

ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL



Council Offices,
Urban Road,
Kirkby in Ashfield
Nottingham
NG17 8DA

Agenda

Council

Date: **Monday, 15th April, 2024**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield**

For any further information please contact:

Lynn Cain

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01623 457317

COUNCIL

Membership

Chairman: Councillor Dale Grounds

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Arnie Hankin

Councillors:

Kier Barsby
Will Bostock
Jodine Cronshaw
Anna Ellis
Paul Grafton
Oliver Hay
Tom Hollis
Dawn Justice
Trevor Locke
Sarah Madigan
Cathy Mason
Warren Nuttall
Matthew Relf
Dave Shaw
Helen-Ann Smith
Lee Waters
Jason Zadrozny

Jamie Bell
Ian Briggs
Samantha Deakin
Andy Gascoyne
Julie Gregory
Vicki Heslop
Christopher Huskinson
Sarah Lewsey
Rachel Madden
Gordon Mann
Andy Meakin
Nicholas Parvin
Phil Rostance
John Smallridge
David Walters
John Wilmott

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SUMMONS

You are hereby requested to attend a meeting of the Council to be held at the time/place and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.



Theresa Hodgkinson
Chief Executive

AGENDA

Page

1. To receive apologies for absence, if any.
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests.
3. To receive and approve as correct records the minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 12 February and 4 March 2024. 7 - 22
4. To receive any announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet and the Head of Paid Service.
5. To undertake any presentations of awards and/or certificates by the Chairman.
6. To receive questions from the Public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, if any.
(None received for this meeting)
7. To receive and consider any petitions submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 12, if any.
(None received for this meeting)
8. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (viii) to receive reports from the Cabinet in relation to the Council's budget and policy framework, reports of the Principal Select Committee for debate and reports from Officers of the Council:-
 - a Updated Policy for the granting of Non-Domestic Rates Discretionary Relief. 23 - 64
 - b Ashfield District Council Golden Anniversary. 65 - 68
9. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 2 (ix), to receive recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees and resolve in accordance with the Council's rules of debate as per the attached schedule. 69 - 136

10. Updates from Members of the Cabinet on their Portfolio Activity.

11. Notices of Motion.

(None received for this meeting)

12. To answer any questions submitted in writing by Members in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13, if any.

Question 1

Question from Councillor Kier Barsby to the Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Strategic Housing and Climate Change

“According to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, current figures for homeless children in England and Wales: 142,490.

Between 2019-2023 there were 55 deaths in temporary accommodation. 42 of those deaths were children under the age of one.

Can you confirm how many children, as of April 2024, are on Ashfield District Council’s waiting list, and how many are under 1? Also, how many are in temporary accommodation including hostels, temporary housing, rough sleeping, sofa surfing etc?”

Question 2

Question from Councillor Kier Barsby to the Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Strategic Housing and Climate Change

“Would you agree with me that the newly passed Damp and Mould Policy does not go far enough with beating this dreaded menace in both Council homes and privately rented homes? Would you agree that all private landlords are encouraged to sign up to the charter of good landlords that the Council has going in the New Cross area of Sutton in Ashfield, and to give the Policy more sanctions that this Council can use against dreadful appalling bad private landlords who constantly misuse this Policy?”

13. To receive a list of minutes and a web link to access Cabinet and Committee meeting minutes that have been published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council for Members to give notice of their intention to ask a question of a relevant Chairman under Procedure Rule 13.2. 137 - 138

(None received for this meeting)

COUNCIL

Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield,

on Monday, 12th February, 2024 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor Dale Grounds in the Chair;

Councillors Kier Barsby, Will Bostock, Ian Briggs, Jodine Cronshaw, Samantha Deakin, Anna Ellis, Andy Gascoyne, Paul Grafton, Julie Gregory, Arnie Hankin, Oliver Hay, Vicki Heslop, Tom Hollis, Christopher Huskinson, Dawn Justice, Sarah Lewsey, Trevor Locke, Rachel Madden, Sarah Madigan, Gordon Mann, Andy Meakin, Warren Nuttall, Nicholas Parvin, Phil Rostance, Dave Shaw, John Smallridge, Helen-Ann Smith, David Walters, Lee Waters, John Wilmott and Jason Zadrozny.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Jamie Bell, Cathy Mason and Matthew Relf.

Officers Present: John Bennett, Lynn Cain, Ruth Dennis, Theresa Hodgkinson, Peter Hudson, Mike Joy, Abbie Smith and Shane Wright.

C.67 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

C.68 Minutes

RESOLVED

that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27 November 2023, as now submitted, be received and approved.

C.69 Announcements from the Chairman, Leader, Members of the Cabinet and the Head of Paid Service

Chairman of the Council

The Chairman took the opportunity to give an update in respect of the events he had hosted and attended from November 2023 to January 2024 including a visit to Kings Mill Hospital on Christmas Day as part of the recent Toy Appeal.

An announcement was also made that once his tenure as Chairman of the Council ended in May 2024, he would be commencing work as a volunteer with the 'Enlighten the Shadows' charity at their new offices in Kirkby.

Leader of the Council

The Leader took the opportunity to advise Council that this would be the first meeting in 50 years where there was not one Labour Councillor present in the Chamber.

Congratulations were given to Councillor Paul Grafton who had recently celebrated his 70th birthday and to Tony Delahunty, a broadcaster for Mansfield 103.2 Radio, who had recently celebrated his 80th birthday and the achievement of broadcasting media every day for 1,100 days without a break.

Mention was made regarding the recent Ashfield District Council Employee Awards and the Discover Ashfield Awards and how excellent staff, and local organisations and businesses were being recognised and awarded for their achievements.

Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction

The Executive Lead Member advised that a resident had recently been prosecuted for causing anti-social behaviour within Sutton Town Centre. An injunction had been granted and a fine given of £2,000.

C.70 Presentation of Awards

No presentation of awards were made.

C.71 Questions from the Public

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, the following question had been submitted by Hannah Denny:

"As you will be aware national legislation came into force on 31st December 2023 regarding XL bullies.

From 31 December 2023 it became against the law to:

- * Sell an XL Bully dog*
- * Abandon an XL Bully dog*
- * Give away an XL Bully dog*
- * Breed from an XL Bully dog*
- * Have an XL Bully in public without a lead and muzzle*

Hundreds of dogs in shelters have been euthanised already due to the non rehoming law, hundreds and hundreds more are reportedly being abandoned in the streets by their owners who are either struggling with all the new legislation's, or having exempted their dog, being given eviction notices from their homes due to having a banned breed.

From February 1st 2024, it will be a criminal offence to own an XL Bully dog unless it is covered by public liability insurance, microchipped, neutered and has a Certificate of Exemption. If the owners are unable to achieve every one of these in just a few weeks, they by law must arrange for their pet to be euthanised.

Cost.

Insurance - £25 (dogs trust)

Microchipping - around £20

Neutering - up to £400

Government exemption -£92.40

This totals up to over £500, which many people simply cannot afford.

To put this in context, The average monthly food budget in the UK is £194 per person.

Under the Government's compensation scheme, owners of XL Bully dogs who elect to have their dogs euthanised are then entitled to claim £200 towards these costs.

Locally vets for pets in Ashfield have now confirmed they will euthanise healthy dogs - while this is a national issue, it's happening here in Ashfield!

Many people in Ashfield strongly disagree with Healthy animals being put down unnecessarily through no fault of their own.

Could you outline your position on this? Also what stance and actions Ashfield District Council intend to take to support these dogs and their owners."

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Jason Zadrozny, responded by thanking Ms. Denny for her question. He said that Ashfield is a community of animal lovers and that this legislation has been difficult for a lot of people as they do not like to see healthy, safe animals being put to sleep. He went on to explain that the Council has no role in enforcing the XL Bully dog ban that was introduced by the Government.

He explained that enforcement is a matter for the Police, for example, if they are walking a dog without a muzzle, as it is with other banned breeds like Pitbull Terriers. He explained that this Council's role with animals is in relation to stray dogs and he has been working with officers to make sure that the Council is not putting itself in a position where it might be putting healthy animals in a position where they might be euthanised.

In terms of the financials, the Leader explained there is advice and financial support available to owners who want to keep their dogs; for example, there is a lot of support and information for owners from the RSPCA. He gave details of the Veterinary Care Fund which is a partnership of the Blue Cross, the RSPCA and Battersea which will help with up to £250 towards the cost of neutering and microchipping as well as the insurances for eligible, financially struggling owners. The Leader will be asking officers to signpost and work with owners for this support and to veterinary practices that will make the application on behalf of the owner. The Leader explained that this fund will

also help with other costs relating to a pet's health where the owner is struggling financially.

The Leader said he would be writing to all veterinary practices in the Ashfield District, expressing his opinion that they should not be putting healthy, safe dogs down and will be asking all Council's Departments to work as sensitively as possible to help residents abide by the law whilst saving healthy safe dogs from being prematurely destroyed.

The Chairman then gave Ms. Denny the opportunity to ask a supplementary question and she responded as follows:-

"With the Government bribing people with £200 to put down their pets and Nottinghamshire Police spending half a million pounds on policing XL Bully dogs despite only allocating a budget earlier this year of only eighty thousand; as Leader will you confirm that this Council will be compassionate to pet owners when dealing with other agencies and also when dealing with other agencies, encourage them to do the same?"

The Leader of the Council responded to the supplementary question by confirming that Ashfield District Council is not the Nottinghamshire Police Force and is not a tool for them to enact this law. The Council of course works with them as partners strategically, but officers will not be doing the Police's job for them in this regard. He reiterated that the Council will be working with owners to try and make sure they can follow the law in a safe way, in a supported way, that saves dogs that do not need to be put to sleep.

C.72 Petitions

No petitions were received for consideration.

C.73 Pay Policy Statement 2024 - 2025

Council was requested to approve and adopt the Pay Policy Statement for 2024/25.

RESOLVED

that the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2024/25, as presented, be received and approved.

C.74 Electoral Registration and Election Matters

Council was requested to appoint and authorise nominated officers to act as Deputy Electoral Registration Officers, as outlined within the report.

RESOLVED that

- a) with effect from 13 February 2024, Theresa Hodgkinson, Chief Executive, be appointed and authorised as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer pursuant to Section 52(2) of the 1983 Act;

b) the following officer be authorised to act as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer for the purpose of signing Temporary Voter Authority Certificates, in addition to the Statutory Electoral Registration Officer (Ruth Dennis), Deputy Electoral Registration Officer (Theresa Hodgkinson) and those previously authorised by the Council in March 2023:

- Ian Dobson, Electoral Services (AEA) Consultant (for elections during 2024/2025).

C.75 Annual Select Committee Report 2023/24

The Chairman of the Principal Select Committee, Councillor Kier Barsby, presented the Annual Select Committee Report for 2023/24 with a contribution from Councillor Oliver Hay as the Chairman of the Inward Focus Select Committee.

RESOLVED

that the work undertaken by the Select Committees, as detailed within the Annual Scrutiny Report for 2023/24, be received and noted.

C.76 Recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees

Council was requested to consider and approve two recommendations from Cabinet.

Minute No. CA.43

Cabinet – 29 January 2024

Community Safety Partnership – Strategic Plan

RESOLVED

that the new Community Safety Plan for 2024-2027 and the accompanying action plan, as presented, be approved.

Minute No. CA.51

Cabinet – 29 January 2024

2023/24 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at October 2023

RESOLVED

that the amendments and the addition of new schemes to the Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 and the funding of the Capital Programme as set out in Section 7 and Appendix 3 of the Cabinet report, be approved.

C.77 Updates from Members of the Cabinet on their Portfolio Activity

The following Cabinet Members gave updates in relation to their portfolio activity:

Councillor Jason Zadrozny – Leader of the Council

Councillor Vicki Heslop – Executive Lead Member for Governance

Councillor John Wilmott – Executive Lead Member for Community Safety and Crime Reduction

Councillor Helen-Ann Smith – Deputy Leader and Executive Lead Member for Parks and Environmental Services

Councillor Chris Huskinson – Executive Lead Member for Leisure, Health and Wellbeing.

C.78 Notices of Motion

No motions were received for consideration.

C.79 Questions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13

No questions were received from Members.

C.80 Questions received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 13.2 - In relation to Cabinet and Committee Meeting Minutes published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council

No questions were received from Members.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Chairman.

COUNCIL

Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Urban Road, Kirkby-in-Ashfield,

on Monday, 4th March, 2024 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor Dale Grounds in the Chair;

Councillors Kier Barsby, Ian Briggs,
Jodine Cronshaw, Samantha Deakin, Anna Ellis,
Julie Gregory, Arnie Hankin, Oliver Hay,
Vicki Heslop, Tom Hollis, Dawn Justice,
Sarah Lewsey, Trevor Locke, Rachel Madden,
Sarah Madigan, Gordon Mann, Warren Nuttall,
Nicholas Parvin, Matthew Relf, Phil Rostance,
Dave Shaw, John Smallridge, Helen-Ann Smith,
David Walters, Lee Waters, John Wilmott and
Jason Zadrozny.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Jamie Bell, Will Bostock,
Andy Gascoyne, Paul Grafton,
Christopher Huskinson, Cathy Mason and
Andy Meakin.

Officers Present: John Bennett, Lynn Cain, Louise Ellis,
Theresa Hodgkinson, Peter Hudson, Mike Joy,
Andrew Page and Shane Wright.

C.81 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Personal Interests and/or Non-Registrable Interests

The Assistant Director for Democracy, on behalf of all Members and officers present at the meeting, declared a general Non Registrable Interest in respect of items related to the setting of the Council Tax for 2024/2025.

(In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 30.1, it was moved by Councillor Jason Zadrozny and seconded by Councillor Helen-Ann Smith that Procedure Rule 16.4, in relation to the "Content and Length of Speeches", be suspended for this item only to enable Councillor Rachel Madden (as mover) to deliver her budget speech without a time restriction. Having been put to the vote, the Council agreed with this course of action.)

C.82 Chairman's Announcement

The Chairman took the opportunity to advise the Chamber that the town of Sutton in Ashfield had recently been shortlisted for the national 'Let's Celebrate Towns 2024' award. 'Let's Celebrate Towns' was a national showcase, celebrating hundreds of towns across the UK that were helping

businesses and communities to thrive. The awards ceremony was taking place the following week at the House of Lords and the Chairman would be in attendance to represent the Council.

C.83 Joint Statement from the Chief Executive and the Corporate Resources Director (and Section 151 Officer)

“Recently there have been references in both the press and on social media about the level of borrowing at Ashfield District Council.

These messages deliberately ‘paint one side of the story’ and unfairly damage the reputation of the Council, causing unnecessary unrest for our staff and residents.

For this reason, this joint message from myself and the Council’s Chief Finance Officer is to reassure our staff and residents that the Council’s finances are robust and in excellent order. We have a healthy financial position, and our future financial sustainability is not something anyone should be concerned about. Unlike other Councils we are not having to withdraw from our reserves to balance our budget.

Last Thursday evening our 2022/23 Accounts were signed off with an ‘Unqualified Audit Opinion’ which means that the Council’s accounts have been prepared correctly and give a true and fair view. The independent External Auditors report also confirms that Ashfield District Council is a ‘Going Concern’ and that they are satisfied that we have proper arrangements in place for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness – the test used for determining Value for Money. This is something we consistently achieve year on year.

This is the most recent independent financial assessment of the Council assessment and aligns with the independent Financial Health Check undertaken by the Local Government Association (LGA) in December 2021 which confirmed that: ‘The Council is well managed financially and has consistently spent within its budget’.

Specifically in respect of Ashfield’s debt, our borrowing actually decreased by £6.5m (6.6%) from the end of March 2022 to the end of March 2023, and our level of borrowing is in line with other comparable Nottinghamshire District and Borough Councils of Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, and Newark and Sherwood.

Some of our borrowing is due to the investment properties we own. What is not stated in the press articles is that this borrowing, after paying interest costs, brings in a hugely significant amount of income for the Council to fund local services. In 2024/2025 this net income will bring in £3 million pounds. Without the investment properties we would not have this income, which would mean we would have to cut discretionary and non-essential services by £3 million pounds. This would be a huge loss to our residents. So, we are in an incredibly fortunate position, thanks to the forward-thinking approach of this Council investing, in a business-like manner, to make income which helps to run our services.

It is concerning that in recent months a number of Councils have found themselves issuing a Section 114 notice – essentially declaring themselves bankrupt – being forced to limit service provision to the statutory minimum. Furthermore, it is concerning that an even larger number of Councils have indicated that they too are on the brink of issuing a Section 114 notice.

Please be assured that Ashfield is not one of the Councils who need to consider issuing a Section 114 notice. This Council's financial position is strong, as evidenced by 2 completely independent organisations – the Local Government Association (LGA) and Mazars, our External Auditors, as previously mentioned.

For years the Government has said it will introduce Local Government Funding Reform which we expect will result in some of our funding, (predominantly the growth in business rates which we have enjoyed in recent years due to our success of attracting businesses into the District) being diverted elsewhere to meet the huge national increase in costs of Social Care and Education, services which District Councils do not provide. To date this Funding Reform has not been implemented. It is now expected that 2026 will be the earliest this will happen. We know that Funding Reform is going to happen, and we have been responsibly planning for it. We have healthy reserves which we can draw on to cushion the loss of funding in the short term, but we do need to be on the front foot and forward plan for when the funding reductions are implemented.

This forward planning includes our:

- *Ongoing Service Review Programme (including consideration of alternative delivery models)*
- *Identification of efficiencies from investment in our Digital Services Transformation Programme*
- *Delivery of procurement efficiencies*
- *Review of our Fees and Charges and the identification of additional income generation opportunities*
- *Rationalisation of our assets, where it is appropriate to do so; and Use of reserves in the short term to smooth the loss of funding as we identify and implement savings into the medium and longer term.*

We will also look forward to the new opportunities, both financial and non-financial, which will come from the newly formed East Midlands Combined Authority.

We hope the above provides some reassurance regarding the Council's healthy financial position; we are not one of those Councils who risk having to issue a Section 114 Notice. Our financial position is positive, unlike other local Councils we are not having to withdraw from reserves to balance our budget.

As a Council, we don't want to settle for just providing statutory services, so alongside our recently approved ambitious Corporate Plan, we have secured over £100m of external funding to transform the District. This will allow us to

create physical change by building even more social housing, investing in Community Safety initiatives, and regenerating our town centres, as well as a cultural shift by investing in skills development, creating employment, and inspiring the next generation. We have a vision of creating a great Ashfield, an Ashfield everyone can be proud of, and the future really is looking bright for residents, businesses, visitors, and this Council.”

C.84 Annual Budget and Council Tax 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update

Council was requested to approve the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 19 February 2024 in relation to the Annual Budget and Council Tax Setting for 2024/25 and an update for the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

RESOLVED that

- a) a £5.92 annual increase in the level of the District’s own Council Tax for 2024/25, setting the Band D equivalent at £207.13 (representing a 2.94% increase compared with 2023/24), be approved;
- b) the proposed 2024/25 Revenue (General Fund) and HRA Budgets as set out in this report (Sections 3 and 4), be approved;
- c) the proposed Capital Programme and associated borrowing 2023/24 to 2027/28 as set out in this report (Section 5 and Appendix 1), be approved;
- d) the 2023/24 Revised HRA and Capital Budgets as set out in this report (Sections 4 and 5 and Appendix 1), be approved;
- e) the estimated financial challenge in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2025/2026 to 2026/27 and the planned approach to address the challenge (Section 6), be noted;
- f) the proposed use of reserves as set out in this report (Table 6 [General Fund] and Table 9 [HRA]), be approved;
- g) the comments and advice of the Corporate Resources Director (Section 151 Officer), provided in compliance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, as to the robustness of the estimates included in the 2024/25 Budget and the adequacy of the reserves for which this budget provides (Section 7), be received and accepted;
- h) the proposed 2024/25 budgets reflecting the agreed changes to Fees and Charges approved by Cabinet on 29th January 2024, be noted;
- i) the proposed 2024/25 Capital Strategy (Appendix 2), be noted and approved;
- j) the proposed 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix 3), be noted and approved.

| Voting Results | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Councillor: | | Councillor: | |
| Kier Barsby | For | Trevor Locke | For |
| Jamie Bell | <i>Absent</i> | Rachel Madden | For |
| Will Bostock | <i>Absent</i> | Sarah Madigan | For |
| Ian Briggs | For | Gordon Mann | For |
| Jodine Cronshaw | For | Cathy Mason | <i>Absent</i> |
| Samantha Deakin | For | Andy Meakin | <i>Absent</i> |
| Anna Ellis | For | Warren Nuttall | For |
| Andy Gascoyne | <i>Absent</i> | Nicholas Parvin | For |
| Paul Grafton | <i>Absent</i> | Matthew Relf | For |
| Julie Gregory | For | Phil Rostance | For |
| Dale Grounds | For | Dave Shaw | For |
| Arnie Hankin | For | John Smallridge | For |
| Oliver Hay | For | Helen-Ann Smith | For |
| Vicki Heslop | For | David Walters | For |
| Tom Hollis | For | Lee Waters | For |
| Christopher Huskinson | <i>Absent</i> | John Wilmott | For |
| Dawn Justice | For | Jason Zadrozny | For |
| Sarah Lewsey | For | | |

C.85 Formal Setting of Council Tax 2024/25

RESOLVED

that the Council Tax levels for 2024/25 on the basis of a Band “D” tax level for the District Council’s own expenditure of £207.13 (2.94% increase), be approved as follows:-

1. That it be noted that on 11 December 2023 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base for 2024/25
 - a. for the whole Council area: **34,524.5**
 - b. for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates –

The Parish of Annesley and Felley: **570.6**
The Parish of Selston: **3,714.0**
2. That the calculation of the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2024/25 (excluding Parish precepts) is **£7,151,060.**
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2024/25 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:

- (a) **£66,443,149** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.
- (b) **£58,903,946** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
- (c) **£7,539,203** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
- (d) **£218.37** being the amount at 3(c) above, divided by 1(a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
- (e) **£388,143** being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per the tables below).
- (f) **£207.13** being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above 1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

To note that Nottinghamshire County Council, the Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner and the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.

