COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Statement of Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2019

Contents

Narrative Statement

Introduction

The Statement of Accounts summarises Copeland Borough Council's financial performance, financial position, and cash flows for the financial year from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

To provide context to and assist in the interpretation of the Statement of Accounts, the Narrative Report, which follows, provides information about the Council of relevance to understanding its financial performance and position. This includes information about the Council's:

- Progress and Performance against the Corporate Strategy;
- Key risks and uncertainties in relation to future service provision;
- Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- Financial performance (income and expenditure) and cash flows during the financial year, the major influences affecting performance and cash flows and how actual financial performance compares to budget; and
- Financial position (balance sheet) at the year-end and the major influences affecting the Council's financial position. This Statement of Accounts summarises financial performance and position of the Council as it delivers the Corporate Strategy.

About the Council and the Borough

Copeland borough is one of six boroughs that make up Cumbria: the third largest county in the UK by area, yet one of the most sparsely populated.

Copeland is an area of extreme contrasts. It contains England's highest mountain (Scafell Pike) and its deepest lake (Wastwater), and two-thirds of the borough's 773 square kilometres sit in the Lake District National Park, a new UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Complementing the Lake District's outstanding beauty, Copeland hosts 80 kilometres of coastline, which, at St Bees Head, incorporates the only section of Heritage Coast in North West England.

The borough has four towns - Whitehaven, Egremont, Cleator Moor and Millom - and of Copeland's 68,700 residents, 39.5 per cent live in urban areas while 60.5 per cent live in rural areas. In terms of population, Copeland has a lower proportion of those aged under 64, compared to the national average.

The most recent employment figures highlight that Copeland had 36,000 jobs in the local economy, the majority of which (54.9 per cent) were supported by Sellafield Ltd.

The sector with the highest proportion of enterprises in Copeland is professional, scientific and technical (23.4 per cent), followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing (18.1 per cent) and business, administration and support services (10.3 per cent).

The top three sectors for full-time employment were:

- Manufacturing (42.6 per cent)
- Professional, scientific and technical (8.5 per cent)
- Construction and health (both 7.4 per cent)

The top three sectors for part-time employment were:

- Health (22 per cent)
- Accommodation and food services (16.6 per cent)
- Retail (13.9 per cent)

The overall life expectancy at birth in Copeland is 78 years for men and 81 years for women.

The proportion of people claiming out-of-work benefits is higher than the national average (9.6 per cent compared to 8.4 per cent).

Members & Workforce

To achieve its priorities, the Council relies on both non-financial and financial resources. The Council has 51 elected Members (this changed to 33 in May 2019 following a Boundary Commission review) and around 230 (full time equivalent) staff.

The Council's constitution sets out how the Council operates its business and its decision making processes. Members and officers follow a Code of Conduct to ensure high standards in the way they undertake their duties, decision making and aims to ensure high ethical standards and increase public confidence in the integrity of their local members.

The Council has a Mayoral and Executive style decision-making structure. The Council has one main Overview and Scrutiny Committee consisting of 13 councillors, which meet regularly to consider performance and portfolio reports. Several other committees deal with specific areas of council business including Planning, Licensing, Audit & Governance and Human Resources.

The Council's elected Members are working collaboratively with all public services and other key partners to reduce duplication of work and improve customer service. The Council is a member body of the following Strategic Partnerships.

Copeland Community Fund	Britain's Energy Coast Properties
Greenwich Leisure Ltd	Cumbria Resilience Forum
Copeland Partnership	Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership
Copeland Works and Skills Partnership	Joint District Forum
Howgate and Distington Partnership	Cumbria Housing Group
Regen NE Copeland	Public Health Alliance
West Copeland Partnership	Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership
Mid Copeland Partnership	Lake District National Park Partnership
Whitehaven Locality Partnership	Cumbria Police and Crime Panel
South Copeland Partnership	Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (NULEAF)
Copeland Housing Partnership	Cumbria Leadership Board
Copeland Health and Wellbeing Forum	Lake District National Park Authority
WC Community Safety Partnership	Cumbria Local Nature Partnership
West Cumbria Site Stakeholder Group	New Nuclear Local Authorities Group (NNLAG)

The Council's Corporate Strategy

The 2018/19 – 2021/22 **Corporate Strategy** sets out the Council's Vision; Copeland Borough Council is a commercially focused organisation with a national reputation for high quality services.

