV Cameras	271	App	201516 (8)	A271	39					
					40	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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Policy & Programmes

CIF Grants									
	App								
Capital Grants - 16/17 Delegated Powers	App		A293	125					
Capital Grants - 17/18 Delegated Powers	App		A306						
Capital Grants - 18/19 Delegated Powers	App		A308	34					
Capital Grants - 19/20 Delegated Powers	App		A319	79					
Capital Grants - 21/22 Delegated Powers	App		A339	320					
Programmes & Assurance									
Didcot Gateway Regeneration Schemes	307	APP	2018/19 (4)	A307	239	1,000	11,798	11,798	
Didcot									
NPR3	358	App	grant	A358	6,200				
Didcot Broadway affordable housing	337	App	S106	A337	500				
Growth Points	136	App		A136	0	1,268			
					7,497	2,268	11,798	11,798	0
									0

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
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Provisional Capital Programme

CORPORATE SERVICES									
IT Operations purchase of hardware	321	PROV	202021 (2)	0	50	50	50	50	50
Technology Strategy	343	PROV	202223 (6)	192	10				
DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION									
Car Park Resurfacing & Improvement	142	PROV	201314 (10)	0	42				
Car Park resurfacing	323	PROV	202021 (4)	26	25	52	26	26	26
Refurb Kidmore and Wallingford cemeteries	265	PROV	201415 (6)	4	30				
Grounds Team Equipments	310	PROV	2018/19 (2)	0	30				
Electric Vehicles GM & PC	333	PROV	202122 (6)	5	25				
Flood Alleviation Wheatley	246	PROV	201314 (17)	5	54				
Flood Defence	281	PROV	201516 (7)	0	15				
Leisure Centres Essential Works	173	PROV	201314 (8)	0	198	198	198	198	198
Leisure Centres capital feasibility Works	320	PROV	202021 (1)	20	20	20	20	20	20
Thame Leisure Centre - replace CHP	332	PROV	202122 (4)	0	180				
Essential works to property	342	PROV	202223 (5)	410					
Abbey Sports Centre - pool improvements	346	PROV	202223 (3)	0	100				
Henley Leisure Centre - sports hall floor	347	PROV	202223 (4)	200					
Didcot Wave - spin studio	349	PROV	202223 (6)	0	140				
Park Leisure Centre - roof replacement	350	PROV	202223 (7)	0	250				
Thame Leisure Centre - sauna & steam room	351	PROV	202223 (8)	55					
Thame Leisure Centre - nre gym area	352	PROV	202223 (9)	350					
Cornerstone roof replacement	353	PROV	202223 (10)	0	250				
Tree Planting and Biodiversity projects	355	PROV	202223 (12)	25					
Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment	356	PROV	202223 (13)	50					
Public Art - Great Western Park	248	PROV	201314 (19)	156					
Cornerstone Capital Works	242	PROV	201314 (13)	56					

CAPITAL PROGRAMME TO 31 MARCH 2028 LAST UPDATED 10 JANUARY 2023

	No.	App/Prov	Note	Costc	2022/23 Latest Budget £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
FINANCE										
Investment in Pension Scheme Assets	311	PROV	2018/19 (5)		5,000					
HOUSING & ENVIRONMENT		PROV								
Affordable Homes Delivery Plan	317	PROV	2019/20 (3)		3,665					
Affordable Housing	357	PROV	202223		3,500	1,500				
Replacement Sewage Pumping Station for FMP	309	PROV	2018/19 (1)		60					
Temporary Accommodation	312	PROV	Council 10/17		0					
LEGAL SERVICES										
Replacement CCTV Cameras	271	PROV	201516 (8)		4					
CCTV replacement cameras	322	PROV	202021 (3)		47	12	12	12	12	12
POLICY		PROV								
External Capital Grants	009, 010	PROV	201314 (4)		320	320	320	320	320	320
CONTINGENCY										
Capital Contingency	235	PROV	201314 (2)		750					
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME					14,900	3,251	652	626	626	626