5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2024/25 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL TAX AMOUNTS BY PRECEPTOR AND VALUATION BAND

Ashfield District Council

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Council Tax Base | 34,524.5 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £201.21 |
| Council Tax Amount | £7,151,060 | Percentage increase | 2.94% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| £138.09 | £161.10 | £184.12 | £207.13 | £253.16 | £299.19 | £345.22 | £414.26 |

Nottinghamshire County Council

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Council Tax Base | 34,524.5 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £1,723.66 |
| Council Tax Amount | £62,388,533 | Percentage increase | 4.84% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| £1,204.72 | £1,405.51 | £1,606.29 | £1,807.08 | £2,208.65 | £2,610.23 | £3,011.80 | £3,614.16 |

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Council Tax Base | 34,524.5 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £269.19 |
| Council Tax Amount | £9,741,088 | Percentage increase | 4.81% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
| £188.10 | £219.45 | £250.80 | £282.15 | £344.85 | £407.55 | £470.25 | £564.30 |

Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Authority

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Council Tax Base | 34,524.5 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £89.57 |
| Council Tax Amount | £3,183,504 | Percentage increase | 2.95% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £61.47 | £71.72 | £81.96 | £92.21 | £112.70 | £133.19 | £153.68 | £184.42 |

Annesley and Felley Parish Council

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| Council Tax Base | 570.6 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £106.33 |
| Council Tax Amount | £62,500 | Percentage increase | 3.01% |

2023/24 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £73.02 | £85.19 | £97.36 | £109.53 | £133.87 | £158.21 | £182.55 | £219.06 |

Selston Parish Council

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------------|--------|
| Council Tax Base | 3,714.0 | 2023/24 Band D Council Tax | £76.25 |
| Council Tax Amount | £325,643 | Percentage increase | 14.99% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £58.45 | £68.20 | £77.94 | £87.68 | £107.16 | £126.65 | £146.13 | £175.36 |

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements for residents of Annesley and Felley

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Equivalent Council Tax in 2023/24 | £2,389.96 |
| Percentage increase | 4.52% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £1,665.40 | £1,942.97 | £2,220.53 | £2,498.10 | £3,053.23 | £3,608.37 | £4,163.50 | £4,996.20 |

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements for residents of Selston

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Equivalent Council Tax in 2023/24 | £2,359.88 |
| Percentage increase | 4.93% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £1,650.83 | £1,925.98 | £2,201.11 | £2,476.25 | £3,026.52 | £3,576.81 | £4,127.08 | £4,952.50 |

Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements for residents of all other parts of the Council's area

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Equivalent Council Tax in 2023/24 | £2,283.63 |
| Percentage increase | 4.60% |

2024/25 Council Tax amounts by band:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| £1,592.38 | £1,857.78 | £2,123.17 | £2,388.57 | £2,919.36 | £3,450.16 | £3,980.95 | £4,777.14 |

6. That the Council determine whether the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2024/25 is excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

In the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities report "The Referendums Relating To Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2024/25" (published on 8 February 2024), it sets out the circumstances under which a council's Council Tax increase might be regarded as excessive, which would trigger a referendum. These principles have been approved under section 52ZX of the amended Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The principles relating to 2024/25 state that:

Principles for 2024-25 for authorities belonging to the category of Shire district councils (Paragraphs 22 and 23)

22. For shire district councils their relevant basic amount of council tax in 24-25 will require a referendum if it is both

(a) 3%, or more than 3%, above its 2023-24 level; and

(b) more than £5 above its 2023-24 level.

23. This means the authority would need to exceed **both** the percentage and cash referendum principles in order to be subject to a referendum; exceeding one principle but not the other would not require a referendum.

Ashfield District Council's basic (Band D) level of Council Tax was £201.21 in 2023/24, and is proposed to be £207.13 in 2024/25, represents a £5.92 (2.94%) increase at Band D. Therefore, it can be determined that the Council would **not** be increasing the Council Tax by an excessive amount.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Chairman.



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Report To: | COUNCIL |
| Date: | 15 APRIL 2024 |
| Heading: | UPDATED POLICY FOR THE GRANTING OF NON-DOMESTIC RATES DISCRETIONARY RELIEF |
| Executive Lead Member: | CLLR MADDEN, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR FINANCE, REVENUES AND BENEFITS |
| Ward/s: | ALL |
| Key Decision: | NO |
| Subject to Call-In: | NO |

Purpose of Report

The Local Government Finance Act 1988 sets out provision for Billing Authorities to determine a Business Rates Discretionary Rate Relief Policy to provide support to local businesses by reducing or removing Business Rates liability for certain periods of time.

Recent legislative changes require the existing policy to be updated, and this report sets out the changes that have been made. No changes have been made to the level of support currently awarded to businesses. The opportunity has been taken to review the content of the current policy to make it more comprehensive, but easier for businesses to understand and therefore access eligible support.

Recommendation(s)

Council is recommended to:

- (a) Adopt the updated Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief Policy in Appendix A, to be effective from 1 April 2024

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

The Council must adopt a policy for the application of discretionary non-domestic rating reliefs and should review any policy following any changes in central government legislation.

Alternative Options Considered

No alternatives identified.

Detailed Information

The current policy was formally adopted in March 2013 and was last reviewed in November 2019 for minor amendments.

The Discretionary Rate Relief policy has been developed and previously approved by the Council to assist organisations who may need support beyond any standard mandatory rate reliefs, such as Transitional Relief, Small Business Rates Relief, Empty Property Relief and Mandatory Charitable Relief.

Discretionary Rate Relief Support is considered under Sections 44A, 47 and 49 of the Local Government Finance Act 1998 and Section 69 of the Localism Act 2011. The policy is applied as guidelines to ensure that all customers making applications for relief are treated in a fair, consistent and equal manner. No changes are proposed to the current levels of support the policy provides to businesses and therefore there are also no financial impacts on the Council.

The new policy also incorporates fully funded reliefs that were introduced during the COVID crisis and have since been extended to assist businesses beyond this, and these include Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Relief, a Supporting Small Business Relief which has softened rateable value increases to bills and a Local Newspaper Relief.

A change is required to the policy as the Non-Domestic Rating Act 2023 has removed a restriction preventing billing authorities from making a decision to award discretionary relief more than 6 months after the end of the relevant financial year, this is now the responsibility of the Council to set. It is therefore proposed that the maximum period for which the Council will consider awarding Discretionary Rate Relief is the start of the preceding financial year. For example: relief application received 8 August 2024 – the maximum period of award that could be considered is back to 1 April 2023. This protects the Council from being asked to back-fund changes for multiple previous years but also supports businesses for a fair period of relief. Where the relief is fully Government funded, relief will be granted as long as the ratepayer is eligible.

Whilst reviewing the policy for these amendments, the opportunity has been taken to review the scheme of delegation for decisions and appeals to make this clearer. The requirement for businesses to report any changes to their circumstances which may affect the amount of relief awarded is also made more prominent.

The policy also makes the eligibility criteria for all the available reliefs clearer and therefore easier for businesses to access eligible support.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The policy supports the 'Economic Growth and Place' corporate priority by supporting local growth in businesses wherever possible.

Legal:

There is no legal implication other than for the policy to be formally determined in accordance with the legislation, to enable delegated officers to access and grant discretionary rate relief as appropriate to assist in qualifying local ratepayers.

Providing discretionary relief to ratepayers is likely to amount to a subsidy. Any relief provided by local authorities will need to comply with the UK's domestic and international subsidy control obligations. Ratepayers of organisations and businesses making an application for any relief under this policy must ensure they are compliant with subsidy allowance amounts. [RLD 28/03/2024]

Finance: There are no financial implications arising from this policy update. [PH 13/03/2024].

| Budget Area | Implication |
|---|--|
| General Fund – Revenue Budget | No changes are proposed to the amounts of relief currently awarded, therefore there are no financial implications. |
| General Fund – Capital Programme | N/A |
| Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget | N/A |
| Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme | N/A |

Risk:

| Risk | Mitigation |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Not applying decisions fairly | The Government has issued guidance notes to advise authorities what criteria should be used in considering applications for Discretionary Rate Relief. The policy allows Council Officers to treat each individual case on its own merits and to not adopt a policy or rule which allows them to not consider each case without proper consideration. Following these guidance notes, the Council will formally adopt a Policy for considering individual discretionary business rates relief applications. |

Human Resources:

No issues identified.

Environmental/Sustainability:

No issues identified.

Equalities:

No issues identified for this report, the adopted policy will ensure all applicants are treated fairly.

Other Implications:

Not applicable.

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable.

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable.

Background Papers

Appendix A - Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief Policy

Report Author and Contact Officer

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Policy for the granting of Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief

Version Control

| <i>Version</i> | <i>Version date</i> | <i>Revised by</i> | <i>Description</i> |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | December / January 2024 | LM/DA | Creation of policy to include all reliefs for 2024, including the Non Domestic Rating Act 2023 |

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1.0 Purpose of the Policy

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to determine the level of discretionary relief and related areas to be granted to certain defined ratepayers within the Council's area. The policy includes all changes effective from 1st April 2024 and includes all new reliefs due to the revaluation of rateable values in April 2023 and the Non Domestic Rating Act 2023. The Council is keen to support businesses as far as possible.
- 1.2 The Local Government Finance Act 1988 and subsequent legislation requires the Council to grant mandatory relief for premises occupied by Charities and similar organisations that own or occupy them wholly or mainly for charitable purposes. Likewise, certain premises situated within a rural settlement area will be eligible for mandatory relief. Powers have also been granted under the Localism Act 2011, which allow for the granting of discretionary rate relief to any premises where the Council feels the granting of such relief would be of benefit to the local community.
- 1.3 In addition to the above, Central Government is keen that in certain cases, assistance should be provided to businesses who have had increases in their rate liability due to the revaluation of premises in April 2017. In these cases, and where the Council meets Central Government guidelines, grants are available under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.
- 1.4 Whilst the Council is obliged to grant relief to premises, which fall within the mandatory category, the Council also has powers to grant discretionary relief and reductions to ratepayers, subject to certain criteria being met. In the case of the new reliefs, some guidance has been issued by Central Government outlining actions expected to be taken by local authorities. This policy includes Government guidance where appropriate but also looks to target discretionary relief in line with the Council's priorities.
- 1.5 This document outlines the following areas:
- Details of the criteria for receiving Discretionary Reliefs for all relevant areas;
 - The Council's policy for the granting of all types of Discretionary Reliefs;
 - Guidance on granting and administering the reliefs and awards;
 - Governments requirements including provisions for Subsidy; and
 - The Council's Scheme of Delegation.
- 1.6 Where organisations apply for relief they will be granted (or not granted) relief or reductions in line with the following policy.

2.0 Mandatory Relief - Legislative Background

Charity Relief

- 2.1 The powers relating to the granting of mandatory and discretionary relief are given to the Council under the Local Government Finance Act 1988. Charities and Trustees for Charities are only liable to pay one fifth of the Non-Domestic Rates that would otherwise be payable where property is occupied and used wholly or mainly for charitable purposes. This amounts to mandatory relief of 80%. For the purposes of the Act, a charity is an organisation or trust established for charitable purposes, whether or not it is registered with the Charity Commission. The provision has been extended under the Local Government Act 2003 (effective from 1st April 2004) to registered Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs). Full details of the mandatory provisions are given later within this policy.

- 2.2 In the case of charity shops, the premises must meet the criteria laid down by section 64 (10) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 which states that the premises are to be treated as used for charitable purposes at any time it is wholly or mainly used for the sale of goods donated to the charity and the proceeds of goods (after any deductions for expenses) are applied for the purpose of the charity.
- 2.3 The Council has discretion to grant relief of up to a further 20% for these mandatory cases under its discretionary provisions.

Rural Rate Relief

- 2.4 From 1st April 1998, under powers originally granted to the Council by the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, certain types of business in rural settlements, with a population below 3000 may qualify for mandatory rate relief of 100 per cent.
- 2.5 Where businesses in rural settlements have a Rateable Value of up to £16,500 and are not in receipt of mandatory relief, the Council may decide to give up to 100 per cent discretionary relief if it is satisfied that the business is of benefit to the community and having regard to the interests of its Council Taxpayers.

3.0 Discretionary Relief – Legislative Background

Introduction

- 3.1 The original purpose of discretionary relief was to provide assistance where the property does not qualify for mandatory relief, or to ‘top’ up cases where ratepayers already receive mandatory relief.
- 3.2 Over recent years and particularly since 2011, the discretionary relief provisions have been amended to allow authorities the flexibility to provide more assistance to businesses and organisations.
- 3.3 The range of bodies, which are eligible for discretionary rate relief, is wide and not all of the criteria laid down by the legislation will be applicable in each case.
- 3.4 Unlike mandatory relief, ratepayers are obliged to apply to the Council. The Council will expect all businesses to make applications in such a format as is required (which may vary from time to time) and for the business to provide such information and evidence as required in order to determine whether relief should be awarded.
- 3.5 The Council is obliged to carefully consider every application on its merits, taking into account the contribution that the organisation makes to the amenities within the authority’s area. There is no statutory appeal process or Tribunal against any decision made by the Council although, as with any decision of a public authority, decisions can be reviewed by Judicial Review. The authority will however, upon request, review decisions made.
- 3.6 Granting of the relief falls broadly into the following categories:
- (a) Discretionary Relief – Charities who already receive mandatory relief;
 - (b) Discretionary Relief – Premises occupied by organisations not established or conducted for profit whose main objects are charitable or are otherwise philanthropic or religious or concerned with education, social welfare, science, literature or the fine arts or premises

occupied by organisations not established or conducted for profit and wholly or mainly used for purposes of recreation;

- (c) Discretionary Relief – Rural Rate Relief - premises not receiving mandatory relief but of benefit to the local community and less than £16,500 RV;
- (d) Discretionary Relief – Granted under the Localism Act 2011 provisions;
- (e) Local Newspaper Relief (until 1st April 2025);
- (f) Supporting Small Businesses Relief (from 1st April 2023);
- (g) Retail Hospitality & Leisure Relief (from 1st April 2024 for a period of one year); and
- (h) S49 Relief

3.7 The decision to grant or not to grant discretionary relief is a matter purely for the Council.

The Council's general approach to granting Discretionary Relief

3.8 In deciding which organisations should receive discretionary rate relief, the Council has considered the following factors and priorities:

- (a) The awarding of relief will be in line with the Council's vision and values - The organisation will need to demonstrate how its use of business property contributes to the Council's priorities.
- (b) Be equitable and balance the wider interests of the community with the resources made available by the Council Taxpayer;
- (c) Any award should support business, charities, organisations, and groups that help to retain services in the Council's area and not compete directly with existing businesses in an unfair manner;
- (d) The award should help and encourage business, charities, organisations, groups, and communities to become self-reliant;
- (e) Awarding discretionary relief should not distort competition or significantly change the provision of services within the Council's area;
- (f) Local organisations will be given priority over national organisations;
- (g) Where requested, the organisation will need to supply the Council with clear evidence of **all** financial affairs (normally two full years) including, and most importantly, the amounts of monies raised, used, and invested locally.
- (h) To enable appropriate organisations to start, develop or continue their activities, which deliver outcomes to the community and that also relate to the priorities of the Council, which without granting discretionary relief they would be unable to do;
- (i) To assist the Council in delivering services which could not be provided otherwise; and
- (j) To ensure that the financial impact of awarding discretionary business rate relief is justified in terms of the local outcomes achieved by the organisation receiving it.

3.9 Where any reduction or remission is granted to a ratepayer under S49 Local Government Finance Act 1988 where hardship is proven to the Council, then this will be provided **after** applying any Government funded relief, where possible and subject to the requirements of individual reliefs.

3.10 In certain cases, the order in which relief is granted is specified. Mandatory relief shall be granted in all cases where the criteria is met irrespective of whether discretionary relief can be granted or not.

The Council's approach to granting Government led Discretionary Relief schemes.

3.11 Over the past few years, a number of schemes have been led by Central Government but without specific legislative changes. These are administered under S47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and guidance is often provided. The Council is keen to support such initiatives especially where they are designed to help local businesses and will look to maximise both the reliefs given

as well as maximise any grants receivable. However, the Council reserves the right to vary its approach where thought appropriate.

4.0 Effect on the Council’s Finances

- 4.1 The granting of discretionary relief will, in the main, involve a cost to the Council. Since the change to the funding for Non-Domestic Rating in April 2013, the effect of the relief is complex.
- 4.2 Any amounts granted prior to 1st April 2013 and continuing since that date will be included in the Council’s baseline within the Business Rates Retention Scheme. For any amounts granted for similar cases, the costs of the relief will be borne in accordance with the Business Rates Retention Scheme shown above. This also applies where mandatory relief is granted.
- 4.3 Where Central Government leads an initiative, grants are often available through section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003. This is not automatic and Central Government will look to the Council to adopt the recommended approach when granting in these areas.
- 4.4 The financial effects of discretionary reliefs covered by this policy are as follows:

| Appendix | Relief Type | Granted after 1 st April 2024 |
|----------|--|--|
| | Charity Relief | |
| A | Discretionary relief granted to Mandatory Relief recipients. | 40% of any discretionary relief borne will be borne by the District Council. |
| B | Non-profit Making Organisations including Sports Clubs and societies. | 40% of any discretionary relief borne will be borne by the District Council. |
| | Rural Discretionary | |
| C | Discretionary Relief – Rural Rate Relief - premises not receiving mandatory relief but of benefit to the local community and less than £16,500 RV; | 40% of any discretionary relief borne will be borne by the District Council. |
| | Localism | |
| D | Discretionary Relief granted to ratepayers generally and not covered by any other section. | 40% of any discretionary relief borne will be borne by the District Council |
| | Local Newspaper Relief | |
| E | Discretionary Relief granted to local newspapers meeting the criteria (until 31 March 2025) | Section 31 Grant from Government |
| | Supporting Small Business Relief | |
| F | Supporting Small Businesses Relief (from 1 April 2023 for a period of up to three years if conditions are met. | Section 31 Grant from Government |
| | Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Relief | |
| G | Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Relief Scheme (from 1 April 2024 for a period of one year). | Section 31 Grant from Government. |

| Appendix | Relief Type | Granted after 1 st April 2024 |
|----------|---|--|
| | S49 Hardship Relief | |
| H | Granting relief where the ratepayer is suffering hardship | 40% of any discretionary relief borne will be borne by the District Council. |

5.0 Discretionary Relief – Subsidy

- 5.1 Discretionary relief is potentially subject to the Subsidy Control Act 2022. The purpose of the Subsidy Control Act 2022 is to implement a domestic subsidy control regime in the United Kingdom that reflects the UK’s strategic interests and particular national circumstances, providing a legal framework within which public authorities make subsidy decisions.
- 5.2 To the extent that the Council is seeking to provide relief that falls below the Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) thresholds, the Subsidy Control Act 2022 allows an economic actor (e.g., a holding company and its subsidiaries) to receive up to £315,000 in a three-year period (consisting of the 2024/25 year and the two previous financial years). MFA subsidies cumulate with each other and with other subsidies that fall within the category of ‘Minimal or Services of Public Economic Interest (SPEI) financial assistance’. BEIS COVID-19 business grants and any other subsidies claimed under the Small Amounts of Financial Assistance limit of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement should be counted under the £315,000 allowance.
- 5.3 In those cases where it is clear to the Council that the ratepayer is likely to breach the MFA limit then the Council will withhold relief. Otherwise, the Council may include the relief in bills and ask the ratepayers, on a self-assessment basis, to inform the Council if they are in breach of the MFA limit.
- 5.4 MFA subsidies above £100,000 are subject to transparency requirements. This is not cumulated per beneficiary but applies per subsidy award. This means that for every individual subsidy provided of more than £100,000, the Council will include details of the subsidy on the subsidy control database.

6.0 Administration of Discretionary Relief

- 6.1 The following section outlines the procedures followed by officers in granting, amending, or cancelling discretionary relief and reduction.

Applications and Evidence

- 6.2 The Council will specify how applications are to be received (if required) and this may vary from time to time.
- 6.3 Where indicated by the Council, organisations may be required to provide a completed application form plus any such evidence, documents, accounts (normally the last two years), financial statements etc. necessary to allow the Council to make a decision. Where insufficient information is provided, then no relief will be granted. In some cases, it may be necessary for officers to visit premises and we would expect organisations claiming relief to facilitate this where necessary.
- 6.4 Where applications are required, they should initially be made to the Revenues and Benefits

Service and will be determined in accordance with this policy.

6.5 The Council will provide this service and provide guidance free of charge. Ratepayers are encouraged to approach the Council direct and NOT pay for such services through third parties. Applications for relief will be accepted from ratepayers only.

Granting of relief

6.6 In all cases, the Council will notify the ratepayer of decisions made.

6.7 Where an application is successful, the ratepayer will be notified. Where relief is not granted, then the following information is provided;

- An explanation of the decision within the context of the Council's statutory duty; and
- An explanation of the appeal rights (see below).

6.8 The maximum period for which the Council will consider awarding Discretionary relief is the start of the preceding financial year. For example: relief application received 8 August 2024 – the maximum period of award that could be considered is back to 1 April 2023. Where the relief is full Government funded, relief will be granted as long as the ratepayer is eligible.

6.9 A fresh application for discretionary relief may be necessary for each financial year **or** at such time-period as the Council determines.

Variation of a decision

6.10 Variations in any decision will be notified to ratepayers as soon as practicable and will take effect on a date determined by the Council.

6.11 A decision may be revoked at any time by the Council.

7.0 Scheme of Delegation

Granting, Varying, Reviewing and Revocation of Relief

7.1 All powers in relation to reliefs are given under the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, the Local Government Act 2003, and the Localism Act 2011. However section 223 of the Local Government Act 1992 allows for delegation of decisions by the Council to Cabinet, Committees, Sub-Committees or Officers.

7.2 The Council's scheme of delegation allows for the Assistant Director - Revenues and Benefits to award, revise or revoke any discretionary relief applications. However, any application which is considered to be of a significant nature will be subject to consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits prior to final determination.

7.3 Applications that are refused will, on request, be reconsidered if additional supporting information is provided or the refusal is subsequently considered to be based on a misinterpretation of the application.

Reviews

- 7.4 The policy for granting relief will be reviewed annually or where there is a substantial change to the legislation or funding rules. At such time, a revised policy will be brought before the relevant committee of the Council.

Appeals

- 7.5 Where the Council receives an appeal from the ratepayer regarding the granting, non-granting or the amount of any discretionary relief, the case will be reviewed by the service. Where a decision is revised then the ratepayer shall be informed, likewise if the original decision is upheld.
- 7.6 Where the ratepayer wishes to appeal the decision of the Assistant Director - Revenues and Benefits, the case will be considered by the Council's Corporate Resources Director and Section 151 Officer whose decision on behalf of the Council will be final.
- 7.7 Ultimately the formal appeal process for the ratepayer is Judicial Review although the Council will endeavour to explain any decision fully and openly with the ratepayer.

8.0 Reporting changes in circumstances

- 8.1 Where any award is granted to a ratepayer, the Council will require any changes in circumstances which may affect the relief, to be reported as soon as possible or in any event within 21 days of the change. This will be important where the change would result in the amount of the award being reduced or cancelled e.g., where the premises becomes unoccupied or is used for a purpose other than that determined by the Council as eligible for relief.
- 8.2 Where a change of circumstances is reported, the relief will, if appropriate, be revised or cancelled. Where any award is to be reduced, the Council will look to recover the amount from the date the change of circumstances occurred.

9.0 Fraud

- 9.1 Where a ratepayer falsely applies for any relief, or where the ratepayer provides false information, makes false representation, or deliberately withholds information in order to gain relief, prosecutions will be considered under the Fraud Act 2006.

Appendix A
Discretionary Relief – Mandatory Relief recipients

Discretionary Relief – Mandatory Relief recipients

General Explanation

- A.1 S43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 allows mandatory relief (80%) to be granted on premises if the ratepayer is a charity or trustees for a charity and the premises are wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes. No charge is made in respect of unoccupied premises where it appears that *when next in use* it will be used wholly or mainly for those purposes.
- A.2 The legislation has been amended by the Local Government Act 2003 (effective from 1st April 2004) to include registered Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC). These organisations can now receive the mandatory (80%) relief.

Charity registration

- A.3 Charities are defined within the legislation as being an institution or other organisation established for charitable purposes only or by persons administering a trust established for charitable purposes only.
- A.4 The question as to whether an organisation is a charity may be resolved in the majority of cases by reference to the register of charities maintained by the Charity Commissioners under s.4 of the Charities Act 1960. Entry in the register is conclusive evidence. By definition, under the Non-Domestic Rating legislation, there is no actual need for an organisation to be a registered charity to receive the relief and this has been supported by litigation, however in all cases the organisation must fall within the following categories:
- trusts for the relief of poverty;
 - trusts for the advancement of religion;
 - trusts for the advancement of education; and
 - trusts for other purposes beneficial to the community, but not falling under any of the preceding heads.
- A.5 Certain organisations are exempted from registration generally and are not required to make formal application to the Charity Commissioners these are:
- the Church Commissioners and any institution administered by them;
 - any registered society within the meaning of the Friendly Societies Acts of 1896 to 1974;
 - units of the Boy Scouts Association or the Girl Guides Association; and
 - voluntary schools within the meaning of the Education Acts of 1944 to 1980.
- A.6 The Council will consider charitable organisations, registered or not, for mandatory relief.