- The Corporate Strategy identifies the Council's Key Deliverables against four Ambitions:
- Town Centre Regeneration
- For our towns, villages and streets to reflect the prosperity of the area.
- Commercialisation
- To grow the commercial activity of the Council to benefit the people of Copeland, ensuring the wealth generated in Copeland, stays in Copeland.
- Employment Skills and Social Wellbeing –
- To attract businesses, professionals and entrepreneur to Copeland and retain our talented young people.
- To work with partners to support the most vulnerable in our borough; and
- Strengthen the Way We Operate
- To continually review our services to ensure they meet the needs of the people of Copeland and ensure they are efficient, effective and accessible.

- To maximise our opportunities for growth, within the council and with our strategic partners.

On 7th February 2018 Council also agreed the **Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan**. This is used to periodically monitor progress and performance against the Corporate Strategy. These reports can be accessed on the Council's website.

Cyber Attack

In August 2017, the Council was the subject of a zero-day malware ransom attack, also a brute force remote desktop attack, undetectable to anti-virus software and completely devastating to the running of the Council. The Council as a whole lost five weeks of functionality with all services affected. For example, the Council was without a financial system for eight months. This together with technical accounting staff shortages was a significant contributing factor in our ability to close our 2017/18 financial statements on time, and this delay has resulted in the late production of these 2018/19 financial statements.

The total cost of the attack (direct and indirect) will be circa £2m which would need to be met from the Council's General Reserves had the Council not received a Directive from Government to use capital resources to fund this; a total of £1m of capital receipts has been used in 2018/19.

Progress and Performance against the Corporate Strategy

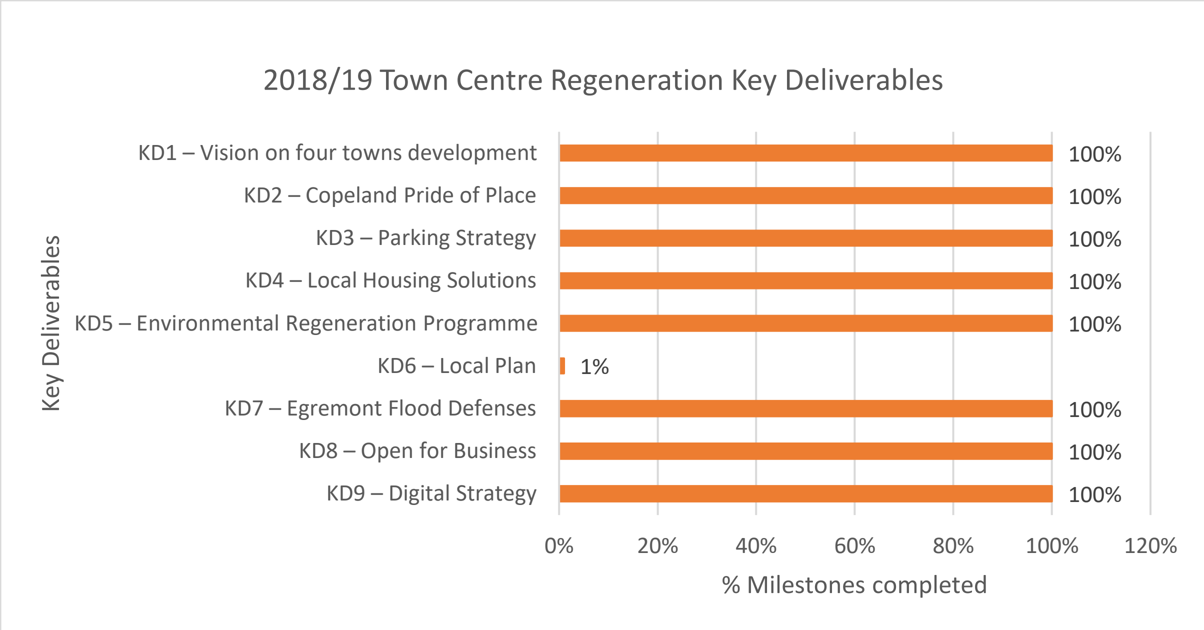
The Executive use an annual Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to periodically monitor progress and performance against the Corporate Strategy 2018/19 – 2021/22.

The Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan and KPIs list are reviewed annually in consultation with the Leadership and Management Group and Corporate Leadership team to ensure that they are appropriate and relevant.