Ref.no.	Title of bid	Summary of growth bid (Max 500 characters)	One-off or ongoing?	Spending profile (per council if joint):					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC	Revenue implications:					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC
				2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £		2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	
Corporate services															
1	New portable audio system	To provide a replacement microphone system to support council meetings at locations away from the main office	One-off	37,500											
2	Technology strategy	Additional capital funding to meet expected expenditure requirements arising from the implementation of the council's technology strategy	One-off	100,000											
Development and Corporate Landlord															
3	Cemetery boundary walls	Replace damaged/collapsed sections of boundary walls in closed churchyards where necessary	One-off	75,000											
4	Market House Thame - external redecoration	Listed building external decoration of walls, windows and doors required.	One-off	15,000											
5	Didcot NE leisure centre	Design and build construction of a dry indoor leisure centre with a footprint of 7,000 sqm (0.7 ha) to suit a facility mix determined by the outcome of the Leisure and Recreation Needs Assessment. - funded by S106 contributions	One-off	190,000 (190,000)	2,530,000 (2,530,000)	2,536,000 (2,536,000)	2,448,000 (2,448,000)								
6	East Hagbourne flood alleviation	Contribution towards improvements to flood alleviation basin on SODC land to enhance and restore flood capacity, and structural lining of culvert to reduce flood risk. - funded by anticipated S106 contributions	One-off	22,500 (22,500)											
7	New Ground Maintenance Depot at Great Western Park	Contribution to installation of Grounds Maintenance and facilities depot at Great Western Park to include EV chargers for vans	One-off	44,000											
8	Foxhall Manor Park Pumping Station	Additional funding for the replacement of a pumping station at Foxhall Manor Park.	One-off	42,000											

South Oxfordshire DC - 2023/24 capital growth bids (Excluding CIL funded bids)

Appendix D.2

Ref.no.	Title of bid	Summary of growth bid (Max 500 characters)	One-off or ongoing?	Spending profile (per council if joint):					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC	Revenue implications:					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC
				2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £		2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	
Housing and Environment															
9	Housing and Environment	Purchase of additional bins for new properties	One-off		10,000	10,000	20,000	20,000							
10	Local authority housing fund	Capital growth linked to the Government's £500million Local Authority Housing Fund, responding to the UK's humanitarian duties to assist those fleeing war. The Fund aims to help local housing and homelessness pressures, by providing a new and permanent supply of move on and settled accommodation for refugee and asylum seekers. This funding represents the council share of cost with the rest funded by government	One-off	4,600,000							(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	
Confidential items															
11	Confidential items	Confidential items	One-off	3,200,000	1,750,000	1,500,000	1,500,000								
				TOTAL	8,113,500	1,760,000	1,510,000	1,520,000	20,000		0	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	

South Oxfordshire DC - 2023/24 capital growth bids - CIL funded

Appendix D.3

Ref.no.	Title of bid	Summary of growth bid (Max 500 characters)	One-off or ongoing?	Spending profile (per council if joint):					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC	Revenue implications:					Cost code: AAAA/ CCCC
				2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £		2023/24 £	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	2027/28 £	
1	Cornerstone - Decarbonisation	Contribution to new heat pump and solar panel installation - additional funding by anticipated PSDS grant.	One-off	424,000	1,463,000	81,000									
		- part funded by anticipated PSDS grant		(81,000)	(295,000)	0									
2	GWP Northern Centre Decarbonisation Works	Replace heating system with a more sustainable option.	One-off	200,000											
3	GWP Northern Centre Renovation	New flooring, equipment and decoration to increase options for use, dance classes, yoga etc	One-off	35,000											
4	Didcot Wave Learner Pool	Contribution towards Didcot Wave Learner Pool extension to provide increased capacity for the growing demand in the area.	One-off	120,000	1,326,000	1,869,000	85,000								
		- part funded from S106 contributions			(46,000)	(1,869,000)	(85,000)								
5	Roof replacement at Henley Leisure Centre	Council share of costs for replacement and enhancement of end of life roof.	One-off	285,000											
6	Upgrading of car parks	Upgrading and adding, new low energy lighting, resurfacing and new bays.	One-off	51,000	52,000	26,000	26,000	26,000							
7	Land management	Land management projects, including tree planting, rewilding & habitat creation.	One-off	50,000											
8	River bank enhancements	Enhance riverbanks damaged by boat wash and flood flows.	One-off	50,000											
9	East Hagbourne Structural lining of culvert and maintenance of existing storage facility	Contribution towards structural lining of culvert and enhancement of flood basin.	One-off	10,000											
10	Electric Vehicle charging	EV chargers to supplement Park and Charge in other locations including Didcot.	One-off	50,000											
11	Changing Places Facilities - Wallingford and Thame	Contribution towards upgrade of public toilets in Thame and Wallingford to include Changing Places facilities.	One-off	100,000											
12	New cemetery paths in Wallingford and Kidmore End	Updating and adding new paths to the graveyard layouts.	One-off	100,000											
13	Wheatley West Flood Alleviations	Flood alleviation measures on land to the west of wheatley village.	One-off	51,000											
14	Surface water flood reduction schemes	Working with Thames Water to install sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) to reduce flood risk and increase biodiversity.	One-off		100,000										
15	CIL grant scheme	Grant scheme to support local organisations with projects that provide infrastructure to support development, that are in line with the council's core objectives and meet CIL spending regulations.	One-off	750,000											
16	CCTV camera upgrade in Didcot and Henley	Replace and upgrade public space CCTV cameras in Didcot (9 cameras) and Henley (17 cameras)	One-off	85,000											
TOTALS				2,280,000	2,600,000	107,000	26,000	26,000							