Use of Premises – wholly or mainly used.

- A.7 Irrespective of whether an organisation is registered as a charity or not, the premises **must** be wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes. This is essential if any relief (either mandatory or discretionary) is to be granted. In most cases this can be readily seen by inspection, but on occasions the Council has had to question the actual use to which the premises are to be put. In some cases, it will be necessary for the Council to inspect any premises fully.
- A.8 Guidance from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has stated that in the case of 'mainly', at least 51% must be used for charitable purposes whether of that charity or of that and other charities.

A.9 The following part of this section gives details on typical uses where relief may be given plus additional criteria that have to be satisfied. The list is not exhaustive but gives clear guidance on premises for which mandatory relief can be granted *and therefore* premises which may be equally considered for discretionary rate relief.

Offices, administration, and similar premises.

A.10 Premises used for administration of the Charity include:

- Offices;
- Meeting Rooms; and
- Conference Rooms.

Charity shops

A.11 Charity shops are required to meet additional legislative criteria if they are to receive mandatory relief. Section 64 (10) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 provides that a property is to be treated as being wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes at any time if, at the time, it is wholly or mainly used for the sale of goods donated to a charity and the proceeds of the sale of the goods (after any deduction of expenses) are applied for the purposes of the charity.

A.12 In order to ascertain whether an organisation meets these requirements, inspections may be made by an officer of the Council when an application is received.

Granting of Mandatory Relief - the Council's Policy

A.13 Where the criteria for awarding mandatory relief are met, the rate charges shall be calculated in accordance with the legislation reducing the liability of ratepayers for each day that the criteria are met.

Charity Relief – Mandatory Relief recipients, the Council's Policy for granting discretionary relief.

A.14 The Council will consider applications for a discretionary rate relief 'top up' from charities based on their own merits, on a case-by-case basis.

A.15 National organisations and country wide charities already receiving 80% mandatory relief will not normally be granted discretionary relief unless it can be demonstrated that:

- (a) The value of the service to residents of the council and local communities can be shown to exceed the amount of the discretionary relief requested.
- (b) The work undertaken from the property named in the application for relief directly caters for the needs of residents of the council and benefits local communities and;
- (c) It provides a valuable service to the community which is complementary to those services provided by the council or;
- (d) The service it provides relieves the council of the need to provide that service.

A.16 The organisation should have no more than 12 months expenditure in unrestricted reserves unless a business case exists detailing how the reserves are to be used to the benefit of the local community and/or residents of Ashfield District Council. Consideration will also be given to the income generated for the organisation by way of investments.

- A.17 No discretionary relief will be given to charity shops as these are in direct competition with conventional shops and relief over and above the 80% mandatory relief could lead to commercially run shops suffering loss of trade.
- A.18 No discretionary relief will be granted to voluntary schools or colleges that are charitable trusts as these are already, to a substantial degree, publicly funded.
- A.19 For Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC) at least 75% of the club membership must comprise of residents from the Ashfield District Council area. Providing that this criteria is met they will benefit from a 75% reduction.

Appendix B
Discretionary Relief – Non-Profit Making Organisations including Recreation.

Discretionary Relief – Non-Profit Making Organisations including Recreation.

General explanation

Non-Profit

- B.1 The legislation allows the Council to grant discretionary relief where the property is not an *excepted* one and all or part of it is occupied for the purposes of one or more institutions or other organisations none of which is established or conducted for profit and each of whose main objects are charitable or are otherwise philanthropic or religious or concerned with education, social welfare, science, literature, or the fine arts.
- B.2 Relief cannot be granted to any premises occupied by the Council, or any town, parish council or major Precepting Authority (*excepted premises*).
- B.3 A number of issues arise from the term 'not established or conducted for profit'. This requires the Council to make enquiries as to the overall purpose of the organisation although if surpluses and such amounts are directed towards the furtherance or achievement of the objects of the organisation then it does not necessarily mean that the organisation was established or conducted for profit.

Recreation Clubs

- B.4 Ideally all recreation clubs should be encouraged to apply for Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) status, which would automatically entitle them to 80% relief. The relief granted to CASCs is covered earlier within this policy.
- B.5 Recreation clubs can also apply to the Charity Commissioners for registration as a Charity (thereby falling under the mandatory provisions for 80% relief) where they meet the following conditions:
- The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation and by the provision of facilities for the playing of particular sports; and
 - The advancement of the physical education of young people not undergoing formal education.
- B.6 Where sports clubs do not meet the CASC requirement, and are not registered charities, discretionary relief can be granted (0-100%) where the property is not an *excepted* one, it is wholly or mainly used for purposes of recreation and all or part of it is occupied for the purpose of a club, society or other organisation not established or conducted for profit.

Access to clubs

- B.7 Guidance issued by the DLUHC also requires the Council to consider access to clubs within the community before granting discretionary relief.
- B.8 Membership should be open to all sections of the community. There may be legitimate restrictions placed on membership which relate for example to ability in sport or to the achievement of a standard in the field covered by the organisation or where the capacity of the facility is limited, but in general membership should not be exclusive or restrictive.
- B.9 Membership rates should not be set at such a high level as to exclude the general community. However, membership fees may be payable at different rates that distinguish the different classes of membership such as juniors, adults, students, pensioners, players, non-players, employed and

unemployed. In general, the club or organisation must be prepared to show that the criteria by which it considers applications for membership are consistent with the principle of open access.

B.10 The Council also asks the following question to help establish the level of access 'Does the organisation actively encourage membership from particular groups in the community e.g., young people, women, older age groups, persons with disability, ethnic minorities' etc.?'

Provision of facilities.

B.11 Clubs which provide training or education are encouraged, as are those who provide schemes for particular groups to develop their skills e.g., young people, the disabled, retired people.

B.12 A number of organisations run a bar. The mere existence of a bar will not in itself be a reason for not granting relief. However, the Council focuses on the main purpose of the organisation. The Council is encouraged to examine the balance between playing and non-playing members.

B.13 Within this area, the Council also considers whether the facilities provided relieve the Council of the need to do so or enhance and supplement those that it does provide.

Discretionary Relief - Non-Profit Organisations including Recreation – the Council's Policy.

B.14 The Council will consider applications for discretionary rate relief from non-profit making organisations on their own merits on a case-by-case basis. In determining the application, the following matters will be taken into consideration:

- (a) Membership of any organisation making application for relief must be open to all sections of the community and the organisation must demonstrate that the way in which it operates does not discriminate against any section of the community;
- (b) The organisation should not operate a system whereby membership is determined by votes of existing members;
- (c) Any membership fees or subscriptions must not be set at a level that excludes the general community; consideration will also be given to the following:
 - Reductions in fees offered for certain groups e.g. elderly, disabled;
 - Where membership is encouraged from particular groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities or older age groups;
 - Facilities are available for people other than members e.g. schools, public sessions.
 - Any membership selection criterion that requires applicants to have reached a certain standard before membership will be granted.
- (d) If the organisation/club has a licensed bar this will not prohibit an application for relief but the following must be evidenced:
 - That the bar income aids the overall operation and development of the main aims of the organisation; and
 - That the operation of the bar and any associated facilities is a minor function of the organisation
- (e) That the main activity remains the paramount objective of the organisation.

B.15 For all organisations consideration will be given to the extent that granting relief will help to preserve facilities that would otherwise be lost to the community.

Appendix C
Discretionary Relief – Premises within Rural Settlements

Discretionary Relief – Premises within Rural Settlements

- C.1 In addition to having the ability to grant discretionary relief to those in receipt of mandatory relief, the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 allows discretionary relief of up to 100% to be granted where the rateable value is £16,500 or less and:
- Property is used for purposes which are of benefit to the local community; and
 - It would be reasonable for the billing authority to award relief, having regards to the Council's Council Taxpayers.
- C.2 As with most discretionary relief, part of the cost, is met by Central Government and the balance from local sources.
- C.3 The main criteria for granting discretionary relief in respect of rural rate relief is that premises are used to benefit the local community.

Benefit to the local community

- C.4 Whilst each application for the relief will be considered on its own merits, there are certain factors which weigh heavily in the decision-making process. It is this Council's belief that the spirit of the legislation is to assist businesses and amenities, which contribute significantly to the quality of life of the people who have their main home in the Rural Settlement.
- C.5 To be successful for consideration, a business must show that its existence is a significant benefit to the local community with the majority of local residents directly benefiting from services or facilities provided by that business.

Rural Rate Relief – the Council's Policy for granting discretionary relief.

- C.7 The Council will also consider applications for a discretionary rural rate relief from all ratepayers, not entitled to mandatory relief up to a maximum of 100%. The granting of any discretionary relief must be reasonable having regard to the effect on taxpayers of the Council.
- C.8 The Council currently will award the following level of relief:

| Category of Business | Number of provisions within settlement | Mandatory Relief Level | Discretionary Relief Level |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Post Offices and/or General Stores with RV of £8,500 or less | 1 | 100% | Nil |
| | 2 | Nil | 50% |
| | 3 | Nil | 30% |
| | 3+ | Nil | Nil |
| Post Offices and/or General Stores with RV £8,501 to £16,500 and Businesses with RV less than £16,000 mainly providing : | | | |
| Sale of cooked & uncooked meats; | 1 | Nil | 50% |
| Sale of baked goods; | 2 | Nil | 25% |
| Sale of newspapers, magazines & confectionery; | 3 | Nil | 15% |
| Pharmacy services | 3+ | Nil | Nil |
| Hot and/or cold prepared food to eat in or takeaway (not licensed to sell alcohol); | | | |

| Category of Business | Number of provisions within settlement | Mandatory Relief Level | Discretionary Relief Level |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Hairdressing services; | | | |
| Sale of clothing; | | | |
| Home improvement products and services; | | | |
| Sale of cut and dried flowers; or | | | |
| Club meeting facilities | | | |

Appendix D
Discretionary Relief – Localism Act 2011

Discretionary Relief – Localism Act 2011

General explanation

- D.1 Section 69 of the Localism Act 2011 amended Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. These provisions allow all Councils to grant discretionary relief in **any** circumstances where it feels fit having regards to the effect on the Council Taxpayers of its area.
- D.2 The provisions are designed to give authorities flexibility in granting relief where it is felt that to do so would be of benefit generally to the area and be reasonable given the financial effect to Council Taxpayers. An example where the Council has granted relief in the past are where premises were affected by flooding.

Discretionary Relief – Localism – the Council’s Policy

- D.3 Applications will be considered from any ratepayer who wishes to apply. However, where a ratepayer is suffering hardship or severe difficulties in paying their rates liability then relief can be granted under the existing provisions as laid down by Section 49 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. There will be no requirement to grant relief in such cases under the Council’s discretionary relief policy.
- D.4 Any ratepayer applying for discretionary rate relief under these provisions and who does not meet the criteria for existing relief (charities, non-profit making organisations etc.) may apply. When considering an application for rate relief the following factors will be taken into account:
- (a) That relief is for a temporary period;
 - (b) The significance of potential loss of employment in the area;
 - (c) Opportunities for new business growth, expansion, and employment within the area;
 - (d) The positive effects on business cash flow and evidence of positive impact on future viability;
 - (e) Sufficient evidence of likelihood of recovery of the applicant’s business;
 - (f) Reassurance of duration of retained employment and continued production/operation in the area;
 - (g) Uniqueness of service/commodity being provided within the community/district;
 - (h) What proactive measures the business/organisation is taking to reduce overheads, etc.;
 - (i) Measures being taken to reduce their rate liability, for example occupying smaller premises, letting out parts of the building, etc.;
 - (j) Consideration will also be given to rate deferral, reprofiling of instalments, arrangements as an alternative method of support;
 - (k) It is in the interests of council taxpayers as a whole to give relief;
 - (l) Giving rate relief to a business/organisation must be balanced against whether this creates unfair market conditions to the detriment of others;
 - (m) It should also be recognised that one of the main overheads of any business is Non-Domestic Rates and therefore it is reasonable to expect that businesses have made provision to pay this;
 - (n) Businesses can appeal against the rateable value or where there is a material change can apply to the Valuation Office Agency to have the rateable value reassessed. The Council would expect businesses to use this mechanism first; and
 - (o) Payment record history will be taken into account.
- D.5 Relief will be withdrawn/ cancelled if:
- (p) the conditions or circumstances on the basis of on which the relief was granted change or
 - (q) fail to materialise, or the information submitted as part of the application proves to be misleading;

- (r) the applicant ceases to be the ratepayer; or
- (s) business/organisation ceases to trade (in case of occupied rates) or downscales operations and workforce in contravention of any agreement; or
- (t) the use of the property changes

D.6 A formal application from the ratepayer will be required in each case and any relief will be granted in line with subsidy requirements as specified within this policy.

Appendix E
Local Newspaper Relief

General Explanation

- E.1 This is a relief that will be awarded until 2025 and the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to these properties. Central Government will reimburse local authorities that use their discretionary relief powers (under section 47(3)) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to grant relief in line with the eligibility criteria set out in this guidance.
- E.2 The Council will be compensated by Central Government through a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Eligibility criteria

- E.3 The scheme will provide a £1,500 relief (per annum) for office space occupied by local newspapers up to a maximum of one discount per local newspaper title and per hereditament.

Local Newspapers

- E.4 The relief is to be specifically for local newspapers and by that, the Council means what would be considered a “traditional local newspaper.” The relief will not be available to magazines.

Office Space

- E.5 The hereditament **must** be occupied by a local newspaper and wholly or mainly used as office premises for journalists and reporters.

Amount of Relief

- E.6 The amount of relief is limited to a maximum of one discount per newspaper title (e.g., per newspaper name) **AND** per hereditament. As with all discretionary rate relief, any grant will be subject to subsidy limits as defined within this policy.

Local Newspaper Relief – the Council’s policy for granting discretionary relief.

- E.7 The Council has decided to grant relief strictly in accordance with Central Government guidelines.

Appendix F
Supporting Small Businesses Relief

General Explanation

- F.1 For the financial years 2023/24 to 2025/26, the Government will, in line with the eligibility criteria set out below, reimburse the Council if it uses its discretionary relief powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), to grant 2023 Supporting Small Business relief.
- F.2 It will be for the Council, which administers the 2023 Supporting Small Business (2023 SSB) relief, to adopt a local scheme and determine in each individual case when, having regard to this guidance, to grant relief under section 47.
- F.3 Central government will reimburse the Council and major precepting authorities for the actual cost to them under the rates retention scheme of the 2023 Supporting Small Business relief that falls within the definitions in this policy.

Who is eligible for the 2023 Supporting Small Business Relief (2023 SSB) and how much relief will be available?

- F.4 2023 SSBR will help those ratepayers who as a result of the change in their rateable value at the revaluation are losing some or all of their Small Business, Rural Rate Relief or 2017 SSBR and, as a result, are facing large increases in their bills.
- F.5 Charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs, who are already entitled to mandatory 80% relief, are not eligible for 2023 SSBR.
- F.6 To support these ratepayers, 2023 SSBR will ensure that the increase in the bills of these ratepayers is limited to a cash value of £600 per year. This cash maximum increase ensures that ratepayers do not face large bill increases in 2023/24 after transitional relief and small business rate relief (as applicable) have been applied. In order to simplify the scheme, the 2023 SSBR will not include minimum percentage bill increases (unlike the 2017 scheme).
- F.7 Those on 2023 SSBR whose 2023 rateable values are £51,000 or more will not be liable to pay the supplement (1.3p) to fund small business rate relief while they are eligible for 2023 SSBR.
- F.8 The 2017 SSBR scheme was provided to support small and medium ratepayers who had seen large increases in their bills at the 2017 revaluation. They have, therefore, had 6 years of support to allow them to adjust to their full 2017 bills. Therefore, for those ratepayers receiving 2017 SSB relief in 2022/23, any eligibility for 2023 SSBR has been ended on 31 March 2024.
- F.9 A change of ratepayers will not affect eligibility for the Supporting Small Business scheme but eligibility will be lost if the property falls vacant or becomes occupied by a charity or Community Amateur Sports Club.
- F.10 There is no second property test for eligibility for the 2023 SSBR scheme. However, those ratepayers who during 2022/23 lost entitlement to Small Business Rate Relief (because they failed the second property test) but have, under the rules for Small Business Rate Relief, been given a 12 month period of grace before their relief ended - can continue on the 2023 SSBR scheme for the remainder of their 12 month period of grace.

Sequence of reliefs

- F.11 Hereditaments eligible for charity or Community Amateur Sports Club relief or hereditaments which are unoccupied are not eligible for 2023 SSBR. For the avoidance of doubt, small business rate relief or rural rate relief will not be applied to further reduce the bill found under 2023 SSBR (to avoid the double counting of relief).
- F.12 The same principle applies to properties for which a Section 44A certificate has been granted (apportionment of rateable values for partly occupied properties). The presence of a section 44A certificate will not further reduce the bill found under 2023 SSBR.
- F.13 All other discretionary reliefs, including those funded by section 31 grants, will be considered after the application of 2023 SSBR.

Subsidy control

- F.14 The 2023 SSBR is likely to amount to a subsidy. Therefore, any relief provided by the Council under this scheme will need to comply with the UK's domestic and international subsidy control obligations.
- F.15 To the extent that the Council is seeking to provide relief that falls below the Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) thresholds, the Subsidy Control Act 2022 allows an economic actor (e.g., a holding company and its subsidiaries) to receive up to £315,000 in a three-year period (consisting of the 2024/25 year and the two previous financial years). MFA subsidies cumulate with each other and with other subsidies that fall within the category of 'Minimal or Services of Public Economic Interest (SPEI) financial assistance'. BEIS COVID-19 business grants and any other subsidies claimed under the Small Amounts of Financial Assistance limit of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement should be counted under the £315,000 allowance.
- F.16 In those cases where it is clear to the Council that the ratepayer is likely to breach the MFA limit then the Council will withhold the relief. Otherwise, the Council may include the relief in bills and ask the ratepayers, on a self-assessment basis, to inform the Council if they are in breach of the MFA limit.
- F.17 MFA subsidies above £100,000 are subject to transparency requirements. This is not cumulated per beneficiary but applies per subsidy award. This means that for every individual subsidy provided of more than £100,000, the Council will include details of the subsidy on the subsidy control database.

Recalculations of reliefs

- F.18 As with other reliefs, the amount of SSBR awarded will be recalculated in the event of a change of circumstances. This could include, for example, a backdated change to the rateable value or to the hereditament. This change of circumstances could arise during the year in question or during a later year.
- F.19 Under regulations made under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 authorities must give at least 12 months' notice of a revocation or variation of a rate relief scheme the effect of which would be to increase rate bills. Such a revocation or variation can only take effect at the end of a financial year (other than to comply with international agreements). But within these regulations, the Council may still make decisions which are conditional upon eligibility criteria. If a

change in circumstances renders a property ineligible, the relevant bill can be amended in the year to reflect the loss of the relief.

F.20 Therefore, when making an award for SSBR, the Council will ensure the conditions of the award that the relief are subject to the property's continuing eligibility. If the use of the property changes so that it is no longer eligible, the relevant chargeable amount must be recalculated to reflect that fact.

F.21 The Council will also ensure that the scheme provides that eligibility for those ratepayers previously in the 2017 SSBR scheme in 2022/23 are eligible for one year of relief only and that the relief will have been withdrawn from those ratepayers on 31 March 2024 without further notice.

Supporting Small Businesses Relief – the Council's policy for granting discretionary relief.

F.22 The Council has decided to grant relief strictly in accordance with Central Government guidelines.

Appendix G
Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Relief

General Explanation

G.1 The 2024/25 Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Business Rates Relief scheme will provide eligible, occupied, retail, hospitality, and leisure properties with a 75% relief, up to a cash cap limit of £110,000 per business.

How will the relief be provided?

G.2 As this is a temporary measure for 2024/25, Government is not changing the legislation relating to the reliefs available to properties. Instead, Government will, in line with the eligibility criteria set out in this guidance, reimburse the Council if it uses its discretionary relief powers under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended) to grant relief. It will be for the Council to adopt a local scheme and determine in each individual case when, having regard to this guidance, to grant relief under section 47.

G.3 Government will fully reimburse the Council and major precepting authorities for their loss of income under the rates retention scheme as a result of awarding the relief that falls within the definitions in this guidance, using a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

G.4 The government expects the Council to apply and grant relief to qualifying ratepayers from the start of the 2024/25 billing year.

Which properties will benefit from relief?

G.5 Hereditaments which benefit from the relief will be those which for a chargeable day in 2024/25:

- meet the eligibility criteria; and
- the ratepayer for that chargeable day has not refused the relief for the eligible hereditament.

The ratepayer may refuse the relief for each eligible hereditament anytime up to 30 April 2024. The ratepayer cannot subsequently withdraw their refusal for either all or part of the financial year.

G.6 The Council has decided that, for the purposes of section 47 of the 1988 Act, hereditaments where the ratepayer has refused the relief are outside of the scheme and outside of the scope of the decision of which hereditaments qualify for the discount and are therefore ineligible for the relief.

G.7 In line with the legal restrictions in section 47(8A) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Council may not grant the discount to themselves or precepting authorities.

How much relief will be available?

G.8 Subject to the £110,000 cash cap per business, the total amount of government-funded relief available for each property for 2024/25 under this scheme is for chargeable days from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, 75% of the chargeable amount.

G.9 The relief will be applied after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants have been applied, but before those where the Council has used its wider discretionary relief powers introduced by the Localism Act 2011, which are not funded by section 31 grants. However, the former categories of discretionary relief available prior to the Localism Act 2011 (i.e., charitable relief etc.) will be applied first in the sequence of discretionary reliefs and, therefore, before Retail, Hospitality and Leisure relief. Authorities may use their discretionary powers to, at cost to themselves, offer further discounts outside this scheme or additional relief to hereditaments

within the scheme. However, where the Council applies a locally funded relief under section 47, this will be applied after the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure relief.

G.10 The ordering **will** be applied in following sequence:

- Transitional Relief
- Mandatory Reliefs (as determined in legislation)
- S.47 Discretionary Relief in the following order:
 - (i) 2023 Supporting Small Business (SSB);
 - (ii) Former categories of discretionary relief available prior to the Localism Act 2011 (i.e., charitable, CASC, rural top up, and not for profit) will be applied first in the sequence of discretionary reliefs, after SSB;
 - (iii) Other discretionary (centrally funded);
 - (iv) 2024/25 Retail Hospitality and Leisure relief scheme; and
 - (v) Other locally funded schemes (such as section 49 hardship).

G.11 Subject to the cash cap, the eligibility for the discount and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis. The following formula will be used to determine the amount of relief to be granted for a chargeable day for a particular hereditament in the financial year 2024/25:

- Amount of relief to be granted = $V \times 0.75$ where:
- V is the daily charge for the hereditament for the chargeable day after the application of any mandatory relief and any certain other discretionary reliefs in line with the above.

G.12 This will be calculated ignoring any prior year adjustments in liabilities which fall to be liable on the day.

G.13 Ratepayers that occupy more than one property will be entitled to relief for each of their eligible properties up to the maximum £110,000 cash cap, per business.

The Cash Cap and Subsidy Control

G.14 Under the cash cap, no ratepayer can in any circumstances exceed the £110,000 cash cap across all of their hereditaments in England.