There were twenty nine Key Deliverables set in the Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan for 2018/19, of which twenty were achieved in full (69%). Of the remaining nine Key Deliverables, six were 75% complete at the end of Quarter four. Progress and performance against each deliverable can be found in the final 2018/19 Corporate Performance Report to the Executive on 22nd July 2019.

Ambition 1 – Town Centre Regeneration

For Ambition 1 - Town Centre Regeneration the Council monitored ten Key Deliverables, of which nine were achieved in full. The chart below shows the percentage of Milestones that were completed against each Key Deliverables:



A summary of our Key achievement in Town Centre Regeneration for 2018/19 include:

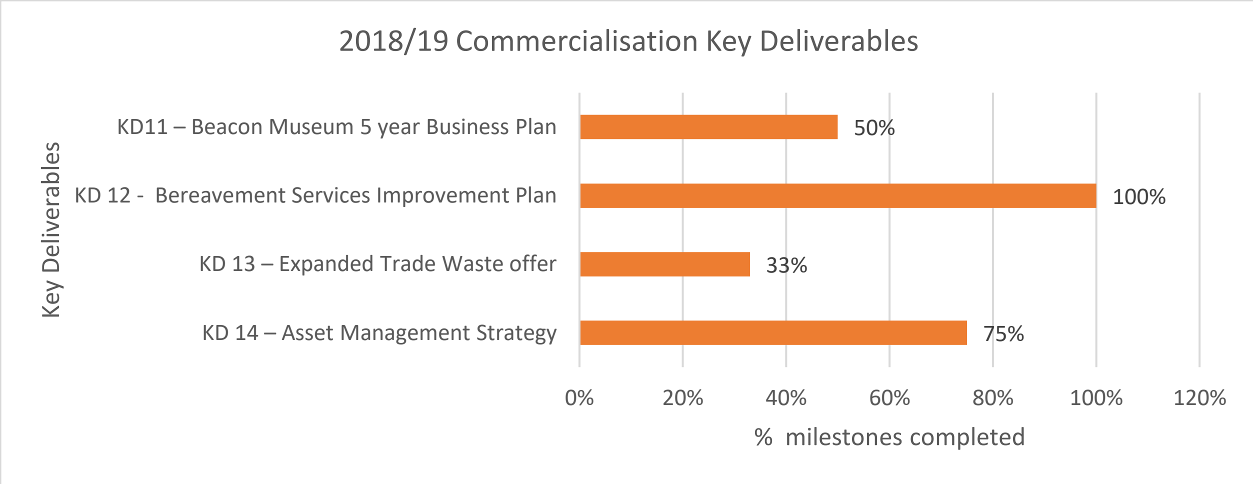
- Through the Copeland Pride of Place regeneration scheme, we were able to secure match funding and allocate 107 building renovation grants to businesses across our four main towns.

- The Whitehaven Townscape Heritage Imitative was successfully completed, having regenerated ten properties, in addition to public realm improvement, over the 5 year duration of the project.

- Working with strategic partners work has begun to draft a cohesive car parking strategy to address needs and concerns of residents, businesses, workers and visitors to Whitehaven.

Ambition 2 – Commercialisation

For Ambition 2- Commercialisation the Council monitored four Key Deliverables. The chart below shows the percentage of Milestones that were completed against each Key Deliverables.