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	South Oxfordshire District Council	Budget	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative
2		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
3		£	£	£	£	£
22	Base budget bfwd	16,778,579	16,778,579	16,778,579	16,778,579	16,778,579
23	Revisions to base budget					
24	Opening budget adjustments	(1,326,938)	(1,504,717)	(791,242)	(2,203,201)	(2,229,201)
25	Inflation, salary increments and adjustments	993,811	2,219,437	3,067,425	3,677,525	4,301,763
26	Essential growth - one-off	110,061	55,727	566,554	248,374	0
27	Essential growth - ongoing	2,605,066	2,761,914	2,761,914	2,761,914	2,761,914
28	Future essential growth	0	1,650,000	1,900,000	2,150,000	2,400,000
29	Base budget savings	(984,129)	(926,245)	(950,245)	(921,245)	(950,245)
30	Movement in in year savings target	0	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)
31	Movement in revenue contingency	0	0	0	0	0
32	Movement in managed vacancy factor	(58,420)	(58,420)	(58,420)	(58,420)	(58,420)
34	Total revised base budget	18,118,029	20,826,275	23,124,565	22,283,526	22,854,390
35	Growth, savings and other budget adjustments					
36	Growth proposals					
37	Revenue - one-off	500,000	500,000	0	0	0
38	Revenue - ongoing		0	0	0	0
39	Capital (revenue consequences of)	0	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)
40	Savings proposals	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)	(70,000)
41	Net cost of services	18,548,029	21,056,275	22,854,565	22,013,526	22,584,390
42	Borrowing costs	0	0	263,000	1,418,000	1,818,000
43	Gross treasury income	(5,205,754)	(3,847,095)	(3,150,845)	(2,724,595)	(2,688,345)
44	Net expenditure	13,342,275	17,209,180	19,966,720	20,706,931	21,714,046
47	Transfers to/(from) earmarked reserves	2,045,754	210,341	(1,199,250)	(66,250)	323,750
48	Amount to be financed	15,388,029	17,419,520	18,767,470	20,640,681	22,037,796
49	Financing					
50	Core Government Funding	(5,384,488)	(4,943,164)	(3,607,409)	(3,143,266)	(2,667,349)
51	Core Funding	(5,384,488)	(4,943,164)	(3,607,409)	(3,143,266)	(2,667,349)
52	NDR - renewable energy	(76,894)	(76,894)	(76,894)	(76,894)	(76,894)
56	Collection fund surplus/deficit	(617,971)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)
57	Council tax req'ment before reserves funding	9,308,676	12,099,462	14,783,167	17,120,521	18,993,553
59	Use of reserves to balance budget	(643,673)	(2,993,135)	(5,224,226)	(7,097,437)	(8,494,551)
60	Council tax req'ment after reserves funding	8,665,003	9,106,327	9,558,941	10,023,084	10,499,001
61	Tax base	61,349.5	62,269.7	63,203.8	64,151.8	65,114.1
62	Band D Council tax	141.24	146.24	151.24	156.24	161.24
63	Council tax increase from previous year	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%	3.3%	3.2%
64	Usable balances at year end:*	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
65	General fund balance	(28,810)	(27,817)	(22,593)	(15,496)	(7,001)
66	Earmarked revenue reserves - allocated	(8,218)	(6,579)	(6,730)	(6,663)	(6,987)
67	Capital receipts	(16,596)	(16,262)	(5,714)	(3,304)	(2,394)
68	Total	(53,625)	(50,658)	(35,036)	(25,463)	(16,382)
69						
70	* Excludes balances held for the long term as per the Medium Term Financial Strategy					
71						
72	Memorandum item					
73	Use of reserves if Core Revenue Spending Power maintained over MTFP period					
74	Use of reserves to balance budget	(643,673)	(2,993,135)	(4,341,085)	(6,214,295)	(7,611,410)
75						
76	Usable balances at year end if core revenue spending power maintained over MTFP period:*	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
77	General fund balance	(28,810)	(27,817)	(23,476)	(17,262)	(9,650)
78	* Excludes balances held for the long term as per the Medium Term Financial Strategy					

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Agenda Item 8

Document is Restricted