G.15 Where a ratepayer has a qualifying connection with another ratepayer, then those ratepayers will be considered as one ratepayer for the purposes of the cash caps. A ratepayer shall be treated as having a qualifying connection with another:

- (a) where both ratepayers are companies, and
 - (i) one is a subsidiary of the other, or
 - (ii) both are subsidiaries of the same company; or
- (b) where only one ratepayer is a company, the other ratepayer (the “second ratepayer”) has such an interest in that company as would, if the second ratepayer were a company, result in it being the holding company of the other.

G.16 The Retail Hospitality and Leisure Scheme is likely to amount to subsidy. Any relief provided by the Council under this scheme will need to comply with the UK’s domestic and international subsidy control obligations.

G.17 To the extent that the Council is seeking to provide relief that falls below the Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) thresholds, the Subsidy Control Act allows an economic actor (e.g., a holding company and its subsidiaries) to receive up to £315,000 in a 3-year period (consisting of the 2023/24 year and the 2 previous financial years). MFA subsidies cumulate with each other and with other subsidies that fall within the category of ‘Minimal or SPEI financial assistance’. Expanded Retail

Discount granted in 2021/22 does not count towards the £315,000 allowance but BEIS COVID-19 business grants and any other subsidies claimed under the Small Amounts of Financial Assistance limit of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement will be counted.

G.18 In those cases, where it is clear to the Council that the ratepayer is likely to breach the cash cap or the MFA limit, then the Council will automatically withhold the relief.

G.19 MFA subsidies above £100,000 are subject to transparency requirements. This is not cumulated per beneficiary but applies per subsidy award. This means that for every individual subsidy provided of more than £100,000, the Council will include details of the subsidy on the subsidy control database.

Splits, mergers, and changes to existing hereditaments

G.20 The relief will be applied on a day-to-day basis using the formula set out above. A new hereditament created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use, will be considered afresh for the relief on that day.

Recalculations of relief

G.21 The amount of relief awarded will be recalculated in the event of a change of circumstances. This could include, for example, a backdated change to the rateable value or the hereditament. This change of circumstances could arise during the year in question or during a later year.

G.22 Under regulations made under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 the Council must give at least 12 months' notice of a revocation or variation of a rate relief scheme the effect of which would be to increase rate bills. Such a revocation or variation can only take effect at the end of a financial year (other than to comply with international agreements). But within these regulations, the Council may still make decisions to ensure the scheme is administered in accordance with the extant rules. If a change in circumstances renders a property ineligible, the relevant bill can be amended in the year to reflect the loss of the relief.

Eligibility for the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Relief Scheme

G.23 The Council uses the following definitions to establish eligibility for the relief:

Hereditaments that meet the eligibility for Retail, Hospitality and Leisure scheme will be occupied hereditaments which meet all of the following conditions for the chargeable day:

- they are wholly or mainly being used:
 - (i) as shops, restaurants, cafes, drinking establishments, cinemas, or live music venues,
 - (ii) for assembly and leisure; or
 - (iii) as hotels, guest & boarding premises, or self-catering accommodation

i. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public:

- Shops (such as: florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off licences, chemists, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
- Charity shops
- Opticians
- Post offices
- Furnishing shops/ display rooms (such as: carpet shops, double glazing, garage doors)
- Car/caravan show rooms

- Second-hand car lots
- Markets
- Petrol stations
- Garden centres
- Art galleries (where art is for sale/hire)

ii. Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:

- Hair and beauty services (such as: hairdressers, nail bars, beauty salons, tanning shops, etc)
- Shoe repairs/key cutting
- Travel agents
- Ticket offices e.g., for theatre
- Dry cleaners
- Launderettes
- PC/TV/domestic appliance repair
- Funeral directors
- Photo processing
- Tool hire
- Car hire

iii. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of food and/or drink to visiting members of the public:

- Restaurants
- Takeaways
- Sandwich shops
- Coffee shops
- Pubs
- Bar

iv. Hereditaments which are being used as cinemas.

v. Hereditaments that are being used as live music venues:

- Live music venues are hereditaments wholly or mainly used for the performance of live music for the purpose of entertaining an audience. Hereditaments cannot be considered a live music venue for the purpose of business rates relief where a venue is wholly or mainly used as a nightclub or a theatre, for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended).
- Hereditaments can be a live music venue even if used for other activities, but only if those other activities (i) are merely ancillary or incidental to the performance of live music (e.g., the sale/supply of alcohol to audience members) or (ii) do not affect the fact that the primary activity for the premises is the performance of live music (e.g., because those other activities are insufficiently regular or frequent, such as a polling station or a fortnightly community event).
- There may be circumstances in which it is difficult to tell whether an activity is a performance of live music or, instead, the playing of recorded music.

vi. Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of sport, leisure, and facilities to visiting members of the public (including for the viewing of such activities).

- Sports grounds and clubs
- Museums and art galleries

- Nightclubs
- Sport and leisure facilities
- Stately homes and historic houses
- Theatres
- Tourist attractions
- Gyms
- Wellness centres, spas, massage parlours
- Casinos, gambling clubs and bingo halls

vii. Hereditaments that are being used for the assembly of visiting members of the public.

- Public halls
- Clubhouses, clubs, and institutions

viii. Hereditaments where the non-domestic part is being used for the provision of living accommodation as a business:

- Hotels, Guest, and Boarding Houses
- Holiday homes
- Caravan parks and sites

G.24 To qualify for the relief the hereditament should be wholly or mainly being used for the above qualifying purposes. In a similar way to other reliefs (such as charity relief), this is a test on use rather than occupation. Therefore, hereditaments which are occupied but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose will not qualify for the relief.

G.25 The list set out above is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list the many and varied uses that exist within the qualifying purposes.

Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:

G.26 The list below sets out the types of uses that the government does **not** consider to be an eligible use for the purpose of this discount. Again, it is for the Council to determine for themselves whether particular properties are broadly similar in nature to those below and, if so, to consider them **not** eligible for the discount under their local scheme:

- Financial services (e.g., banks, building societies, cash points, bureaux de change, short-term loan providers, betting shops);
- Medical services (e.g., vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors);
- Professional services (e.g., solicitors, accountants, insurance agents/ financial advisers, employment agencies, estate agents, letting agents); and
- Post office sorting offices.

Retail Hospitality and Leisure Relief – the Council’s policy for granting discretionary relief.

G.27 The Council has decided to grant relief strictly in accordance with Central Government guidelines.

Appendix H
Section 49 – Hardship Relief

Section 49 – Hardship Relief

General explanation

H.1 The Council is able to exercise its discretion under Section 49 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to provide either partial or full relief for non-domestic rate payments in cases of hardship where it would be reasonable to do so having due regard to the interests of council tax payers in general.

Section 49 Hardship Relief – the Council’s Policy

H.2 The Council will consider applications for hardship relief from individuals and organisations based on their own merits on a case-by-case basis. The Assistant Director - Revenues and Benefits will consider applications. Application forms are available from the Council.

H.3 In making decisions on whether to award the relief the Council takes into account the following criteria (not listed in any priority):

- Any reduction or remission of rates on the grounds of hardship should be the exception rather than the rule;
- Any reduction of the rates must be shown to be significant to the future viability of the business;
- The business must continue to trade;
- Cash flow forecasts for a minimum of the next twelve months must be provided together with a comprehensive Business Plan incorporating a brief history of the business;
- The test of "hardship" is not strictly confined to financial hardship and that this, in itself, is not a deciding factor;
- The loss of the business would reduce amenities of an area if it is the sole provider of a service in the area;
- Details of any subsidy, grants, or subsidies either from central or local government over the previous three years;
- The loss of the business would worsen the employment prospects in the area;
- The interests of the Council Tax payers of the area would be best served by awarding the relief;
- The business must demonstrate how it is beneficial to the local community and why it is currently suffering financial hardship;
- The business provides employment to local residents in an area where employment opportunities are limited;
- Independent advice given by banks or financial advisors should be sought to demonstrate the future viability of the business; and
- Applications will only be considered where signed by the ratepayer, or, where an organisation is the ratepayer, an appropriately authorised representative of the organisation.

H.4 The ratepayer will provide additional information as deemed necessary by the Council to be essential in order for a fair evaluation of the application.

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| Report To: | COUNCIL |
| Date: | 15 APRIL 2024 |
| Heading: | ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY |
| Executive Lead Member: | NOT APPLICABLE |
| Ward/s: | ALL |
| Key Decision: | NO |
| Subject to Call-In: | NO |

Purpose of Report

1 April 2024 marked the 50th anniversary since the creation of Ashfield District Council. The purpose of this report is for Council to note Ashfield District Council’s Golden Anniversary and reflect on the achievements and service delivery of the Council over the past half century, while looking forward to what can be achieved over the next 50 years.

Recommendation(s)

Council is recommended to:

- a. Note Ashfield District Council’s Golden Anniversary, marking 50 years of serving Ashfield residents and businesses.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

Ashfield District Council is celebrating its Golden Anniversary since being formed in 1974. Council is asked to note this substantial milestone and reflect on the past 50 years of achievements and service delivery.

Alternative Options Considered

Council could choose not to note and reflect on the Council’s Golden Anniversary. However, due to the significance of the milestone, it is deemed more appropriate to mark the milestone formally through Council.

Detailed Information

Ashfield District Council was formed following the introduction of the Local Government Act 1972, which saw the four district authorities of Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, and parts of Basford Rural District Authority, namely the parishes of Annesley, Felley, and Selston merged into one.

Since formation in 1974, Ashfield District Council has been proudly serving residents and businesses of Hucknall, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield and its rural areas.

In the last 50 years, in addition to delivering vital day to day services to Ashfield residents, the Council has also been at the forefront of delivering exciting initiatives and key projects that have become a part of everyday life. These include, but are not limited to:

- Building of Hucknall Leisure Centre in 1984
- Opening of Sherwood Observatory in 1986
- Opening of Brierley Park in 1994
- Opening of Lammas Leisure Centre in 2008
- Jacksdale Multi-Use Games Area opening in 2018
- Extensive refurbishment of the Idlewells Indoor Market in 2018
- New Council homes built for the first time since 1974
- The opening of Kirkby Leisure Centre in 2022

Marking the Golden Anniversary

The Council will be recognising the Golden Anniversary throughout 2024, and several steps have already been implemented to do so.

Ashfield Matters – Spring Edition 2024

The Spring 2024 edition of Ashfield Matters included a double page feature in recognition of the Council's Golden Anniversary. The double page feature includes a detailed timeline of major Ashfield milestones over the past 50 years.

Golden Logo

In recognition of the Golden Anniversary, a golden Ashfield District Council logo has been designed and is being featured prominently on the Council's website, intranet, and on the Spring edition of Ashfield Matters.

Flowerbed Planting and Banners

The flowerbeds at the front of the Council Offices will feature an anniversary banner surrounded by a themed flower boarder.

Main Entrance Display

A display has been created and placed in the main entrance of the Council Offices in Kirkby. The display features the same timeline included in the Spring edition of Ashfield Matters, as well as a display case of civic items and memorabilia relating to the creation of Ashfield District Council including a 1974 rates book, the Ashfield Coat of Arms and the Councils commencement notice from 1974.

School Poster Competition

Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils from schools across the District will put their artistic skills to the test and create a poster to celebrate Ashfield District Council turning 50 years old. Students are being asked to design a poster around Ashfield District Council turning 50 years old and can include drawings of landmarks/areas of Ashfield.

There will be multiple winning entries (one from each area: Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Hucknall and the Rurals). The winning entries will be displayed on the Council's website, at the Council Offices and will also feature at the 2024 Ashfield Show in August.

Ashfield Show

A display stand at the Ashfield Show in August 2024 will showcase some of the key achievements of the Council over the last 50 years.

Chief Executives Newsletter (Video)

Ashfield District Council's Chief Executive, Theresa Hodgkinson, will mark the 50-year anniversary celebrations in next Chief Executives update video.

Social Media Posts

An ongoing programme of social media posts celebrating the Council's Golden Anniversary.

Any further opportunities to celebrate and mark the Council's golden anniversary, including working with other authorities also marking the milestone, will be explored throughout the rest of the year.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The achievements and proud service delivery of the Council over the past 50 years align to the priorities and objectives as set out in the Corporate Plan, both current and previous editions.

Legal:

There are no legal implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Finance:

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report. All activities to mark the Council's 50-year anniversary are being undertaken within existing budgets.

Risk:

There are no risks associated with the recommendations included within this report.

Human Resources:

There are no HR implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Environmental/Sustainability:

There are no environmental/sustainability implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Equalities:

There are no equalities implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Other Implications:

There are no other implications resulting from the recommendations included within this report.

Reason(s) for Urgency

None.

Reason(s) for Exemption

None.

Background Papers

None.

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Meeting of the Council
8 April 2024
Schedule of Recommendations

N.B.
The Schedule sets out recommendations from the Cabinet and the Council's Committees upon which Council is required to reach a decision. During discussion of these items Council Procedure Rule 16 applies (Rules of Debate). Speeches must be relevant to the item being debated. Speeches do not have to be in the form of, or include a question. Members may speak for up to 5 minutes. The Chairman may allow a further 2 minutes at his/her discretion. A Member may only speak once on a motion but may also speak once on an amendment.

| <u>Meeting:</u> | <u>Minute No:</u> | <u>Subject:</u> | <u>Recommendation(s):</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| Cabinet 8 April 2024 | CA. | <u>2023/24 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme as at December 2023</u> | <p>Council will be recommended to approve the following should Cabinet agree to the recommendations at its meeting on 8 April, 2024:-</p> <p>To recommend to Council the amendments and the addition of new schemes to the Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 and the funding of the Capital Programme as set out in Section 6 and Appendix 3 of the report.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix A)</p> |
| Cabinet 8 April 2024 | CA. | <u>Major Projects & Funding Update</u> | <p>Council will be recommended to approve the following should Cabinet agree to the recommendations at its meeting on 8 April, 2024:-</p> <p>To recommend to Council, following receipt of funds, that Section 106 monies be included on the Capital Programme as outlined in the report.</p> <p>(Report attached at Appendix B)</p> |

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| Report To: | CABINET |
| Date: | 8TH APRIL 2024 |
| Heading: | 2023/24 FORECAST OUTTURN FOR GENERAL FUND, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME AS AT DECEMBER 2023 |
| Executive Lead Member: | EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR FINANCE, REVENUES AND BENEFITS – CLLR RACHEL MADDEN |
| Ward/s: | ALL |
| Key Decision: | YES |
| Subject to Call-In: | YES |

Purpose of Report

To summarise the Council’s forecast financial outturn position to 31 March 2024 compared to the latest approved budgets for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Capital Programme. The forecast financial outturn is based on the actual financial activity to 31 December 2023 and forecast costs and income from 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2024.

Recommendation(s)

Cabinet is requested:

- (1) To note the current forecast outturn for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital Programme for 2023/24.
- (2) To recommend to Council the amendments and the addition of new schemes to the Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 and the funding of the Capital Programme as set out in Section 6 and Appendix 3 of the report.
- (3) To note the monitoring of Prudential and Treasury Management indicators for 2023/24 detailed in Appendix 4.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

In accordance with the Council’s Financial Regulations to report to those charged with Governance the financial position.

Alternative Options Considered

The financial position has to be reported to those charged with governance. Therefore, there are no other options.

Detailed Information

Budget Monitoring April 2023 to December 2023 (General Fund and HRA)

1. Summary Budget for General Fund

- 1.1 Table 1 below sets out the 2023/24 net revenue forecast outturn position based on actual income and expenditure to December 2023 and forecast income and expenditure from January 2024 to March 2024, compared to the current revised budget (based on original budget approved by Council on 2nd March 2023 and Council approved budget adjustments to 31st December 2023).
- 1.2 The current General Fund forecast is a £650k underspend compared to the revised budget; a decrease of £517k from the underspend of £1.167m reported for October.

Table 1 - Net General Fund Revenue Forecast to 31 March 2024 by Directorate

| General Fund | Revised Budget | Forecast | Current Forecast Variance | Previous Forecast Variance | Change |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Directorate | | | | | |
| Chief Executive Officer | 727 | 745 | 18 | 0 | 18 |
| Governance | 2,758 | 2,794 | 36 | 46 | (10) |
| Transformation | 68 | 808 | 740 | 425 | 315 |
| Place | 4,924 | 5,292 | 368 | 87 | 281 |
| Operations | 7,711 | 7,517 | (194) | (211) | 17 |
| Total Net Directorate Expenditure | 16,188 | 17,157 | 968 | 347 | 621 |
| Net Recharges | (3,365) | (3,395) | (30) | 28 | (58) |
| Capital Financing | 3,730 | 2,145 | (1,585) | (1,645) | 60 |
| Net Interest Payable /(Receivable) | 31 | 209 | 178 | 196 | (18) |
| Net Revenue Expenditure | 16,584 | 16,116 | (469) | (1,074) | 605 |
| Funding | (16,134) | (16,134) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Revenue Expenditure before transfer to/(from) earmarked reserve | 450 | (18) | (469) | (1,074) | 605 |
| Transfer to/(from) earmarked reserve | 186 | 5 | (181) | (93) | (88) |
| Net Revenue Expenditure after transfer to/(from) earmarked reserve | 636 | (13) | (650) | (1,167) | 517 |

- 1.3 Appendix 1 provides details of the variances for each Directorate, Corporate Costs and Funding.
- 1.4 Appendix 2 provides details of the approved and forecast earmarked reserves movements as at 31 December 2023.
- 1.5 The projected overspend in the Governance Directorate has decreased by £10k to £36k in December. This is mainly due to the post of Election Services Manager being vacant.
- 1.6 The projected overspend in the Transformation Directorate arises mainly from loss of income from two investment properties (Charlecote Hotel and the Callflex building in Rotherham) combined with security costs for the Callflex investment property. Also, the loss of the retail firm Wilkos' has also decreased rental income. The Range have now taken on this tenancy and expect to commence trading at Easter. The projected overspend has increased since October by £84k to £504k. Subject to final outturn and if required, these costs will be funded from the Investment Property Reserve. Further increases since October are £45k Communications staff costs, £126k staff and contractor costs in Revenues and Benefits Services and £29k additional staff costs in Estates.
- 1.7 The projected overspend reported for October in the Place Directorate of £86k has increased to £368k. The projected increase in costs of £282k is mainly due to £120k additional costs for Leisure Services (see Appendix 1 for detail), increased staffing costs of £27k in the Planning Service and an increase in Strategic Housing costs of £107k.
- 1.8 The projected underspend in the Operations Directorate reported in October of £212k has decreased by £18k to £194k.
- 1.9 The variances in Capital Financing Costs and Net Interest are mainly due to higher than expected interest payable and receivable on borrowing and investment. This, combined with slippage in the planned capital programme give a projected net underspend of £1.407m.

2. General Fund Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2023/24

- 2.1 The 2023/24 budget included the proposed savings and efficiencies as detailed in Table 2 below. The forecast achievement of these savings is identified, on the following basis:
- saving has been achieved (green),
 - saving forecast to be achieved but actions are still required to secure the saving (amber),
 - saving will not be achieved (red).

Table 2 - General Fund Savings/Efficiencies Monitoring 2023/24

| Saving / Efficiency | Detail | Budgeted Saving | Forecast Achieved Saving | Forecast Saving Shortfall |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Planning Fee Income | Additional income based on up to date demand levels for planning applications | 100 | 100 | 0 |
| Customer Services | Savings generated from the review of the Service during 2022/23 | 51 | 51 | 0 |
| Leisure | Additional income from Photovoltaic Panels on Leisure Centres not included in the Leisure Operating Contract | 60 | 60 | 0 |
| | Total | 211 | 211 | 0 |

- 2.2 The position outlined above shows all of the £211k savings are forecast to be achieved.

3. General Fund Budget Adjustments and Reserve Movements

- 3.1 There are no General Fund budget adjustments to report.
- 3.2 There are no reserve movements for approval in the period 31 October 2023 to 31 December 2023.

4. Summary for Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

4.1 Table 3 below sets out the 2023/24 HRA forecast outturn position based on actual income and expenditure to 31 December 2023 and forecast income and expenditure from January 2024 to March 2024, compared to the revised budget.

4.2 Details of any significant variances incorporated within the forecast Outturn are detailed in the commentaries below the table.

Table 3 – Housing Revenue Account Forecast to 31 March 2024

| Description | 2023/24 Revised Budget £'000 | 2023/24 Forecast Outturn £'000 | Current Forecast Variance £'000 | Previous Forecast Variance £'000 | Change £'000 |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------|
| Income | | | | | |
| Rents, Charges and Contributions | (28,221) | (28,262) | (41) | (1) | (40) |
| Interest and investment income | (700) | (1,600) | (900) | (900) | 0 |
| Total Income | (28,921) | (29,862) | (941) | (901) | (40) |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 8,797 | 9,071 | 274 | 141 | 133 |
| Supervision and Management | 5,505 | 5,339 | (166) | (134) | (32) |
| Interest payable and similar charges | 3,548 | 3,548 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges | 161 | 169 | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| Depreciation and impairments of fixed assets | 4,173 | 4,173 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Debt Management Costs | 44 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Contribution to the Bad Debt Provision | 200 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transfer to Major Repairs Reserve | 2,188 | 0 | (2,188) | (1,087) | (1,101) |
| Capital expenditure funded by the HRA | 6,839 | 7,346 | 507 | 893 | (386) |
| Total Expenditure | 31,455 | 29,890 | (1,565) | (179) | (1,386) |
| Net Cost of HRA Services | 2,534 | 28 | (2,506) | (1,080) | (1,426) |

4.3 Rent, Charges, and Contributions

Rental income higher due to less Right to Buy completions taking place in this financial year.

4.4 Interest and Investment Income

Increased Interest rates in the banking sector will increase the average annual interest rate on the HRA balances. Currently forecasting an increase of £900k but this is open to fluctuation dependant on the economy.

4.5 Repairs and Maintenance

Increase in costs due to pay award higher than budget £45k, void works and property clearances £165k, surveyor work requirement due to damp and mould cases £20k, price increases of materials £20k and hire of vehicles £25k due to delays in acquiring new vehicles.

4.6 Supervision and Management

Forecasting an underspend due to expected gas price decreases for the annual contract from October of (£136k), Vacancy savings of (£57k). Outsourced legal solicitors due to increase in damp and mould claims £20k and Ombudsman fees increased by £9k, less other small variances totalling (£2k).

4.7 Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges

Increases in Insurance premiums compared to the budget.

4.8 Transfer to the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)

The current forecast outturn shows the reduced level of financing required from the HRA for the major repair element of the Capital Programme for 2023/24. The main reason for the forecast position is the Major Works Contract partner going into administration in July. This has caused a programme of works to fall into future financial years, while the Council tenders a new partner for the housing major works schemes.

4.9 Capital Expenditure Funded by the HRA

Capital expenditure funded by the HRA is forecast higher than budget due to approval for a further new build development and further property purchases.

5 HRA Savings/Efficiencies 2023/24

5.1.1 The 2023/24 HRA budget included no proposed savings and efficiencies.

6. Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2027/28

- 6.1 The proposed Capital Programme and funding is summarised in Table 4 below. Appendix 3 shows a detailed breakdown of all the schemes below.
- 6.2 The three areas of the Capital Programme (Area Schemes, General Fund and HRA) are discussed in more detail below.