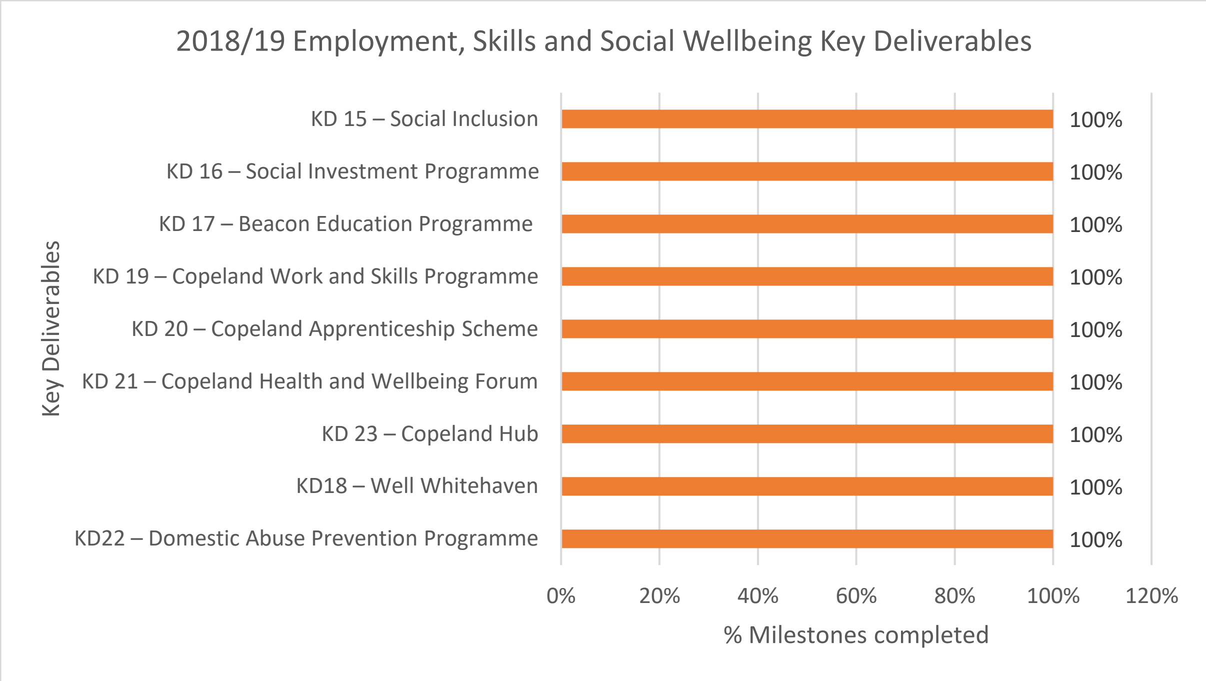


A summary of our Key achievement in commercialisation for 2018/19 include:

- The Beacon Museum attracted 26,736 visits, representing a 31% increase during the peak summer season.
- In Building Control, we used a proactive approach to secure over 90% of the market share in a very competitive environment, and 100% of applications were determined within statutory timescale.
- We continued to grow our trade waste service, increased income from the sale of parking permits and successfully launched a new Pest Control Service.
- We made good progress with our programme of improvements and expansion to our Bereavement Services offer, including the installation of a second cremator.

Ambition 3 – Employment, Skills and Social Wellbeing

For Ambition 3- Employment, Skills and Social Wellbeing, the Council monitored nine Key Deliverables, of which all nine were achieved in full. The chart below shows the percentage of Milestones that were completed against each Key Deliverables.



A summary of our Key achievement in Employment, Skills and Social Wellbeing for 2018/19 include;

- We provided vital support to over 100 people affected by domestic abuse and worked with our third sector partners to secure funding for a Women's Centre in Whitehaven.

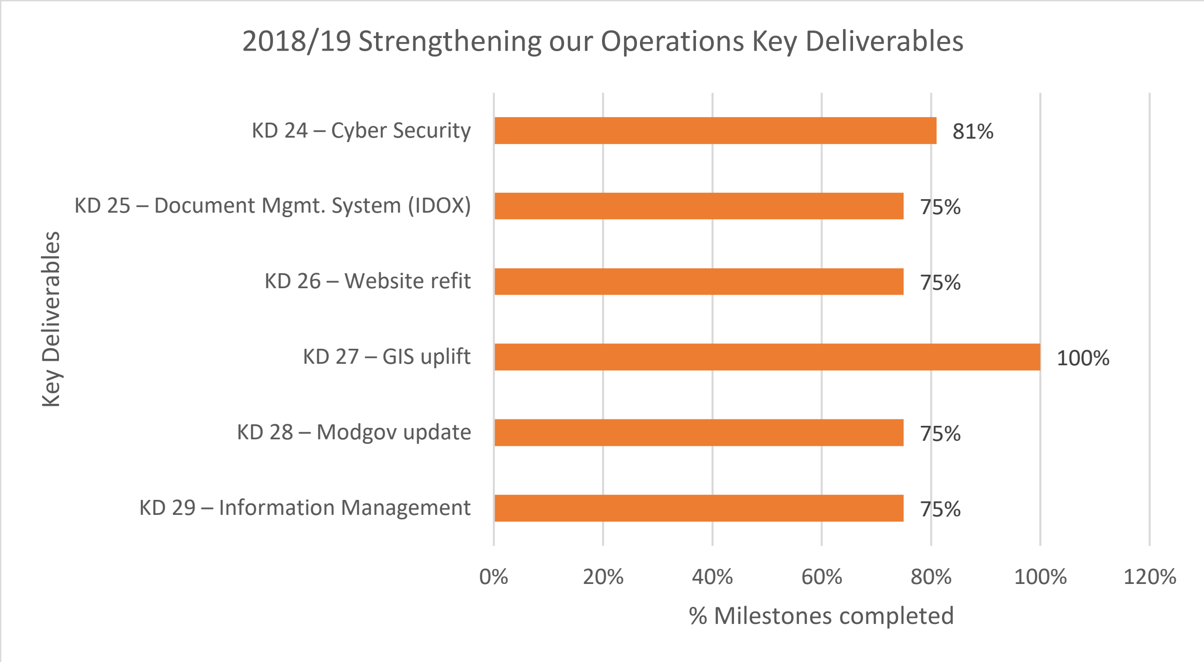
- Through the Social Investment Programme, we supported local organisations concerned with health and wellbeing, childhood poverty, skills and work and digital and financial inclusion.