Table 4 – Capital Programme (2023/24 to 2027/28)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Capital Expenditure | | | | | | |
| Area Schemes | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |
| General Fund | 31,943 | 53,320 | 19,819 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 117,052 |
| Housing Revenue Account | 13,287 | 22,060 | 21,113 | 18,515 | 16,009 | 90,984 |
| Grand Total | 45,655 | 75,793 | 40,932 | 24,375 | 22,119 | 208,874 |
| Capital Financing | | | | | | |
| Developers Contributions - Area Schemes | 251 | 403 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 654 |
| Borrowing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital Receipts | 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 |
| Other Capital Grants and Contributions - Area Schemes | 110 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 |
| Sub Total - Area Schemes | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |
| Prudential Borrowing - General Fund | 10,360 | 17,846 | 14,851 | 4,750 | 5,000 | 52,807 |
| Direct Revenue Financing - General Fund | 791 | 313 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,104 |
| Developers Contributions - General Fund | 634 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 634 |
| Capital Receipts | 1,455 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,608 |
| Other Capital Grants and Contributions - General Fund | 18,703 | 35,008 | 4,968 | 1,110 | 1,110 | 60,899 |
| Sub Total - General Fund | 31,943 | 53,320 | 19,819 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 117,052 |
| Funded from HRA Reserves | 11,283 | 18,202 | 19,633 | 17,035 | 14,529 | 80,682 |
| Homes England | 700 | 958 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,658 |
| Green Homes Grants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund 2 | 49 | 945 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 994 |
| Local Authority Housing Fund - second funding round | 545 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 545 |
| Nottingham City Council Retrofit | 80 | 504 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 584 |
| Future 1-4-1 Capital Receipts Funding Recently Built and New Schemes | 630 | 571 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 3,001 |
| Non 1-4-1 Capital Receipts | 0 | 880 | 880 | 880 | 880 | 3,520 |
| Sub Total - HRA | 13,287 | 22,060 | 21,113 | 18,515 | 16,009 | 90,984 |
| Grand Total | 45,655 | 75,793 | 40,932 | 24,375 | 22,119 | 208,874 |

Area Capital Programme

6.3 These consist of mainly self-financed schemes that enhance the local environment. Developers' contributions (known as Section 106 funding) make up the largest funding source. Additional grant funding is sought wherever possible to maximise the benefit to local communities. Area schemes are included in Table 5.

Table 5 – Area Schemes (2023/24 to 2027/28)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Area | | | | | | |
| Hucknall Area | 20 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36 |
| Kirkby Area | 61 | 189 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 |
| Sutton Area | 224 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 432 |
| Rural Area | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 |
| Total | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |
| Funded by | | | | | | |
| Capital Receipts | 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 |
| Lawn Tennis Association | 52 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 52 |
| Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Reserves | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Section 106 | 237 | 403 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 640 |
| Taylor Wimpey | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| Sustainable Transport S106 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| Total | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |

6.4 Table 6 below shows where changes to capital schemes by Area are proposed due to project delays (slippage) or changes in project spend.

Table 6 – Area Schemes (changes in proposed expenditure)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Approved Area Schemes | 713 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 713 |
| Changes to Hucknall Area Schemes | -17 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Changes to Sutton Area Schemes | 48 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 256 |
| Changes to Kirkby Area Schemes | -318 | 189 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -129 |
| Changes to Rural Area Schemes | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Proposed Area Schemes to be Approved | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |

Table 7 – Area Schemes (changes to budget – by scheme)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Hucknall Area | | | | | | |
| Play Areas | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Titchfield Park Brook | -10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Washdyke Recreation Ground | -6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub Total | -17 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Sutton Area | | | | | | |
| Ashfield Estate Footpaths | -5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -5 |
| Kingsmill Reservoir footpath links | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Play Areas | -6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -6 |
| Riley Recreation Ground | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Sutton Lawn management Plan | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Sutton Town Centre Improvements | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Sub Total | -4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -4 |
| Kirkby Area | | | | | | |
| Annesley Public Open Space | -106 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -106 |
| Footpath Improvements Across the Larwood and Greenwood & Summit Wards | -15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -15 |
| Forest Road Nature Area | -5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kingsway Park: implementation of management plan | -184 | 184 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kirkby footpaths/cycle ways | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Lindleys Lane Play/Youth Area | -6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -6 |
| West Park | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Sub Total | -318 | 189 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -129 |
| Rural Area | | | | | | |
| Jacksdale Car Park | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Grand Total | -340 | 205 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -135 |

6.5 Changes to Existing Area Projects

Table 7 above shows only one proposed change to budget. The Annesley Public Open Space scheme has now been removed, Kingsway Park: Implementation of management is now not expected to be completed until 2024/25 and other smaller schemes have either been removed as they have been completed or have had their completion date moved to 2024/25. The actual allocation for each project is shown at Appendix 3.

Table 8 – Area Schemes (New schemes)

| 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|

Sutton Area

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Huthwaite Welfare Park | 52 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 |
| Grand Total | 52 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 |

6.6 Huthwaite Welfare Park has been added to the Capital Programme which will form part of the wider Huthwaite Welfare Park Management Plan.

Table 9 - Area Schemes Summary Reconciliation of Current Capital Programme to Proposed December 2023 Capital Programme

| 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|

September 2023 Capital

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Programme | 713 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 713 |
| Changes to Current Projects | -340 | 205 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -135 |
| New Schemes | 52 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 |
| Proposed November 2023 Capital Programme | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 |

Table 10 – General Fund Projects (changes in budget – by scheme)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Changes to Current Projects | | | | | | |
| Cemeteries | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 |
| Removal of Unspent Budget within Hucknall | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| External health and safety works required for the Urban Road office | -14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -14 |
| Green Homes Grant (GF) (2) | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant | 0 | 102 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 102 |
| Lindley's Windmill Roof | 46 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46 |
| Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate Police at Central Offices | -5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -5 |
| Piggins Croft Car Park | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Purchase of Vehicles | -66 | 66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hucknall Leisure Centre (PSDS3) | 20 | 523 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 543 |
| Solar Panels - Northern Depot | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 |
| Towns Fund Projects | 6,970 | 41,315 | 14,149 | 0 | 0 | 62,434 |
| Towns Fund Accelerated Funding Projects | 184 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 184 |
| Tree Planting and Habitat Improvements, Ashfield-Wide | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Urban Road Offices (PSDS3) | 371 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 871 |
| Future High Street Funding Schemes | | | | | | |
| Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema | -2,100 | 2,100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sutton Maker Space and Business Hub | 484 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 484 |
| Low Street vacant units | -1,229 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1,229 |
| Fox Street pop-up food court and car park | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 |
| Grand Total | 4,691 | 44,606 | 14,149 | 0 | 0 | 63,446 |

6.7 Table 10 above shows the proposed changes to budget on a scheme by scheme basis.

Key changes to Existing General Fund Projects.

- **Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant** – Additional Grant Funding of £102k has been received during the year. It is not expected that this will be spent until 2024/25.
- **Purchase of Vehicles** – Vehicle purchases expected to occur in 2023/24 are now expected to be delayed until 2024/25.
- **Towns Fund** – The Capital Programme has now been updated to include the total cost of schemes expected to be rolled out.
- **Urban Road Offices (PSDS 3)** – This scheme is now not expected to be completed until 2024/25.

- **Sutton Academy Community Theatre / Cinema** – This scheme is now not expected to be completed until 2024/25.
- **Sutton Maker Space and Business Hub** – The cost of this scheme was previously understated, and the revised scheme cost has now been updated.
- **Low Street Vacant Units** – Original scheme included a proposal to develop three sites only two sites are now being developed.

The actual allocation for each project is shown at Appendix 3.

6.8 A Cabinet Report was approved on 25th September 2023 relating to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme 3b (PSDS3b) project that set out revised budgets based on early engagement with Leisure Energy (designer/supplier/installer). Since 25th September 2023, extensive work has been carried out on developing the designs for the projects, which indicate there may be a further shortfall requiring additional capital funding. Full costs for each project will not be 100% certain until RIBA Stage 4 equivalent designs are completed, and costs returned by contractors on the 11th April 2024. It should be noted that for each project there is also a £100,000 contingency in each project already built into these figures. Every attempt will be made to mitigate the need for additional capital by using the contingency and value engineering methods.

| Project | Cost as 25th September 2023 Report £'000 | Revised Estimated Cost March 2024 £'000 | Additional Funding Requirement £'000 |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|
| Hucknall Leisure Centre | 1,823 | 2,033 | 210 |
| Central Offices | 1,655 | 1,795 | 140 |

6.9 The additional spend for Hucknall Leisure Centre (totalling £210,000) is due to:

- The requirement for a new substation according to the District Network Operator (DNO). This was not part of the original budget, as initial advice received from Leisure Energy (LE) was that there was sufficient capacity within the local power network to not require a substation for the option selected. Further detailed work on designs and engagement with the DNO has indicated that a new substation is required. This has been budgeted for at £200,000 (estimated based upon DNO indications although a refreshed quotation is required), however this may vary. This estimated cost for the sub-station includes for additional capacity which may be required in future should the Council wish to install solar panels on the roof (up to 120kwp).
- Additional project management costs of £10,000 for Kinver Business Solutions (appointed project managers). This is due to the project extending further than the initial proposed deadline of March 2024. This needs to be budgeted for to ensure adequate resource is in place for the Council to deliver the projects successfully.

6.10 The additional spend for Central Offices is due to:

- An error by Leisure Energy in their original estimated cost submission whereby they had failed to include their design costs of c.£130,000.
- Additional project management costs of £10,000 for Kinver Business Solutions (appointed project managers). This is due to the project extending further than the initial proposed deadline of March 2024. This now needs to be budgeted for to ensure adequate resource is in place for the Council to deliver the projects successfully.

- 6.11 It is recognised that these projections will not represent the exact additional capital funding requirement. Final costs are still being developed by the contractor, LE, and will not be received until mid-April 2024, but are not expected to alter significantly. Every attempt will be made to utilise the contingencies and value engineering to minimise these additional expected costs.

Table 11 – New General Fund Schemes

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| New Projects | | | | | | |
| Ashfield Innovation and Technology Park | 0 | 4,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,500 |
| Lammas Leisure Centre carbon reduction | 50 | 119 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 169 |
| Grand Total | 50 | 4,619 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,669 |

- 6.12 New technology park proposed for Lowmoor Road, Sutton in Ashfield. Also, funding from Sports England to support works at the Lammas Leisure Centre.

Table 12 - General Fund Schemes Summary Reconciliation of Current Capital Programme to Proposed December 2023 Capital Programme

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Current September 2023 Capital Programme | 27,202 | 4,095 | 5,670 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 48,937 |
| Changes to Current Projects | 4,691 | 44,606 | 14,149 | 0 | 0 | 63,446 |
| New Projects | 50 | 4,619 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,669 |
| Proposed December 2023 Capital Programme | 31,943 | 53,320 | 19,819 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 117,052 |

Table 13 – General Fund – Financing of the Capital Programme

- 6.13 The table below show the changes in financing required to move from the existing Capital Programme to the proposed 2023/24 – 2027/28 Capital Programme.

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| September 2023 Capital Programme | 28,266 | 4,095 | 5,670 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 50,001 |
| Capital Grants | 13,141 | 32,473 | 3,858 | 0 | 0 | 49,472 |
| Capital Receipts | -153 | 153 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Direct Revenue Financing - General Fund | -267 | 313 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46 |
| Prudential Borrowing | -9,553 | 16,286 | 10,291 | 0 | 0 | 17,024 |
| Developers Contributions - General Fund | 509 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 509 |
| Proposed December 2023 Capital Programme | 31,943 | 53,320 | 19,819 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 117,052 |

6.14 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme

Key changes to existing schemes are as follows:

- **Decent Homes Schemes** – There have been changes to the profiling and mix of these schemes, slippage has been reviewed in 23/24 and moved to 25/26 to aid future planning.
- **Afghan Resettlement** – Allocation added to the Capital Programme for 23/24 and balance retained in 24/25
- **Community Centres new housing scheme** – Allocation added to the Capital Programme and profiled accordingly over 23/24 and 24/25.
- **Central Avenue new housing scheme** – Allocation added to the Capital Programme and profiled accordingly over 23/24 and 24/25.
- **Retrofit Infill Properties** – This scheme is dependent on the Council receiving the Retrofit grant to make improvements to Infill Properties.
- **Northern View, Sutton in Ashfield** – Removed from the Capital Programme.

Full details of the HRA Capital Programme are shown in Appendix 3.

Table 14 – Housing Revenue Account (changes to budget)

| | 2023/24 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | 2025/26 £'000 | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Expenditure Approved | 15,450 | 21,494 | 17,721 | 17,914 | 15,914 | 88,493 |
| Changes to Current Projects | | | | | | |
| Decent Home Schemes | | | | | | |
| Management Fee | 118 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 41 | 282 |
| Catch up and Major Repairs | -1,996 | -627 | 2,083 | 540 | 0 | 0 |
| Service Improvements | -252 | -5 | 263 | -6 | 0 | 0 |
| Contingent Major Repairs | -63 | 0 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Exceptional Extensive Works | -956 | 0 | 936 | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Surveys | 300 | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 470 |
| Sub Total | -2,849 | -421 | 3,386 | 595 | 41 | 752 |
| Other Housing Revenue | | | | | | |
| Account Schemes | | | | | | |
| Disabled Adaptations | -100 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Afghan Resettlement Scheme | 847 | 177 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,024 |
| Community Centres New Housing Scheme | 50 | 795 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 845 |
| Central Avenue New Housing Scheme | 100 | 3,205 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,305 |
| Davies Avenue Housing Project - Frog Hopper Lane | -4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -4 |
| Development of Unviable Garage Sites in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Hucknall | 74 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 74 |
| Green Homes Grant (HRA) (1) | -39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -39 |
| Green Homes Grant (HRA) (2) | -27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -27 |
| Investment in New or Existing Dwellings | 73 | -73 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Major Repairs Temporary Accommodation | -108 | 42 | 6 | 6 | 54 | 0 |
| Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| Northern View, Sutton-in-Ashfield | 0 | -3,583 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -3,583 |
| Warwick Close, Kirkby-in-Ashfield | 60 | -60 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Retrofit Infill Properties | -270 | 384 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 114 |
| Sub Total | 686 | 987 | 6 | 6 | 54 | 1,739 |
| Grand Total | 13,287 | 22,060 | 21,113 | 18,515 | 16,009 | 90,984 |
| Capital Funding | | | | | | |
| Funded from HRA Reserves | 11,283 | 18,152 | 19,633 | 17,035 | 14,529 | 80,632 |
| Homes England | 700 | 1,008 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,708 |
| Green Homes Grants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Local Authority Housing Fund - second funding round | 545 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 545 |
| Nottingham City Council Retrofit | 80 | 504 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 584 |
| Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund 2 | 49 | 945 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 994 |
| Future 1-4-1 Capital Receipts Funding Recently Built and New Schemes | 630 | 571 | 600 | 600 | 600 | 3,001 |
| Non 1-4-1 Capital Receipts | 0 | 880 | 880 | 880 | 880 | 3,520 |
| Total Capital Funding | 13,287 | 22,060 | 21,113 | 18,515 | 16,009 | 90,984 |

7. Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators

- 7.1 The 2021 Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code introduced a new requirement that monitoring of the treasury management indicators should be reported quarterly (along with the other prudential indicators) as part of the Authority's general revenue and capital monitoring. To comply with this, the Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators are included in this report.
- 7.2 Detailed information on the indicators including original and revised indicators for 2023/24 is shown at Appendix 4.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Revenue and Capital Budgets and Outturn position reflect delivery of the priorities in the Corporate Plan.

Legal:

This report ensures compliance with the Council's approved Financial Regulations. [RLD 20/03/2024]

Finance: [CWH 18/03/2024].

| Budget Area | Implication |
|---|---|
| General Fund – Revenue Budget | As set out in the body of this report and the appendices. |
| General Fund – Capital Programme | As set out in the body of this report and the appendices. |
| Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget | As set out in the body of this report and the appendices. |
| Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme | As set out in the body of this report and the appendices. |

Risk:

| Risk | Mitigation |
|--|---|
| Failure to spend within approved budgets could impact the financial sustainability of the Council. | Regular financial monitoring reports to SLT and Cabinet. Financial Regulations. Finance training for Budget Managers and Budget Holders |

Human Resources:

No HR implications [KB 19/03/2024]

Environmental/Sustainability

No implications

Equalities:

No implications

Background Papers

Annual Budget and Council Tax 2023/24 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy Update to Council
2nd March 2023;

Draft Outturn Report 2022/23 to Cabinet 31st July 2023;

2023/24 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital
Programme as at July 2023

2023/24 Forecast Outturn for General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Capital
Programme as at October 2023

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| Directorate: | | Chief Executive Officer | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Forecast as at: | | 31/12/2023 | |
| Service Area | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000 | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000 | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| CEO | | 18 | Higher staff costs due to vacancy factor not achieved. |
| Total | 0 | 18 | |
| Net Forecast Under/Overspend | 18 | | |

| Directorate: | Governance | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| Service Area | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) £'000 | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) £'000 | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Director | | 5 | Vacancy factor not achievable |
| Legal | | 2 | Thomson Reuters contract higher than expected after end of Legal Shared Service |
| | | 38 | Voluntary Registration of Title project - funded from Transformation Reserve |
| CMAP | | 6 | Annual charge higher than budget |
| Corporate Health & Safety | | 8 | ODR to purchase 56 DSE chairs. Funded from Asset Repair & Replacement Reserve - first batch |
| Corporate Health & Safety | -28 | | Risk Management Officer post vacant |
| Elections | -13 | | Vacant post Service Manager - offset by agency |
| | | 11 | Postage higher than budgeted - driven by necessary electoral registration canvassing |
| Democratic Services | | 6 | Honorarium for extra duties |
| Members | | 5 | Independent Remuneration Panel Chair |
| | -4 | | Other net Directorate wide savings |
| Total | -45 | 81 | |
| Net Forecast Overspend | 36 | | |

| Directorate: | Transformation | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Service Area | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Service Director | | 5 | Increased staff costs due to vacancy factor not achieved. |
| Digital Services | -32 | 10 | Additional Consultancy Services in respect of Iken legal case management system. Lower net pay costs, as a result of vacancies |
| | | 7 | Increased cost of software licences |
| Policy & Performance | | 8 | Higher net staff costs, as a result of Agency costs |
| | | 10 | Social value portal |
| GIS | -24 | | Higher income from Street Naming and Numbering |
| | | 4 | Increased staff costs due to vacancy factor not achieved |
| Communications | | 45 | Higher net staff costs as a result of Agency costs |

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| | | | | |
| | Revenues and Benefits | | 100 | Increased net staff costs, due to vacancy factor not achieved, overtime (£25k), and honoraria (£26k), funded from New Burdens funding |
| | | | 26 | Payments to Contractors funded from New Burdens funding |
| | Customer Experience | | 20 | Higher net staff costs mainly as a result of Agency costs |
| | Investment Properties | | 146 | Lower rental income from Hotel Investment Property |
| | | | 13 | Legal costs in respect of relet of former Wilko building |
| | | | 115 | Security costs at vacant Investment Property |
| | | | 163 | Reduced rental income from vacant Investment Property |
| | | | 57 | NNDR costs at vacant Investment Property |
| | | | 10 | Professional & Consultancy costs at vacant Investment Property |
| | Estates | | 29 | Higher net staff costs mainly as a result of Agency costs |
| | Financial Management | | 7 | Increased staff costs due to overtime payments in respect of supporting new Financial Management System - funded from reserve approved as part of business case |
| | | | 21 | Higher staff costs as a result of Agency costs, and vacancy factor not achieved |
| | Total | -56 | 796 | |
| | Net Forecast Under/Overspend | 740 | | |
| | | | | |

| Directorate: | Place | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| | | | |
| | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Service Area | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Community Safety | -156 | | Net saving from staff costs as a result of vacancies. 19 Additional legal costs. 31 Increased costs of CCTV 11 Community Safety Partnership Plan development |
| Health & Wellbeing | -21 | | Net saving from staff costs as a result of vacancies |
| Leisure Centres | | | 24 Papplewick Centre investments (LED lighting, cleaning, decorating) 35 New management agreement with Everyone Active to manage additional leisure facilities, funded from S106 Developer Contributions 19 Specialist advice and support for funding bids, assessment of rural leisure facilities and energy costs 25 Leisure Operating Contract costs for legal advice and security at Kirkby Leisure Centre 31 Lower contributions to Capital charges from SLM 1 APSE Performance Networks Membership Fees 2023 (Bench-marking and Performance Data Service) |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|------|--|-----|--|
| | | | | |
| Markets | | | 8 | Increased Business Rates, Water and Insurance costs at Idlewells indoor market |
| | -15 | | | Increased income from rents at Idlewells indoor market |
| Licensing | | | 11 | Increased staff costs as a result of additional post (Licensing Technical Compliance Officer). Any overspend will be met from the Licensing reserve. |
| Regeneration | -61 | | | Net saving from staff costs as a result of vacancies |
| | | | 10 | Adverts in respect of Parking Order |
| | | | 15 | Costs associated with Green Spaces review (to be funded from Asset Renewal Reserve) |
| Planning | | | 27 | Higher staff costs as a result of vacancy factor not achieved |
| | | | 187 | Lower Planning fee income, as a result of reduced applications |
| Strategic Housing | | | 107 | Higher net staff costs, mainly due to Agency costs in Homelessness Assistance due to temporary roles and sickness absence cover, and vacancy factor not achieved |
| Executive Director | | | 60 | Additional costs for Interim Director to conclude project work. |
| Total | -253 | | 621 | |
| Net Forecast Under/Overspend | 368 | | | |
| | | | | |

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Directorate: | Operations | | |
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Service Area | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Neighbourhood Services | -22 | | Premises Expenses - Estimated reduction in unit cost of gas and electricity from October. |
| | -83 | | Fuel Costs - prices fallen during the financial year. |
| | | 20 | Developer Contributions realigned in 2022-23 reducing amount in 2023-24. |
| | -80 | | Vacancy savings less agency costs, pay award, sickness cover and vacancy provision. |
| | -10 | | Increase to amount paid for the NCC grass cutting contract |
| | | 11 | Early release of Selston Parish Council Contract - reduced income. |
| | | 13 | Hire of Vehicles |
| | | 11 | Increased costs of materials and equipment |
| | | 15 | Papplewick Green Kitchen Equipment |
| | | 6 | Liability and transport insurance higher than budget |
| | | 12 | Reduction in income compared to budget for cemeteries |
| | -9 | | Increased volume of business for commercial pest control |
| Garage Workshop | -68 | | Vacancy savings less agency costs, pay award and vacancy provision not achieved. |
| | | 11 | Tool purchases and unexpected cost for repair and maintenance of the electric road sweepers. |

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|-----|--|
| Northern Depot | -37 | | Premises Expenses - Estimated reduction in unit cost of gas and electricity from October. 10 Equipment, licence and Fleet text messaging costs. 6 Pay Award higher than budget |
| Waste Services | -125 | | Fuel Costs - prices fallen during financial year. 55 Pay Award higher than budget and overtime to cover bank holidays 89 Additional cost of Agency workers due to long term sickness cover, strike action at waste collection sites and flood damage clearance less vacant posts. 30 Reduction in income for paid bulky waste collections. 5 Increased Insurance costs 10 Net effect of increased costs of waste disposal against income in trade waste collections |
| | -58 | | Increase in income from glass collection recycling price rises 38 Hire of waste vehicles during industrial action and to cover while regular waste vehicles are in for repair 35 Purchase of new bins over budget figure - recovered from bin charges. |
| Asset Management | -56 | | Premises Expenses - Estimated reduction in unit cost of gas and electricity from October 2023. 17 Car Parks - Loss of income. Free Parking in December. Backdated NNDR charge for Kings Mill car park. 36 Vacancy Factor not achieved, plus pay award higher than budgeted - £10k. Agency covering vacancies, market supplement, new standby cover introduced - £26k. |
| | -82 | | Non-Domestic Assets - Decarbonisation Plan. One off to be met from Reserves, work will not commence until 2024/25 so carry forward agreed of £82k budget to 2024/25 |
| Call Monitoring | | | 6 Residual costs on service closure. |
| Total | -630 | 436 | |
| Net Under/Overspend | -194 | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | | |
| Corporate Costs | Corporate Costs | | |
| | | | |
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| | | | |
| | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) | Forecast Overspend OR Income under- recovery (+) | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Service Area | £'000 | £'000 | |
| Loan Interest Payable | -612 | | It was assumed loans would be refinanced in 2023/24 and additional borrowing required. It is now clear this is not required. |
| Minimum Revenue Provision | -1,079 | | As borrowing is not required, MRP is reduced. It has also reduced due to switch funding and programme slippage. |
| Direct Revenue Financing | | 106 | £43k Windmill Scheme, £54k Health & Safety and £3k Shop Fronts. All funded from reserves. |
| Net Interest Payable/Receivable | | 177 | This is a net gain to the HRA, representing additional interest earned due to higher rates (internal borrowing). |
| | -1,691 | 283 | |
| Net Forecast Under/Overspend | -1,408 | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Funding | | | |
| Forecast as at: | 31/12/2023 | | |
| | Forecast Underspend OR Income over-recovery (-) | Forecast Overspend OR Income under-recovery (+) | Key reasons for forecast variance |
| Service Area | £'000 | £'000 | |
| No forecast variances | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | 0 | 0 | |
| Net Forecast Under/Overspend | 0 | | |

| Statement of Movement on General Fund Reserves | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Service Earmarked Reserve | Opening Balance at 1st April 2023 | Approved | Approved | Approved Balance as at 31 October 2023 | Requiring Approval | Requiring Approval | Forecast Closing Balance as at 31 March 2024 |
| | | Contributions | Withdrawals | | Contributions | Withdrawals | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | | | £ |
| Earmarked Reserves | | | | | | | |
| Elections | (151,858) | (84,000) | 197,000 | (38,858) | 0 | 0 | (38,858) |
| Insurance Related Funds (Inc Risk Mngt) | (339,533) | (75,000) | 0 | (414,533) | 0 | 0 | (414,533) |
| Revenue Grant Reserve | (3,363,794) | 0 | 335,000 | (3,028,794) | 0 | 0 | (3,028,794) |
| District Planning Enquiry Fund | (201,140) | 0 | 0 | (201,140) | 0 | 0 | (201,140) |
| Asset Renewal | (640,476) | 51,000 | 0 | (589,476) | 0 | 0 | (589,476) |
| Leisure Maintenance Reserve | (1,141,678) | (290,000) | 0 | (1,431,678) | 0 | 0 | (1,431,678) |
| NNDR Equalisation Reserve | (5,982,109) | 0 | 82,000 | (5,900,109) | 0 | 0 | (5,900,109) |
| Supported Housing Trading Fund | (53,376) | 0 | 0 | (53,376) | 0 | 0 | (53,376) |
| Corporate Transformation Reserve | (847,789) | (150,000) | 0 | (997,789) | 0 | 0 | (997,789) |
| Commercial Property Investment Reserve | (4,200,000) | (200,000) | 0 | (4,400,000) | 0 | 0 | (4,400,000) |
| Economic Development and Place Reserve | (251,759) | 0 | 0 | (251,759) | 0 | 0 | (251,759) |
| Joint Crematorium Reserve | (635,035) | 0 | 0 | (635,035) | 0 | 0 | (635,035) |
| Selective Licencing | (73,044) | 0 | 0 | (73,044) | 0 | 0 | (73,044) |
| Licensing Reserve | (247,845) | 0 | 37,000 | (210,845) | 0 | 0 | (210,845) |
| Covid-19 Grant Reserve | (381,237) | 0 | 0 | (381,237) | 0 | 0 | (381,237) |
| Legal Reserve | (25,000) | (10,000) | 0 | (35,000) | 0 | 0 | (35,000) |
| Winter Maintenance Reserve | (15,000) | (5,000) | 0 | (20,000) | 0 | 0 | (20,000) |
| Commercial Property Dilapidations Reserve | (30,000) | (10,000) | 0 | (40,000) | 0 | 0 | (40,000) |
| IT Reserve | (15,000) | (10,000) | 0 | (25,000) | 0 | 0 | (25,000) |
| Total Earmarked Reserves | (18,595,673) | (783,000) | 651,000 | (18,702,673) | 0 | 0 | (18,727,673) |
| NNDR/Ctax S31 & Compensation Reserve | (320,473) | 0 | 232,334 | (88,139) | 0 | 88,139 | 0 |
| General Reserve | -9,234,870 | | 386,000 | -8,848,870 | | | -8,848,870 |

Statement of Movement on HRA Reserves

| Service Earmarked Reserve | Opening Balance 1 April 2023 £ | Approved | | Balance as at 31 October 2023 £ | Forecast as at 31 December 2023 | | Forecast Closing Balance as at 31 March 2024 £ | Forecast Comments |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---|-------------------|
| | | Contributions £ | Withdrawals £ | | Contributions £ | Withdrawals £ | | |
| HRA Revenue Grants Reserve | -44,772 | 0 | 19,642 | -25,130 | -17,915 | 8,964 | -34,081 | |
| HRA Eco Funding Reserve | -243,430 | 0 | 0 | -243,430 | 0 | 0 | -243,430 | |
| HRA Insurance Reserve | -124,237 | -30,000 | 30,000 | -124,237 | 0 | 0 | -124,237 | |
| HRA Technology Investment | -25,566 | 0 | 0 | -25,566 | 0 | 0 | -25,566 | |
| HRA Welfare Reform Reserve | -140,399 | 0 | 50,000 | -90,399 | 0 | 0 | -90,399 | |
| Total HRA Earmarked Reserves | -578,404 | -30,000 | 99,642 | -508,762 | -17,915 | 8,964 | -517,713 | |

Appendix 3 – Capital Programme

| | Lead Officer | Funding | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--|--------------|-----------------|----------|--------|
| | | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | Total | Loan | Section | Grant | Grant Funder | Capital Receipt | Reserves | Total |
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | 106 | £'000 | e.g. Lottery | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| General Fund | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ashfield Innovation and Technology Park | John Bennett | 0 | 4,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 4,500 |
| Cemeteries | John Bennett | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Comm Facilities Investment - Selston Country Park | John Bennett | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Demolition of Hucknall Toilets | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Depot Roof | Paul Parkinson | 646 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 646 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 646 | 0 | 646 |
| External health and safety works required for the Urban Road office | Paul Parkinson | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Firewalls | Craig Bonar | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Flood Support Schemes | Craig Bonar | 49 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 0 | 49 CLG | | 0 | 0 | 49 |
| Green Space Improvements | John Bennett | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Green Homes Grant (GF) (1) | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Green Homes Grant (GF) (2) | Paul Parkinson | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 44 Green Homes Grant | | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| Hucknall Car Park - Titchfield Street | John Bennett | 115 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 22 | 93 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 115 |
| Hucknall Leisure Centre Car Park Extension | John Bennett | 750 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 750 | 350 | 0 | 0 | | 400 | 0 | 750 |
| Hucknall Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment | John Bennett | 489 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 489 | 489 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 489 |
| Hucknall Leisure Centre - New Pool | John Bennett | 419 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 419 | 419 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 419 |
| Hucknall Leisure Centre (PSDS3) | John Bennett | 1,500 | 523 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,023 | 210 | 0 | 1,301 PSDS3 | | 0 | 512 | 2,023 |
| In District Regeneration | John Bennett | 3,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,000 | 2,500 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 500 | 3,000 |
| Lammas Leisure Centre carbon reduction | John Bennett | 50 | 119 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 169 | 0 | 0 | 169 Sport England - Swimming Pool support fund | | 0 | 0 | 169 |
| New Kirkby Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment | John Bennett | 349 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 349 | 349 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 349 |
| Lammas Leisure Centre - Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment | John Bennett | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Idlewells Market Hall | John Bennett | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| Improvement Grants 1996 Act Disabled Facility Grant | Paul Parkinson | 1,110 | 1,212 | 1,110 | 1,110 | 1,110 | 5,652 | 0 | 0 | 5,652 BCF | | 0 | 0 | 5,652 |
| IT Wiring Infrastructure | Craig Bonar | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Kings Mill Reservoir Car Park Expansion | John Bennett | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kings Mill Reservoir (The King and Miller to Kingfisher) | John Bennett | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 170 | 18 | 0 | 152 NCC £105k, MDC £27k, Development (HLF) £12k, NCC ROW £3k & Donations £5k | | 0 | 0 | 170 |
| Kirkby Leisure Centre | John Bennett | 1,320 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,320 | 1,275 | 0 | 45 Sport England £45k | | 0 | 0 | 1,320 |
| Lindley's Windmill Roof | John Bennett | 95 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 | 0 | 6 | 0 | | 0 | 89 | 95 |
| Market Stalls | John Bennett | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Members' IT | Craig Bonar | 37 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37 | 37 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 37 |
| New Cross Support Scheme | John Bennett | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 RHB | | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| New Servers | Craig Bonar | 43 | 20 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 83 | 83 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 83 |
| Northern Depot Office Rationalisation and Wireless CCTV Infrastructure | Paul Parkinson | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 11 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate DWP at Central Offices | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Office Accommodation Works to Accommodate Police at Central Offices | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Officers' IT for Agile Working (General Fund) | Craig Bonar | 56 | 40 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 136 | 136 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 136 |
| Piggins Croft Car Park | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Public Space Protection Order and other UKSPF funded schemes | John Bennett | 329 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 329 | 0 | 0 | 319 £25k Safer Streets, £289k UKSPF and £5k PCC | | 10 | 0 | 329 |
| Purchase of Vehicles | Paul Parkinson | 1,384 | 1,566 | 4,500 | 4,750 | 5,000 | 17,200 | 17,200 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 17,200 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|--|
| Rapid Deployable CCTV Cameras and Installation | John Bennett | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 30 | PCC | 0 | 0 | 30 | |
| Retail Improvement Scheme | John Bennett | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | S106 Revenue | 0 | 3 | 3 | |
| SAN Hardware | Craig Bonar | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 2 | |
| Safer Streets | John Bennett | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 31 | Notts PCC | 0 | 0 | 31 | |
| Safer Streets for Kirkby | John Bennett | 81 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 81 | 0 | 0 | 81 | Notts PCC | 0 | 0 | 81 | |
| Discovery Centre and Planetarium | John Bennett | 1,625 | 1,425 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,050 | 0 | 0 | 3,050 | DLUHC | 0 | 0 | 3,050 | |
| Solar Panels - Northern Depot | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Switch Network Hardware | Craig Bonar | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 13 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | DLUHC £46,628k, LTA £108k, HLF £45k, Football Foundation £1,950k and ATTFE Sutton Academy Trust £264k | 0 | 0 | 68,872 | |
| Towns Fund Projects | John Bennett | 13,408 | 41,315 | 14,149 | 0 | 0 | 68,872 | 19,454 | 424 | 48,994 | | 0 | 0 | 68,872 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | EMG Homes £4k, J Tomlinson £2k and £4k Trees for Cities | 0 | 0 | 184 | |
| Towns Fund Accelerated Funding Projects | John Bennett | 184 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 184 | 184 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 184 | |
| Tree Planting and Habitat Improvements, Ashfield-Wide | John Bennett | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 0 | 32 | 10 | | 0 | 0 | 42 | |
| Urban Road Offices (PSDS3) | Paul Parkinson | 1,175 | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,675 | 457 | 0 | 666 | PSDS3 | 552 | 0 | 1,675 | |
| Vehicle Tracking Scheme | Paul Parkinson | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 5 | |
| Future High Street Funding Schemes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | ATTFE Sutton Academy Trust £100k | 0 | 0 | 2,255 | |
| Sutton Academy Community Theatre/Cinema | John Bennett | 155 | 2,100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,255 | 2,155 | 0 | 100 | | 0 | 0 | 2,255 | |
| Sutton Maker Space and Business Hub | John Bennett | 1,452 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,452 | 1,452 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1,452 | |
| Low Street vacant units | John Bennett | 1,230 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,230 | 1,230 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1,230 | |
| Fox Street pop-up food court and car park | John Bennett | 490 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 490 | 214 | 71 | 205 | DLUHC £205k | 0 | 0 | 490 | |
| Total General Fund | | 31,943 | 53,320 | 19,819 | 5,860 | 6,110 | 117,052 | 52,807 | 634 | 60,899 | | 1,608 | 1,104 | 117,052 | |

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Housing Revenue Account Capital Schemes

Housing Revenue Account

| | Lead Officer | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | Total |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT | | | | | | | |
| Decent Homes Schemes | | | | | | | |
| Management Fee | Paul Parkinson | 790 | 701 | 701 | 701 | 701 | 3,594 |
| Catch up and Major Repairs | Paul Parkinson | 1,225 | 10,005 | 12,455 | 11,195 | 9,727 | 44,607 |
| Service Improvements | Paul Parkinson | 909 | 3,780 | 3,168 | 2,963 | 2,772 | 13,592 |
| Contingent Major Repairs | Paul Parkinson | 42 | 105 | 168 | 102 | 140 | 557 |
| Exceptional Extensive Works | Paul Parkinson | 40 | 70 | 2,170 | 990 | 20 | 3,290 |
| Surveys | Paul Parkinson | 300 | 170 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 470 |
| Disabled Adaptations | Paul Parkinson | 686 | 460 | 410 | 450 | 450 | 2,456 |
| Grand Total | | 3,992 | 15,291 | 19,072 | 16,401 | 13,810 | 68,566 |
| Other Housing Revenue Account Schemes | | | | | | | |
| Afghan Resettlement Scheme | Paul Parkinson | 847 | 177 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,024 |
| Retrofit Infill Properties | Paul Parkinson | 80 | 504 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 584 |
| Community Centres New Housing Scheme | Paul Parkinson | 50 | 795 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 845 |
| Central Avenue New Housing Scheme | Paul Parkinson | 100 | 3,205 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,305 |
| Investment in New or Existing Dwellings | Paul Parkinson | 1,574 | 1,428 | 1,501 | 1,501 | 1,501 | 7,505 |
| Davies Avenue Housing Project - Frog Hopper Lane | Paul Parkinson | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| Development of Unviable Garage Sites in Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Hucknall (Darley Avenue and Spruce Grove New Builds) | Paul Parkinson | 514 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 539 |
| Firewalls | Paul Parkinson | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Green Homes Grant (HRA) (1) | Paul Parkinson | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Green Homes Grant (HRA) (2) | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Housing Vehicles | Paul Parkinson | 368 | 423 | 487 | 560 | 644 | 2,482 |
| Major Repairs Temporary Accommodation | Paul Parkinson | 5 | 88 | 53 | 53 | 54 | 253 |
| Maun View Sutton-in-Ashfield | Paul Parkinson | 942 | 53 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 995 |
| Northern View, Sutton-in-Ashfield | Paul Parkinson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SAN Hardwear | Paul Parkinson | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Switch Network Hardware | Paul Parkinson | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Officers' IT for Agile Working (HRA) | Paul Parkinson | 73 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 113 |
| Vehicle Tracking Scheme | Paul Parkinson | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Warwick Close, Kirkby-in-Ashfield | Paul Parkinson | 4,688 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,719 |
| Grand Total | | 9,295 | 6,769 | 2,041 | 2,114 | 2,199 | 22,418 |
| Total Housing Revenue Account | | 13,287 | 22,060 | 21,113 | 18,515 | 16,009 | 90,984 |

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Area Capital Schemes

| | Lead Officer | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | Total | Funding | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------------|----------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | Loan | Section 106 | Grant | Grant Funder | Capital Receipts | Reserves | Total Funding |
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | e.g. Lottery | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Hucknall Area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Titchfield Park Brook | John Bennett | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 20 | NCC | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Washdyke Recreation Ground | John Bennett | 10 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 16 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Total Hucknall Area | | 20 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 16 | 20 | | 0 | 0 | 36 |
| Sutton Area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Football Changing Rooms | John Bennett | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 15 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Kingsmill Reservoir management plan: Implementation Works | John Bennett | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Roundhill Recreation Ground | John Bennett | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 5 | 0 | | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| Sudbury Drive Play Area | John Bennett | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 39 | Taylor Wimpey | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| Sutton Lawn management Plan | John Bennett | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 14 | 0 | | 0 | 8 | 22 |
| Sutton Town Centre Improvements | John Bennett | 71 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 0 | 70 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 71 |
| Taylor Crescent Recreation Ground | John Bennett | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Huthwaite Welfare Park | John Bennett | 52 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 | 0 | 208 | 52 | Lawn Tennis association | 0 | 0 | 260 |
| Total Sutton Area | | 224 | 208 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 432 | 0 | 328 | 91 | | 4 | 9 | 432 |

Appendix 3 - Capital Programme

Area Capital Schemes

| | Lead Officer | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | Total | Loan | Section 106 | Grant | Grant Funder | Capital Receipts | Reserves | Total Funding |
|--|--------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|--------------|------------------|----------|---------------|
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | e.g. Lottery | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Kirkby Area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annesley Art Project | John Bennett | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Forest Road Nature Area | John Bennett | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Kingsway Park: implementation of management plan | John Bennett | 20 | 184 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 204 | 0 | 204 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 204 |
| Sports pavilion, Titchfield Park | John Bennett | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 | 0 | 39 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| Total Kirkby Area | | 61 | 189 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 0 | 250 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 250 |

| | Lead Officer | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | Total | Loan | Section 106 | Grant | Grant Funder | Capital Receipts | Reserves | Total Funding |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------------|----------|---------------|
| | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | e.g. Lottery | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Rural Area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rurals and Open Space | John Bennett | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 | 0 | 60 | 0 | | 60 | 0 | 120 |
| Total Rural Area | | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 120 |
| Total Area | | 425 | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 838 | 0 | 654 | 111 | | 64 | 9 | 838 |

Prudential Indicators of Affordability

The Prudential Indicators for 2023-24 were agreed at the Council meeting on 2nd March 2023. The Prudential Indicators for affordability are as follows:

- a) Estimate of the ratio of financing costs to the net revenue stream split between the Housing Revenue Account and the General Fund

For the HRA this is calculated by dividing the HRA capital financing costs by the total estimated Council Dwelling Income. For the General Fund this is calculated by dividing the General Fund capital financing costs by the estimated Council Tax Receipt plus Central Government Grants.

Table 1 – Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for the Housing Revenue Account and General Fund.

| | 2022/23 Revised | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/2024 Original % | 2023/24 Revised % |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Housing Revenue Account | 11.87 | 10.44 | 10.57 | 7.85 |
| General Fund | 21.05 | 15.32 | 30.08 | 27.33 |

The General Fund indicator is lower than forecast due to slippage and switch funding of borrowing in 2022/23 reducing the amount of Minimum Revenue Provision in 2023/24 the HRA indicator has reduced due to interest receivable amounts on HRA balances being higher than previously anticipated and higher than expected rental income.

Table 2 – Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for the General Fund including Investment Property income.

| | 2022/23 Revised | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/2024 Original % | 2023/24 Revised % |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | -9.30 | -11.17 | -1.38 | -0.75 |

The reason the above figures are negative is due to the Item 8 credit and investment property income being greater than the other financing costs e.g. Minimum Revenue Provision and interest payable. The General Fund indicator is lower than forecast due to slippage and switch funding of borrowing in 2022/23 reducing the amount of Minimum Revenue Provision in 2023/24.

- b) Estimate of the incremental impact of capital investment decisions on the Council Tax and Rent Levels

These indicators have been prepared using the revised Capital Programme, on the same agenda as this report.

The revised indicator for 2023-24 can be found on Table 3 below.

Table 3 - Incremental Impact of capital investment decisions on Council Tax and Rent Levels

| | 2022/23 Revised | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/2024 Original % | 2023/24 Revised % |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| General Fund (Band D) | 19.88 | 24.31 | 34.79 | 17.94 |
| HRA (52 weeks) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

The table is calculated by dividing the estimated finance costs of the in year capital expenditure by; the estimated number of Council Tax Band D equivalents for the General Fund and the number of Council Dwellings for the HRA. As there has not been any new HRA borrowing in the two years above the indicator is showing a zero. The reason for the difference on the General Fund is due to slippage and switch funding from the 2022/23 Capital Programme.

c) Net borrowing and the Capital Financing Requirement split between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account

In order to ensure that in the medium term borrowing is only undertaken for capital purposes, local authorities are required to ensure that external borrowing does not exceed, except in the short term, the total of their capital financing requirement over the planning period. In broad terms the capital financing requirement reflects an authority's need to borrow for capital purposes and is a measure of the assets contained on the balance sheet which have as yet not been fully financed, i.e. there is still some indebtedness outstanding.

The latest 2023/24 estimate of the Capital Financing Requirement is shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement.

| | 31st March 2023 Revised | 31st March 2023 Outturn | 31st March 2024 Original | 31st March 2024 Revised |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Housing Revenue Account | 80.061 | 80.061 | 80.061 | 80.061 |
| General Fund | 106.473 | 86.287 | 104.706 | 94.209 |
| Total | 186.534 | 166.348 | 184.767 | 174.270 |

As mentioned in b) above there is not expected to be any new HRA borrowing and unlike the General Fund there is not a requirement to charge Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for the HRA. The decrease in General Fund is due to higher than expected MRP payments and a small decrease in the expected borrowing requirement.

d) Capital Expenditure

Estimates of capital expenditure for 2023/24 years split between the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account

The estimated total capital expenditure for 2023/24 as detailed in the Capital Programme, is shown below in Table 5:

Table 5 – Housing Revenue Account and General Fund Capital Expenditure estimates.

| Capital Expenditure £m | 2022/23 Revised | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/24 Original | 2023/24 Revised |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund | 34.111 | 15.358 | 6.826 | 32.509 |
| HRA | 20.006 | 17.350 | 24.785 | 16.492 |
| Total | 54.117 | 32.708 | 31.611 | 49.001 |

The increase in General Fund is due to slippage on Towns Fund schemes, Future High Street Fund Scheme, In District Regeneration and vehicle purchases in 2022/23. The decrease for the HRA is largely due to the main contractor for the decent homes work going into administration.

e) Capital Programme Funding

Table 6 shows how the expenditure in Table 5 is to be funded.

Table 6 - Capital Expenditure Funding

| Financing of Capital Programme £m | 2022/23 Revised | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/24 Original | 2023/24 Revised |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Capital Receipts | 3.540 | 2.630 | 2.113 | 3.152 |
| Capital Grants | 14.623 | 17.049 | 6.053 | 21.153 |
| Capital Reserves | 0.640 | 0.094 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Direct Revenue Financing | 13.138 | 10.944 | 21.695 | 14.336 |
| Borrowing Requirement | 22.176 | 1.991 | 1.750 | 10.360 |
| Total | 54.117 | 32.708 | 31.611 | 49.001 |

The increased borrowing requirement is mainly due to slippage and switch funding from 2022/23. The increase in capital grants is largely due to additional DLUHC Levelling Up Fund 2 funding for the Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium and the decrease in direct revenue financing is largely due to the reduction in Decent Homes Expenditure as a result of the main contractor going into administration.

f) Balance Sheet Summary and Forecast

The Council has an increasing CFR until the end of 2023/24 due to switch funding being used to finance many unfunded schemes in 2022/23. This position is continually reviewed due to the level of reserves and working capital having many variables and due to slippage in delivery of the capital programme making forecasting with certainty difficult.