- We recruited six new apprentices to the authority and extended the offer to all six of the 2017/18 cohort.

- The Copeland Work and Skills Partnership supported over 140 individuals through a variety of employment pathways.

Ambition 4 – Strengthen the way the Council operates

For Ambition 4 - Strengthen the way the Council operates, we monitored six Key Deliverables. The chart below shows the percentage of Milestones that were completed against each Key Deliverables.



A summary of our Key achievement in Operational improvements for 2018/19 include;

- We volunteered to undergo a LGA Corporate Peer Challenge, of which the responses were very positive, especially in recognition of the enormity of both the impact and recovery requirements on a small authority as a result of the cyber-attack.
- We implemented a new Aim High performance management framework to drive excellence in performance. We also carried out a council wide Pay and Grading review which will help us to attract and retain key personnel.
- All staff and members attended Data Protection and Cyber Security Training.
- We successfully migrated our website and our GIS information Management System to new web posts.

Key Performance Indicators

During 2018/19 the Council monitored nineteen KPIs. The outturn position for 2018/19 shows that 80% of KPIs have met their annual targets (including 2 within variances) and 90% of comparable KPIs had improved or maintained performance when compared to last year. The table overleaf shows KPIs monitored, whether the annual target was met and how performance compared to that of 2017/18.

Key Performance Indicator	**Was the annual target met?**	**Was performance improved compared to 2017/18?**
Percentage of Council Tax collected	✔	⬆
Number empty homes brought back into use	✔	⬆
Number of new homes approved	✔	⬆
Number of new EXECUTIVE homes built	✔	⬆
External funding for Economic Development Secured	✔	⬆
Percentage of Non-domestic Rates Collected	✔	⬆
Number of apprenticeships within the Council each year	✔	▬
Speed of processing - New Housing Benefits claims	✔	⬆
Speed of processing - changes of circumstances for Housing Benefits claims	✔	⬆
Speed of processing - changes of circumstances for Council Tax Reduction Scheme claims	✔	⬆
Homeless relief cases	✔	Unable to compare
Domestic Abuse Project	✔	Unable to compare
Percentage of complaints resolved at stage one	✔	⬆
Percentage reduction in residual household waste	✔	Unable to compare
Percentage CTAX collected using DDeb payment method	✔	Unable to compare
Percentage of 'major' planning applications determined within 13 weeks	✔	▬
Percentage of planning 'minor' planning applications determined within 8 weeks	✔	⬆
Percentage of 'other' applications determined within 8 weeks	✔	⬆
Percentage of Freedom of information requests resolved within timescale	⚠	⬆
Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	⚠	⬆
Number of new homes built	⬣	⬇
Number of new AFFORDABLE homes built	⬣	⬇
Additional income generated through Commercial operational activity	⬣	⬆

Key Performance Indicator	**Was the annual target met?**	**Was performance improved compared to 2017/18?**
Speed of processing - New Council Tax Reduction Scheme claims		
Percentage of NDR collected using Direct Debit payment method		Unable to compare

Some highlights in KPI performance for 2018/19 include:

- KPI 1.2 Number empty homes brought back into use. The number of empty homes brought back into use almost doubled from 36 in 2017/18 to 75 in 2018/19.

- KPI 1.3 Number of new homes approved. 443 new homes were approved in 2018/19; this is 143 more than the annual target of 300.

- KPI 1.7 External funding for Economic Development secured. The Council secured £2.8 million in external funding for economic and regeneration projects; this far exceeded our annual target of £0.500m.