Table 7 shows the original and revised balance sheet summary for 2023-24.

Table 7 - Balance Sheet Summary

| 31st March: | 2023 Revised | 2023 Outturn | 2024 Original | 2024 Revised |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Capital Financing Requirement | 186.5 | 166.3 | 184.8 | 183.3 |
| Less: External Borrowing | -90.5 | -90.5 | -86.3 | -86.3 |
| Under(Over) Borrowing | 96.0 | 75.8 | 98.5 | 97.0 |
| Less: Usable Reserves plus working Capital | -81.6 | -79.4 | -78.1 | -92.1 |
| Investments / (New Borrowing) | -14.4 | 3.6 | -20.4 | -4.9 |

See c) above for explanation of the change in the Capital Financing Requirement. The Usable Reserves is higher than previously expected as a result of HRA reserves being higher than anticipated caused by a decrease in 2023/24 capital expenditure as a result of the main contractor going into administration.

External Debt

g) **Authorised Limit**

This is calculated by taking into account current external debt, new borrowing for loans which mature or for capital purposes and the need to borrow on a short term basis to cover for temporary shortfalls in revenue income and expenditure.

A comparison with the authorised limit to the actual external debt is shown in Table 8 below.

Table 8 – Authorised Limit

| | 2022/23 Original | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/2024 Original | 31st December 2023 Actual External Debt |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Borrowing | 217 | 91 | 215 | 97 |

The Authority's debt is currently significantly below the Authorised Limit.

h) **Operational Boundary**

As well as an authorised limit the local authority must also set an operational boundary for its external debt for the next three years. The operational boundary is based on the most likely or prudent but not worst case scenario in relation to cash flow.

The future Operational Boundary comparison to actual external debt as at 30th June 2023 is shown in Table 9.

Table 9 – Operational Boundary for External Debt

| | 2022/23 Original | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/2024 Original | 31st December 2023 Actual External Debt |
|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Borrowing | 188 | 91 | 187 | 97 |

The Authority is currently significantly below the Operational Boundary.

Treasury Management

i) Interest rate exposure

These indicators relate to both fixed and variable rate interest and are net of any investments.

Depending on the level of interest rates and their expected movement in the year, the Council may accept all of its new borrowings in the form of either fixed or variable rate debt. The figures in Table 10 give the following maximum levels, when compared to the authorised limit of exposure to fixed and variable interest rates, which are prudent limits for the forthcoming years:

Table 10 - Interest Rate Exposure

| Principal Outstanding | 2022/23 Original | 2022/23 Outturn | 2023/24 Original | 31st December 2023 Actual |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Fixed Rates | 217.0 | 72.5 | 215.0 | 72.5 |
| Variable Rates (No more than 40% of the operational boundary). | 86.8 | 18.0 | 86.0 | 17.0 |

The Council is significantly within the boundaries previously set.

j) Maturity Structure of borrowing

This indicator relates only to fixed rate debt and is therefore a measure of the longer-term exposure to interest rate risk.

Table 11 shows the proposed lower and upper limits, given the current structure of the Council's debt portfolio:

Table 11 - Maturity Structure of Debt

| Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing | Actual Amount 31/03/2023 £m | Forecast Position for 31/03/2023 | Actual Amount 30/06/2023 £m | Forecast Position for 30/06/2023 | Lower Limit % | Upper Limit % |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Under 12 Months | 4,227 | 4.67% | 3,227 | 3.60% | 0.00% | 10.00% |
| Under 24 Months | 5,454 | 6.02% | 4,454 | 4.97% | 0.00% | 12.50% |
| Under 5 years | 8,541 | 9.43% | 7,541 | 8.42% | 0.00% | 20.00% |
| Under 10 years | 20,236 | 22.35% | 19,236 | 21.48% | 0.00% | 25.00% |
| Under 20 years | 30,236 | 33.40% | 29,236 | 32.65% | 0.00% | 40.00% |
| Under 30 years | 35,236 | 38.92% | 34,236 | 38.24% | 0.00% | 50.00% |
| Under 40 years | 68,236 | 75.37% | 67,236 | 75.09% | 0.00% | 80.00% |
| Under 50 years | 90,536 | 100.00% | 89,536 | 100.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% |
| 50 Years and Above | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

All the Council debt maturities are within the targets set.

- k) Principal sums invested for more than 364 days
Maximum investments over £5m as at 30th June 2023 £0 and as at 31st March 2023 £0.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Report To: | CABINET |
| Date: | 8TH APRIL 2024 |
| Heading: | MAJOR PROJECTS AND FUNDING UPDATE |
| Executive Lead Member: | CLLR MATTHEW RELF, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR GROWTH, REGENERATION AND LOCAL PLANNING CLLR JOHN WILMOTT, EXECUTIVE LEAD MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIME REDUCTION |
| Ward/s: | ALL WARDS |
| Key Decision: | YES |
| Subject to Call-In: | YES |

Purpose of Report

To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on funding allocations and progress of funded programmes.

To agree the addition of Public Open Space Section 106 contributions to the Capital Programme.

To agree to accept funding from the Levelling Up Fund for Hucknall Town Centre.

Recommendation(s)

1. To note the progress for the Regeneration programmes.
2. To recommend to Council, following receipt of funds, that Section 106 monies be included on the Capital Programme as outlined in the report.
3. To agree to accept funding from the Levelling Up Fund for Hucknall Town Centre of up to £9,281,283 and to enter into agreements with DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) as required and to add the funds to the Capital Programme.

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

1. To ensure that Cabinet is kept updated on progress with the funding programmes.
2. To ensure that projects and spend within the funding programmes are delivered within the set timeframes and programme budgets.
3. To ensure delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan and improvements to parks and green spaces with a rolling programme of investment.
4. To ensure funding streams are utilised collaboratively and effectively.

Alternative Options Considered

1. Not to approve the allocation of Section 106 funding to the Capital Programme. **Rejected** - Not allocating the funds will mean that public open space improvement projects cannot be delivered.
2. Not to accept the Levelling Up Funding for Hucknall. **Rejected** – Not accepting the funds would mean that potential investment in the town would not be realised.

Detailed Information

The report provides an overview of programme performance for regeneration funding.



1. Future High Streets Fund



1.1 Finance:

The programme budgets are shown in annex 1.

1.2 Progress

A progress and risk-based summary for each project is provided below.

| Project | Achievements/ progress/next steps | Start / Completion Dates | Next key Milestone | Risk Level / programme and cost |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Theatre Project | The planning application will be presented at the March planning committee meeting for approval. A project extension request has been approved in principle by DLUHC. Following the approval the project is now being managed within the agreed timeframe. The costs remain manageable. | S: May 2024 C: Dec 2024 | Planning Approval March 2024 |  |
| Low Street | 14 Low Street - Complete. | S: Dec 2023 C: April 2024 | Securing a tenancy / |  |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| | 9-11 Low Street – The contract commenced at the beginning of December; minor delays have occurred due to site access issues, but these have now been overcome. The project cost remains controlled. | | Social value delivery | |
| High Pavement | The Maker Space CIS has been approved. The committee has started the fit out of facilities with the new equipment orders being received. Recruitment to the MakerSpace coordinator role has been published and closed in early March. | C: Nov 2024 | Inspire's new tenancy within the building March/ April 2024 |  |
| Fox Street | The framework contract agreement is progressing and the mobilisation period has commenced. The project is being progressed alongside the Towns Fund Portland Square scheme. Progress is being made in completing the S278 agreement with NCC. An extension of time request has been approved by DLUHC. The risk remains elevated due to the delay in starting the contract. | S: Feb 2024 C: May / June 2024 | Official appointment of the contractor and works start. Project display boards to be erected in the town centre. |  |


2. Towns Fund

2.1 Finance

The programme budgets are shown in annex 1.






2.2 Project highlights report

A progress and risk-based summary for each project is provided below.

| Project | Achievements/ progress/next steps | Start / Completion Dates | Next key Milestone | Risk Level / programme and cost |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Be Healthy Be Happy | | | | |
| North Kirkby Gateway | Options have been drafted for the Pond Hole/factory shop sites. A stage 1 cost appraisal has been completed and a commercial option is being explored with one of the landowners to complete the land assembly. | S: Jan 2025 (Est) C: March 2026 | Agree final development option, complete stage 2 designs for |  |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | Risk is elevated, due to delays in securing all the land required for the project although progress is being made. | | public display March 2024 | |
| Kirkby Sports Hub | <p>The project is now progressing through RIBA stage 3.</p> <p>The design team are progressing the project in two parts ready for the planning application and procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowls pavilion, car park and floodlight work Q4 2024 • Main changing pavilion/pitch works Q1 2025 | <p>Part 1: S:Nov 2024 C: March 2025</p> <p>Part 2: S: April / May 2025 C: Feb 2026</p> | Publish new Bowls pavilion plans: March 2024. | ↔ |
| Sutton Lawn Sports Hub | <p>The project is now progressing through RIBA stage 3.</p> <p>The design team are progressing the project in two parts ready for the planning application and procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car park/Pavilion/shale pitch: Q1 2025 • 3G pitches: Q3 2025 <p>The tennis courts improvements were completed in March.</p> <p>An operator contract for the tennis courts has been awarded and the contract is being drawn up to commence delivery.</p> | <p>Part 1: S: March 2025 C: August 2026</p> <p>Part 2: Sept 2025 S: March 2026</p> | Completion and opening of the new tennis courts and appointment of the operator: March 2024 | ↔ |
| More to Discover | | | | |
| Sutton Town Centre | | | | |
| Portland Square | <p>The framework contract agreement between Lindum and the Council is progressing via legal services.</p> <p>The project is being progressed alongside the Towns Fund Portland Square scheme. Delays in completing the S278 agreement with NCC have pushed the start date back.</p> | <p>S: June/ July 2024 C: Dec 2024</p> | Official appointment of the contractor and works start. | ↔ |
| Visitor Economy | | | | |
| Cycling and walking routes | Procurement of the design team has been completed and contracts are being finalised. | <p>S: April / May 2024 C: April 2025</p> | Release plans around route upgrades and improvements | ↔ |

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Visitor digital offer | The new website is now live. Additional content is being developed / added and adjustments are being made to the Discover Ashfield App. The app will go live once the web infrastructure testing is complete. | C: Feb 2024 | Marketing / and press release | ↔ |
| Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium | Works on site are progressing well with the foundations and sub structure works nearing completion. The project has been able to enhance its Social Value contributions by donating hundreds of tons of sand excavated from the site to local golf clubs. | C: Nov 2024 | | ↔ |
| Kings Mill Reservoir leisure development | The construction phase remains on programme and within budget. | C: July 2024 | Operator procurement March 2024 | ↔ |
| Succeed in Ashfield | | | | |
| ADMC (Kirkby/Sutton) | The project team are progressing RIBA stage 3. The planning application was submitted in early March. Development work for the operating model and governance is ongoing. | S: July /August 2024 C: Sept 2025 | Website launch and promotion: Feb 2024. Design vision release: March 2024 | ↔ |
| Ashfield Construction Centre and Satellite | Portland College: Construction works have commenced at Portland College and are scheduled to be completed in April with training courses due to commence as soon as is practicable after completion. Vison West Notts College: The draft grant agreement for the construction centre at West Notts College (VWNC) has been prepared for the college to sign. The revised project plan indicates completion of the construction works in September. Development work is ongoing to explore increasing parking provision. | Part 1 Portland College: S: Nov 2023 C: April 2024 Part 2 VWNC: S: July / August 2024 C: Dec 2024 | Launch of new facilities | ↔ |

| Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre | The project has been delayed as the site development will need to align to any changes to the Council's wider depot development work. The key factor is sufficient safe working space to develop the area. The project opening will now be delayed until September 2025. | C: Dec 2025 | Depot plan to be agreed. |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-----|----|----|---|-----|----|-----|--|-----|----|---|----------------------|-----|-----|-------|----------------------------------|-----|----|----|----------------------------|----|----|------|---------------|---|---|
| Enterprising Ashfield | <p>Risks remain elevated because the target outputs are behind plan at this point in the programme. A proposal to adapt the project to improve the target outputs has been drafted and will be reviewed before recommendations are made.</p> <p>An overview of outputs against the project target is provided below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="339 703 896 1205"> <thead> <tr> <th>Project Output</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Total planned to date</th> <th>Total delivered to date – February 2024</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Headstart- Entrepreneur Enterprise ready</td> <td>225</td> <td>60</td> <td>78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Growth -Businesses/ Enterprises receiving non-financial support</td> <td>121</td> <td>26</td> <td>36*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Growth – Businesses/Enterprise receiving financial support</td> <td>172</td> <td>33</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Learners- Skills</td> <td>900</td> <td>290</td> <td>228**</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Internships- Graduate placements</td> <td>150</td> <td>41</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closer Collaborations- R&D</td> <td>50</td> <td>12</td> <td>1***</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Project Output | Total | Total planned to date | Total delivered to date – February 2024 | Headstart- Entrepreneur Enterprise ready | 225 | 60 | 78 | Growth -Businesses/ Enterprises receiving non-financial support | 121 | 26 | 36* | Growth – Businesses/Enterprise receiving financial support | 172 | 33 | 1 | New Learners- Skills | 900 | 290 | 228** | Internships- Graduate placements | 150 | 41 | 18 | Closer Collaborations- R&D | 50 | 12 | 1*** | C: March 2026 | 24th January Free Enterprising Ashfield Business Support Event. |  |
| Project Output | Total | Total planned to date | Total delivered to date – February 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Headstart- Entrepreneur Enterprise ready | 225 | 60 | 78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Growth -Businesses/ Enterprises receiving non-financial support | 121 | 26 | 36* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Growth – Businesses/Enterprise receiving financial support | 172 | 33 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Learners- Skills | 900 | 290 | 228** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Internships- Graduate placements | 150 | 41 | 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Closer Collaborations- R&D | 50 | 12 | 1*** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Library Innovation Centres - Kirkby & Sutton | Project planning is progressing for the Sutton project in collaboration with Nottinghamshire County Council and Inspire. | Anticipated S: Q3 2024 | TBC |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greener Ashfield | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West Kirkby Gateway & public transport hub | <p>The design team are progressing RIBA Stage 3 plans. The planning application was submitted in March.</p> <p>The tenancy of the Wyvern Club has now ended, and the Council has secured the site.</p> <p>Opportunities for the land on Lane End are still being monitored.</p> | S: July 2024 C: July 2025 | Public display of Wyvern Club and Station plans: 9 th February |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green Ashfield | A review of project progress is underway. Workshops have been completed and the project delivery plan is being finalised. | C: Dec 2025 | Retrofit PR - Carbon saving on |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|--|---|
| | The risk remains elevated slightly because the project programme has slipped due to delays in agreeing the project plan and performance of the lead consultant. | | High Pavement House: March 2024 | |
| High Street Property Fund | A review of the space above Moor Market is to be undertaken by Vision West Notts college. | S: April 2024 | Project development and collaboration with VWNC. | ↔ |

2.3 Funding Investment Risk Management

A risk register is maintained against each project and at a programme level. The programme level risk register is reported to the Discover Ashfield Board every six weeks detailing the risk status and associated mitigation action.

Where a project is identified as being undeliverable through the development phase following all avenues being explored, the outcome and options for closing the project and reallocating funds will be reported through the programme governance process stages as outlined below.

1. Executive Lead Member for Growth, Regeneration and Local Planning
2. Senior Leadership Teams
3. Discover Ashfield Board: (delegated powers for approval within the agreed threshold by DLUHC)
4. DLUHC: Notify or full approval through a project adjustment request depending on scale of change.











Where projects are closed, the investment in the development phase cannot be capitalised unless it relates to the ongoing delivery of associated projects therefore the investment in the aborted project would be treated as revenue. Any revenue costs that cannot be absorbed within the overall programme revenue budget would be a direct cost to the Council. Given the developed status of the projects within the programmes currently in delivery (Towns Fund, Future High Streets Fund and UK Shared Prosperity Fund) it is not anticipated that any projects would be identified as not deliverable.


3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund

3.1 Project highlights report

A progress and risk based summary are provided below for Community and Place projects and the Supporting Local Business and People and Skills programmes within the UKSPF programme.

| Programme | Achievements/ progress/next steps | Risk Level / programme and cost |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Communities and Place Projects | | |
| Hucknall Town Centre- High Street Property Improvement Fund | Please refer to section 3.3 below. | ↔ |
| Selston Country Park Phase 2 improvements | Completed, opening event held in early March. | ↔ |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Coxmoor Estate, Kirkby – environmental improvements | The contractor is engaged, and the programme is being developed. However, the projected spend for this financial year has been reduced and carried forward to next financial year. |  |
| Sutton – environmental improvements | Completed. Outputs and outcomes are being reported. | N/A |
| Hucknall Safer Streets | Completed. Outputs and outcomes are being reported. | N/A |
| Events and Activities | Completed for 2023/24. |  |
| Visitor economy | Spending has been agreed for development of a Destination Management Plan and gateway signage around the District. |  |
| Arts Council Bid | The Expression of Interest was accepted and a full bid was submitted in mid-March. The outcome of the bid is due in June. |  |
| Ranger / activities | An order has been raised with the delivery partner. |  |
| Green social prescribing | The programme has been accelerated to meet local demand. Some of the planned interventions are being offered by others and we are looking at other processes to maximise value and spend. We are achieving the desired outputs though spend is less than initially anticipated. |  |
| Cycling and Walking | The programme has been accelerated to meet local demand. Outputs are greater than planned but the current spend is less than initially forecasted. |  |
| Community Vertical Farming | Planning for delivery is underway with NTU. Funding from MDC is agreed. We are currently seeking an alternative location for the project. |  |
| Digital support for local communities | Kirkby Job Centre continues to be a good point of engagement in the ADC Digital Zone, engaging with 1 to 2 people at each of the weekly sessions that are running on Mondays. This will be replicated at Sutton Job Centre. ATTFE is looking at further roll out in Skegby and where there is need. The programme has the flexibility to meet this demand. 13 learners have been engaged and ATTFE is confident on meeting the required targets. There are 7 potential learners that may be moved on to courses. The programme is meeting its reporting requirements. |  |
| Supporting Local Business | <p>The East Midlands Chamber of Commerce is delivering the Ashfield Accelerator programme providing business support for digital, innovation, workforce skills, overseas trade and decarbonisation plans and grants. Take up for the Enterprise Grant has significantly improved with 4 grants totalling £20,250 approved with three more in the pipeline.</p> <p>West Notts College are delivering a pilot project for online trading at Idlewells Indoor Market and are</p> |  |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| | <p>considering how best to undertake the 2024-25 student programme for the High Street. The Pre-opening ADMC programme is in delivery with the next event being planned. The spring special business event is scheduled for 23rd April at the Mour Hotel, near Annesley, focussing on Global trading. This coincides with a visit from a delegation from Mentor City, Ohio. The High Pavement House marketing has commenced, one rent relief application has been approved.</p> | |
| <p>People and Skills</p> | <p>The joint procurement for supporting economically inactive people has been awarded to Futures and the project is due to start. Support is available to all residents with delivery sites in the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sutton Central & Leamington • Kirkby Central • Selston • Jacksdale & Underwood • The Dales & South Skegby. • Hucknall Town <p>Futures are also delivering Ashfield’s Basic and Lifestyle skills programme - the project is available to all residents, with delivery sites in the following priority areas: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sutton Central and Leamington • Stanton Hill & Skegby • Kirkby Central • East Kirkby (covering Sutton Junction/ Harlow Wood, Kingsway, and Abbey Hill) • Selston • Hucknall Westville <p>For the programmes being delivered in 2024-25, specifications are being prepared. The Education and Business Collaboration programme is currently out to tender.</p> |  |

A review of the programme has been undertaken with some minor revisions due to be agreed. The three-year programme will finish at the end of March 2025.

The Council was required to have committed 80% of year 1 and year 2 funds by the end of March 2024 and this commitment has been achieved.

4. Kirkby Long-term Plan for Towns

A £20m allocation of government funding was announced for Kirkby in October as part of a national ‘Plan for Towns’ programme, with guidance from Government issued in December. £19.51m is allocated to each town with the remaining amount from the £20m funding a new national High Streets and Towns Taskforce which will provide advice and support.

The allocation will be paid over a period of 10 years, to invest in local people's priorities. The endowment-style fund will be split 25% Revenue, 75% Capital. Ashfield District Council will act as the accountable body.

The funding is aligned to the themes of:

- **Safety and security:** e.g. new and improved security infrastructure, such as CCTV and streetlights, additional hotspot policing, local authority wardens
- **High streets, heritage, and regeneration:** e.g. preserving and improving heritage sites in the town, creating, and maintaining parks and green spaces, establishing Business Improvement Districts, running high street rental auctions.
- **Transport and connectivity:** e.g. road improvements, such as fixing potholes or improving congested junctions, new programmes to encourage cycling, making the town centre more walkable and accessible.

Interventions

Within each theme a list of potential interventions is provided which have been assessed by Government as having a strong case for investment, value for money and benefit-to-cost ratio. To simplify the process a business case is not required for these. There are 24 listed interventions with 65 examples, covering a wide range of activities. An outline business case is required for other interventions.

Long-term plan

The LTP is a 10-year vision which needs to include a 3-year investment plan.

Towns will be required to demonstrate how they have developed plans in consultation with local people and will be expected to provide a contribution, for example time and resource, local match-funding, or properties to include in regeneration projects.

MPs should be closely engaged in the design and delivery of the Long-Term Plan and should be involved in reviewing the plan prior to submission.

Town Board

A Kirkby Town Board (KTB) is being set up which is a requirement of the funding. The KTB will oversee the fund and plan, and will be chaired by a local business or community leader and include:

- Community partners - groups, faith groups, local charities, infrastructure organisations.
- Local businesses and social enterprises, key local employers, or investors.
- Key cultural, arts, heritage, and sporting organisations.
- Public sector agencies e.g. schools, police etc.
- MP.
- A limited number of councillors including one from each tier of local government.
- Senior representative from the police - expected to be the Police and Crime Commissioner. Subject to the agreement of the chair, a local senior representative from the police can act as an alternative, with further contribution by an operational representative if required.

Smaller working groups can be convened to facilitate wider engagement in the specific themes.

The Town Board's main responsibilities are:

- Identifying the issues, priorities, and a shared vision for the Long-Term Plan, including supporting a process of ongoing community engagement.
- Working with the local authority to develop the Long-Term Plan.
- Overseeing the delivery of projects.

An initial meeting was held on 22nd March to which a number of local businesses and voluntary and community sector organisations were invited as well as partners from the Discover Ashfield Board and other required representatives. The meeting provided an opportunity for partners to learn about the funding and how the programme will be delivered and to discuss the formation of an interim Board. There was a good turn-out for the meeting with the following organisations and local businesses attending: Showstoppers Ltd, Heroux Devtek, Ashwood Church, Portland College, Greenwood Primary school, Kirkby Rotary, Boyes, Ashfield Voluntary Action, Our Centre, Spartans Boxing and the Feather Partnership, as well as strategic partners including Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham Trent University, Inspire, Everyone Active, ATTFE and East Midlands Railway, as well as the MP's representative.

Funding

The Council received £50k capacity funding in December and will receive a further £200k in April. This is part of the overall allocation and will be used to fund consultation and engagement activities and support to develop the plan. Funding will be released over a 7-year period with flexibility to spend over 10 years - the full funding profile is expected from DLUHC in the near future.

Timeline

| | |
|---|--|
| ADC to bring local partners together to form Town Board and appoint a chair | By 1st April 2024 |
| Begin to set out a vision, formulate investment priorities and engage with local communities | By 1st April 2024 |
| Submission of Long-Term Plan | From 1 st April to 1 st August |
| DLUHC assess the plan and release 2024 to 2025 capital and revenue funding following approval of the plan | |

The full guidance can be accessed via these links:

[LPT Guidance Oct](#)
[Guidance Dec 2023](#)

5. Hucknall Levelling Up Fund

The Council's ambitious plan to drive economic regeneration in Hucknall has been awarded funding of up to £9,281,283 as part of the Government's Levelling Up Fund programme.

The plan is centred around three main themes – Skills and Economic Regeneration, Cultural and Heritage Gateway, and Access to Hucknall Town Centre.

As part of the project, we will improve access into the town to attract more visitors, and businesses to reinvigorate the town centre. The cultural and heritage enhancements will celebrate Hucknall's rich heritage and provide new opportunities for people to learn about this history. The project will be one of the biggest investments in Hucknall for decades.

The project was developed in the summer of 2022 and it will now be reviewed over the next few weeks and a revised proposal developed which can be delivered within the shortened timeframe of 24 months.

6. Place Partnership bid

An expression of interest (EOI) was submitted to Arts Council England for Place Partnership funding last year and it was recently confirmed that the EOI had been successful and the Council was invited to submit a full application. The deadline for submission was 13th March.

Ashfield is one of 54 priority places being supported by the Arts Council to develop the arts and cultural offer. Priority places are where fewer people are involved in creativity and culture, have received less Arts Council Funding, and have few places where people can get involved in creativity and culture.

Ashfield Arts Partnership (a subgroup of the Discover Ashfield Board) was set up last April with 15 partners supporting the development of the bid.

The funding would support enhanced arts provision and participation in the District, supporting the asset-based projects being delivered through the regeneration programme such as the Science Discovery Centre and Planetarium and the Cornerstone Theatre.

The community-led bid will support increased creative engagement and activity and build skills and capacity in the cultural sector and will be focused on four hubs located in Hucknall, Kirkby, Rurals and Sutton. The funding will create a sustainable growth in arts provision which will be driven by a cultural strategy which will be produced during the first 12-18 months of the programme.

The bid includes in-kind partnership contributions and projected revenue of c.£300k and together with UKSPF funding will allow us to bid for the maximum grant of up to £1million.

If the bid is successful delivery of the three-year programme would commence later in 2024.

The Council would act as the Accountable Body for the bid which would support arts and educational partners to deliver activity across the District.

7. Green space programme: Section 106 Allocation

3.1 Project Allocation

The S106 funds detailed below has been secured through developer contribution in relation to the sites identified in the planning agreements. The report seeks approval to include the amounts detailed below on the Capital Programme to support the green space investment plan subject to receipt of the funds.

| Scheme | Area | Planning Approval | (£) Amount |
|--------|------|-------------------|------------|
|--------|------|-------------------|------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Nabbs Lane Park | Hucknall West | V/2018/0285 | 16,071.00 |
| Sutton Lawn | Sutton Central | V/2012/0556 | 35,920.93 |
| Healdswood Recreation Ground | Skegby | V/2018/0783 | 108,500.00 |
| Sutton Town Centre Public Realm | Sutton Central | V/2020/0184 | 65,000.00 |
| Biodiversity Net Gain Projects | Sutton Wide | V/2020/0184 | 69,300.00 |

Projects already being funded through Section 106 contributions include improvements to the play area at Washdyke Recreation Ground in Hucknall and the upgrading of the BMX track at Nuncargate Recreation Ground.

8. Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)

The Council's ambitious plans to reduce carbon emissions within the District continue to develop with designs well underway for the new heating systems at the Council's Urban Road Offices in Kirkby and Hucknall Leisure Centre (HLC) taking shape with air source heat pumps at both sites as well as solar panels at the Council Offices.

Leisure Energy (LE) were appointed under the Everything FM framework to deliver the projects with the full cost of the projects to be established once the designs are completed and prices have been sought and approved. An initial contract was entered into with LE relating to the ordering of key materials for both projects. These contracts will be varied to increase the contract value to cover the cost of ordering the remaining materials to maximise the external funding available. The Council will enter into further contracts with LE regarding the remaining works once designs are complete and prices are known. Planned completion of the projects is June/July 2024.

Since the Cabinet Report dated 25th September 2023, it is anticipated that further funding will be required. For further details, see Cabinet Report (submitted at this meeting), titled 2023/24 FORECAST OUTTURN FOR GENERAL FUND, HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME AS AT DECEMBER 2023.

There remain significant risks which the Council has little control over, namely:

- 1) Third party approvals/interventions (Planning approval/ District Network Operator responses and installation within required timelines (once designs are completed to RIBA Stage 4))
- 2) Agreeing contract terms with Leisure Energy in relation to the final Contract inclusions and costs.
- 3) Remaining materials being available.
- 4) Funder (Salix) approach to project delivery (ultimate possible loss of funding) although it is considered that Salix will not look to recoup any funding as long as the funding total is committed by 31st March 2024 and delivery of the projects is ultimately achieved.

Members are asked to note that costs are still unknown and that a future request for Council funding may be requested if the cost pressures materialise as expected or funding is withdrawn if the project cannot be delivered as a consequence of the above risks.

9. Community Safety

The Community Safety Service and Partnership continue to secure external funding to support the Council's safer and stronger, and cleaner and greener priorities for the District. Ongoing funded projects are detailed below:

| £20,000 PREVENT HOME OFFICE FUNDING | | | | |
|--|---|---|------------------|----------------|
| TASK | Description | Works Complete | Completed | TOTAL |
| Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation | Round Midnight, a company from Birmingham, have been commissioned to deliver 10 workshops with young children (approx. groups of 10) to explore radicalisation/extremism with a view of formulating a film, local and relevant to Ashfield & Mansfield. | <p>During these workshops, awareness will be delivered to the young people to heighten their understanding around this subject.</p> <p>Currently, Round Midnight have demonstrated the Virtual Reality equipment to the professionals that have signed up to deliver these sessions in year 2. The feedback from all partners (Police, Youth Service, Community Safety Team) has been positive and 2 workshops have been delivered with a healthy response from the young people.</p> | ONGOING | £20,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | £20,000 |

£86,000 – HUCKNALL – UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUNDING

| TASK | Description | Works Complete | Completed | TOTAL |
|---|--|--|------------------|----------------|
| Hate Crime Awareness | Hate crime awareness sessions to be delivered in partnership between Nottinghamshire Police and Ashfield District Council's Community Protection Officers into Hucknall primary schools to bring awareness to young people moving into secondary education. | 3 primary schools have been visited and 150 children engaged. Positive feedback from the teachers and children alike with regards to any consequences and future behaviour. | Completed | N/A |
| Business Crime Forum 'Shop Watch' Scheme | A Shop Watch or Pub Watch scheme is a network of local businesses that come together to tackle the risks associated with business crime. | The funding was able to provide 20 radios for our retail partners that signed up to the scheme in the town centre which was delivered in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police | Completed | £14,000 |
| 5 new CCTV Camera's | These CCTV cameras have been positioned in the current ASB/Crime hotspots on the outskirts of Hucknall Town Centre. The locations have been data led in consultation with the Hucknall Police Beat team to ensure that they cause disruption as well as detecting offences. | Deployable CCTV cameras have been pivotal in supporting investigations and increasing feelings of safety and acting as a deterrent. This is supported by safety surveys and ASB Data. The devices will be filming 24 hours a day, 7 days per week | Completed | £38,000 |
| Safe Point Camera | A Safe Point camera system combines CCTV & the ability for women, girls, and vulnerable individuals to communicate instantly with the CCTV control room in an emergency. This is an opportunity for the individual to receive rapid response from the CCTV control room and feed live footage into the Police. | The Safe point cameras have been installed in Hucknall town centre to enable direct reports for vulnerable groups. The device also act as a deterrent to deter opportunist. | Completed | £9,000 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|------------------|----------------|
| QR Code Signs & Safer Space Signs | 200 Quick Response codes to be designed and distributed around Hucknall that allows the individual to directly report environmental matters that require addressing to the Council. | These QR codes have been designed and disseminated across the Hucknall area allowing the general public to report lighting issues or overgrown foliage at the time that they see the problem. | Completed | £10,000 |
| Environmental Crime Initiatives | ADC Community Protection Officers have been conducting joint operations to tackle Rogue Traders-Waste Carriers across Hucknall. | Patrols are undertaken around Hucknall Town Centre, housing estates, industrial estates including rural areas and tracks known offenders locally for fly tipping etc. Action has been taken against offenders for environmental offences. | Completed | N/A |
| Youth Diversion | <p>Switch Up have been commissioned to provide youth diversionary activities that offer fitness training, outreach work, boxing training, self-defence classes, mentoring, counselling, alternative education.</p> <p>This is to support young people in the area and help deter them and divert them from crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> | <p>The team connected with 275 young people, linking them up to local activities such as Hucknall Amateur Boxing Club, local leisure centre and Believe Academy. Talking with these young people has revealed further vulnerability and ASB whereby they are lacking a broader range of activities/centres to visit.</p> <p>Switch Up have developed referral partnerships with Hucknall ABC and Believe Academy. Feedback from Tesco's and McDonalds, is that they report a reduction in disruptive behaviour and has supported the overall reductions in ASB in the area.</p> | Completed | £15,000 |

| | | | |
|--------------|--|--|----------------|
| TOTAL | | | £86,000 |
|--------------|--|--|----------------|

£165,355 - Home Office and PCC Safer Streets & Locality Funding

| TASK | Description | Works completed | TOTAL |
|---|--|--|----------------|
| Safe Spaces Accreditation Scheme (Businesses) | The Safe Space Scheme has been adopted in other areas within the District and provides a place that any person can go to in the event that they are vulnerable or need help. The scheme recognises an identifiable location, usually a business or shop, where anyone can go to seek help. | In addition to the 30 shops funded previously, this £7,000 funded 3 more businesses to be Safe Space Accredited. | £7,000 |
| Business Crime Forum (Shop watch Scheme) | A Shop Watch or Pub Watch scheme is a network of local businesses that come together to tackle the risks associated with business crime. | The funding was able to provide 20 radios for our retail partners that signed up to the scheme in Sutton town centre which means all our town centres in Ashfield are now covered by the scheme. | £11,000 |
| VAWG Poster Campaign Locality Funding | A local campaign designed to highlight the issues of violence against women and girls (VAWG). The media coverage will be displayed digitally in bus shelters around the District of Ashfield comprising of 75,000 hits of 10 second bursts. | This campaign is due to go live for the month of April 2024. | £4,000 |
| Safe Spaces Accreditation Scheme (Businesses) Safer Streets 5 | The Safe Space Scheme has been adopted in other areas within the District and provides a place that any person can go to in the event that they are vulnerable or need help. The scheme recognises an identifiable location, | 'One main Hub' has received the Installation which is the Carsic Community Church located in the middle of the estate. This took place 29/02/2024 – Completed. | £3,111 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------|
| | usually a business or shop, where anyone can go to seek help. | | |
| Burglary Reduction Officer (BRO) Intervention Safer Streets 5 | The scheme offers security measures for homes which are repeat victims of burglary. | Currently 63 properties have been assessed and booked in for the BRO interventions. This equates to over £51,000 spent thus far and we expect to finish the assessment in the next 2 weeks with the work being scheduled in over the next 2 months. | £60,000 |
| CCTV (Capital) Safer Streets 5 | 3 cameras will be redeployed to the estate from other areas to provide reassurance and to deter and detect crime and ASB. | Installation to be completed by May 2024. | £41,890 |
| Making Spaces Safe Environmental Improvements Safer Streets 5 | Locations identified on EVA such as area relating to a derelict nursing home on 'The Oval,' Conifer type trees restricted natural surveillance restricting the CCTV, overhanging bushes and other environment concerns that require addressing. | Major Tree removal works have already taken place and overgrown shrub areas all that were either dangerous or obstructing view of CCTV. General tidying of the area and Graffiti removal is underway. | £38,354 |
| TOTAL | | | £165,355 |

The Community Safety Partnership are also in the process of securing and bidding for additional funding for year 2024/2025 as follows

- Police Crime Commissioner Funding 2024/25 - Amount confirmed: **£66,666.**
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities – Domestic Abuse Funding 2024/2025 – Amount confirmed: **£34,397.**
- Police Crime Commissioner Funding for Home Office Immediate Justice Scheme - Amount confirmed: **£124,713.**
- Safer for All funding 2024/25 - **£25,000** - Amount not confirmed.
- Home Office Hotspot Response Fund 2024/25 - Amount not confirmed.
- Domestic Abuse Sanctuary Funding 2024/25 – Amount not confirmed.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

Economic Growth and Place priority, the regeneration programmes contribute to a number of the six key ambitions: • Skills and employment • Businesses and investment • Regeneration • Visitor economy, arts and culture • Infrastructure and connectivity • Towns centres and high streets.

Cleaner and Greener priority, the PSDS project will contribute to the key ambition: - Climate Change and Sustainability • Ensuring the green agenda is at the centre of our decision making, leading by example, and working together across the organisation to reduce carbon impacts from our own assets.

Green space projects - maximising available grants and successfully delivering externally funded projects, Parks and Green Spaces • Ensuring our parks and green spaces are well maintained • Delivering our five-year green space improvement programme • Developing and delivering our transformation programme for outdoor sports facilities and visitor centres/ cafés.

Legal:

The Legal Team and the Executive Director of Governance are actively supporting and advising in relation to all Towns Fund projects. Where required specialist external legal advice is being obtained to advise on the funding programmes to ensure all risks to the Council are fully considered. [RLD 11/03/2024]

Finance: As set out in the body of the report. [PH 11/03/2024].

| Budget Area | Implication |
|---|------------------------------|
| General Fund – Revenue Budget | As set out in the report. |
| General Fund – Capital Programme | As set out above – section 3 |
| Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget | No implications |
| Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme | No implications |

Risk:

| Risk | Mitigation |
|--|--|
| Grant agreements and partner delivery arrangements | Risk is mitigated by the due diligence work undertaken as part of the sign off process, internal and external legal advice. |
| Resourcing and delivery risks associated with multiple project/programme delivery. | Corporate Risk identified. Appointment and engagement of staff and consultants to support the programmes where necessary. Project Management for each programme. |

Human Resources:

There are no direct HR implications contained in the report in relation to the funding. However, the projects relating to the funding may have a HR implication which would be identified in subsequent reports.

Environmental/Sustainability:

Not applicable for this report. Sustainability is a priority of the Towns Fund programme.

Equalities:

No issues identified for this report. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken to support delivery of the Towns Fund and FHSF programmes and Public Open Space projects.

Other Implications:

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

Not applicable

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Paul Crawford, Investment Manager, Ian Bailey, Assistant Director – Assets & Antonio Taylor,
Community Safety Manager

John Bennett
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PLACE
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Annex 1 – FHSF approved budgets

| Project | RDEL/CDEL | 21/22 (£) | 22/23 (£) | 23/24 (£) | 24/25 (£) | 25/26 (£) | Total (£) |
|---|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| FHSF Sutton Academy Theatre / Cornerstone | RDEL (Revenue) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL (Capital) | 48,545 | 143,287 | 2,155,287 | | | 2,347,118 |
| | | 48,545 | 143,287 | 2,155,287 | - | - | 2,347,118 |
| | Co-funding | | | 100,000 | | | 100,000 |
| TF18 Cornerstone | CDEL | - | 1,496 | - | 874,304 | - | 875,800 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 2,947,118 |
| | | | | | | | 3,223,018 |
| FHSF High Pavement | RDEL | | | | | | - |
| | CDEL | 988,342 | 148,812 | 514,511 | | | 1,651,665 |
| | Sub Total | 988,342 | 148,812 | 514,511 | - | - | 1,651,665 |
| | Co-funding | | - | 937,289 | | | 937,289 |
| Total | | | | | | | 2,588,954 |
| FHSF Low Street 9-11 and No 14 | RDEL | | | | | | |
| | CDEL | 86,920 | 1,081,310 | 581,770 | | | 1,750,000 |
| | Co-funding | | | 647,933 | | | 647,933 |
| Total | | | | | | | 2,397,933 |
| FHSF Fox Street pop- up food court and car park | RDEL | | | | | | |
| | CDEL | 67,314 | 44,397 | 419,378 | | | 531,088 |
| | Co-funding | - | | 70,912 | | | 70,912 |
| Total | | | | | | | 602,000 |

Towns Fund approved budgets

| Project | RDEL/CDEL | 21/22 (£) | 22/23 (£) | 23/24 (£) | 24/25 (£) | 25/26 (£) | Total (£) |
|---|-------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| TF-01 Ashfield Civil Engineering Centre | RDEL (Revenue) | - | | | | | - |
| | CDEL (Capital) | 6,902 | 46,865 | 2,047,367 | - | | 2,101,134 |
| | Sub Total | 6,902 | 46,865 | 2,047,367 | - | - | 2,101,134 |
| | Co-funding | | 453,017 | 250,000 | 60,500 | | 763,517 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 2,864,651 |
| TF-02 Ashfield Construction Centre | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 14,746 | 21,377 | 733,077 | 4,032,555 | | 4,801,755 |
| | Total | 14,746 | 21,377 | 733,077 | 4,032,555 | - | 4,801,755 |
| | Co-funding | | - | 1,837,500 | - | - | 1,837,500 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 6,639,255 |
| TF-03 Automated Distribution and Manufacturing Centre | RDEL | - | - | 500,000 | 375,000 | 125,000 | 1,000,000 |
| | CDEL | 17,035 | 153,724 | 19,079,241 | 233,141 | - | 19,483,141 |
| | Sub Total | 17,035 | 153,724 | 19,579,241 | 608,141 | 125,000 | 20,483,141 |
| | Co-funding | | | | 467,000 | 934,000 | 1,401,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 21,884,141 |
| TF-04 Cycling and Walking Routes | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 1,142 | 30,000 | 1,808,138 | 97,000 | - | 1,936,280 |
| | Total | 1,142 | 30,000 | 1,808,138 | 97,000 | - | 1,936,280 |
| | Co-funding | | | - | 45,000 | | 45,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 1,981,280 |
| TF-05 Enterprising Ashfield | RDEL | 2,344 | 681,553 | 1,360,103 | 985,000 | 816,000 | 3,845,000 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| | CDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Sub Total | 2,344 | 681,553 | 1,360,103 | 985,000 | 816,000 | 3,845,000 |
| | Co-funding | | | | | | 3,746,867 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 7,591,867 |
| TF-06 Green Ashfield | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 1,142 | 114,457 | 1,684,401 | 398,048 | | 2,198,048 |
| | Sub Total | 1,142 | 114,457 | 1,684,401 | 398,048 | - | 2,198,048 |
| | Co-funding | | | 2,812,134 | 317,167 | - | 3,129,301 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 5,327,349 |
| TF-07 High Street Property Fund | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 18,265 | 4,631 | 876,305 | | | 899,201 |
| | Sub Total | 18,265 | 4,631 | 876,305 | - | - | 899,201 |
| | Co-funding | | | 100,000 | | | 100,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 999,201 |
| TF-08 Kings Mill Reservoir Leisure Development | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 23,196 | 459,422 | 2,059,125 | 810,257 | | 3,352,000 |
| | Sub Total | 23,196 | 459,422 | 2,059,125 | 810,257 | | 3,352,000 |
| | Co-funding | | | 192,000 | 456,000 | | 648,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 4,000,000 |
| TF-09 Kingsway Sports Hub | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 5,640 | 87,059 | 1,898,977 | | | 1,991,676 |
| | Total | 5,640 | 87,059 | 1,898,977 | - | - | 1,991,676 |
| | Co-funding | 39,000 | | | 300,000 | | 339,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 2,330,676 |
| TF-10 Library Innovation Centres | RDEL | - | - | 48,000 | 51,000 | 51,000 | 150,000 |
| | CDEL | | 3,375 | 509,625 | 38,000 | 36,478 | 587,478 |
| | Sub Total | - | 3,375 | 557,625 | 89,000 | 87,478 | 737,478 |
| | Co-funding | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | Co-funding | | | | 113,000 | | 113,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 850,478 |
| TF-11 North Kirkby Gateway | RDEL | - | - | - | 90,000 | 90,000 | 180,000 |
| | CDEL | 7,935 | 83,605 | 1,520,583 | 3,330,797 | 3,786,727 | 8,729,648 |
| | Sub Total | 7,935 | 83,605 | 1,520,583 | 3,420,797 | 3,876,727 | 8,909,648 |
| | Co-funding | | | | 2,155,000 | 2,985,999 | 5,140,999 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 14,050,647 |
| TF-12 Portland Square Refurbishment | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 65,000 | 400,000 | 764,352 | - | - | 1,229,352 |
| | Total | 65,000 | 400,000 | 764,352 | - | - | 1,229,352 |
| | Co-funding | - | | 136,000 | | | 136,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 1,365,352 |
| TF-14 Science Discovery Centre & Planetarium | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 149,500 | 385,786 | 1,554,714 | 208,004 | | 2,298,004 |
| | Total | 149,500 | 385,786 | 1,554,714 | 208,004 | - | 2,298,004 |
| | Co-funding | - | 29,000 | | 956,000 | | 985,000 |
| LUF- Science Discovery Centre | CDEL | - | 250,000 | 1,425,000 | 1,425,000 | - | 3,100,000 |
| Total | | | | | | | 6,333,004 |
| TF-15 Sutton Lawn Sports Hub | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 5,661 | 113,904 | 651,435 | 2,047,633 | | 2,818,633 |
| | Total | 5,661 | 113,904 | 651,435 | 2,047,633 | - | 2,818,633 |
| | Co-funding | | | 107,973.86 | 264,000 | 1,650,000 | 2,021,973.86 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | 4,840,606.86 |
| TF-16 Visitor Digital Offer | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 11,474 | 58,539 | 144,797 | | | 214,809 |
| | Total | 11,474 | 58,539 | 144,797 | - | - | 214,809 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---|------------------|
| | Co-funding | | | 45,000 | | | 45,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | |
| TF-17 West Kirkby Gateway | RDEL | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | CDEL | 6,908 | 250,128 | 959,965 | 2,741,041 | | 3,958,041 |
| | Total | 6,908 | 250,128 | 959,965 | 2,741,041 | - | 3,958,041 |
| | Co-funding | | | | 3,920,000 | | 3,920,000 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 7,878,041 |

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| Report To: | COUNCIL |
| Date: | 8 APRIL 2024 |
| Heading: | MINUTES OF CABINET AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS |
| Executive Lead Member: | LEADER OF THE COUNCIL |
| Ward/s: | N/A |
| Key Decision: | N/A |
| Subject to Call-In: | N/A |

Purpose of Report

To present a list of minutes of Cabinet and Committee meetings which have been published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council and for Members to consider whether they wish to give notice of their intention to ask a question of the relevant Chairman under Council Procedure Rule 13.2. Questions are limited to a maximum of two per Member.

MINUTES PUBLISHED SINCE 12 FEBRUARY 2024.

The minutes are accessible via the Council's website:

<https://democracy.ashfield.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1>

| Committee Meeting: | Date of Meeting: |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Planning Committee | 24 January 2024 6 March 2024 |
| Principal Select Committee | 25 January 2024 15 February 2024 |
| Cabinet | 29 January 2024 19 February 2024 |
| Local Plan Development Committee | 26 February 2024 |
| Audit Committee | 1 February 2024 29 February 2024 |

Report Author and Contact Officer

Ruth Dennis

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND MONITORING OFFICER

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