- KPI 3.5a Speed of processing new Housing Benefit Claims. At the end of quarter four 2018/19 the average number of days taken to process a new housing Benefit Claim was 10.25 days. Although not reflected in the annual average, this is a significant improvement on our position at quarter four of 2017/18 which was 37.3 days.

- KPI 5.1 Percentage of 'major' planning applications determined within timeframe. 100% of major planning applications were determined within the three week timeframe.

Risk Management

There is a Risk Management Policy in place which includes a risk appetite statement agreed by the Corporate Leadership Team, this was last refreshed in March 2018. A review of the policy will take place every 2 years unless there are any significant changes at a local or national level.

Risk registers are used to assess identify, assess, manage and monitor risks. The following risk registers are used in the Council

- Strategic Risk register
- Operational Risk register
- Projects Risks
- Partnership Risks
- Health and Safety Risks

The Zurich Risk Assessment Matrix is used across the authority to determine whether risks are low, medium or high priority.

Strategic and Operational Risk Management.

Strategic and Operational risk templates are aligned to the Corporate Strategy and the annual Service Plan template. All risks listed in the strategic Risk Register have a named risk owner from the Councils Corporate Leadership Team. Strategic Risks are reviewed monthly by the risk owner and reported quarterly to the Corporate Leadership Team and the Audit Committee. The Strategic risk register lists the following details for each risk:

- Risk Contributing Factors
- Risk Triggers
- Risk impacts/Consequences
- Current Internal Controls
- Required internal controls/actions
- Risk Scores – current and target

Monitoring of the Strategic and Operational risk registers is captured monthly on Pentana which is a web-hosted Performance and Risk Management used by the Council.

Operational risks are reviewed monthly and updated on Pentana by the relevant Service Manager. High (red) operational risks are reviewed quarterly by CLT to decide if they warrant a combined services response or escalation onto the Strategic Risk Register.

Risk Management training was provided for all Managers and Directors in January 2019. Training covered details on roles and responsibilities, risk escalation procedures and how to update risks using Pentana.

Strategic Risks

Strategic Risk code and Title
SR001 Failure to Maintain Focus on the Councils Core Business
SR002 Lack of Capacity, Resources and Capability to Deliver the Corporate Strategy and Core Services
SR003 Failure to Ensure Partnership Working to Deliver Corporate Priorities both within and outside the Council
SR004 Failure to Prioritise and put attention on Vulnerability and Social Inclusion
SR005 Failure by the Council to Maintain an Effective Role within the Nuclear and Energy Sectors
SR006 Failure to Maintain and Effective and Statutory Role in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
SR006a Failure of Copeland economy to fulfil its potential relating to delays in key nuclear missions including Moorside, North West Coast Connections and Sellafield Transformation
SR007 Uncertainty Around Non-Domestic Rates, Appeals and Business Growth
SR008 Council ICT systems do not demonstrate resilience, redundancy and or high availability
SR009 Failure to Ensure Effective and Statutory Information Governance
SR010 Failure to Realise Income from Commercial and Trading Activity
SR012 Failure for the Council to prepare for the possibility of changes in Local Government governance arrangements.

Annual Governance Statement

Finally, the draft Annual Governance Statement, which sets out the main features of the Council's corporate governance arrangements and its effectiveness, is presented alongside but separate to the Statement of Accounts. The Council's annual review of the effectiveness of its corporate governance arrangements provides assurance on the governance arrangements in place, the progress made against the previous significant governance issue and includes an action plan to address any significant governance issues identified through the review.

The draft Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 is available on the Council's website.

Value for Money (economy, efficiency & effectiveness)

The Council recognises its responsibility to achieve Value for Money (VFM) in service delivery. It seeks to incorporate VFM principles in delivering services by taking account of costs, quality of services and the local context.

To encourage the best use of resources and value for money chief officers seek to identify opportunities to improve economy, efficiency and effectiveness, and by encouraging good practice in conducting financial appraisals of development or savings options, and in developing financial aspects of service planning. The Council's procurement procedures are set out in the constitution also ensure that services obtain value for money from their purchasing arrangements.

All reports to Council and the Executive for decision making include the Section 151 Officer's comments, who has overall financial responsibility, to ensure that resource and value for money have been considered in the decisions of the Council.

Operational Model

The Council received most of its funding from taxation - Council Tax (£38m) levied on residents and Business Rates (£44m) levied on Businesses. It also received funding from Central Government in the form of Specific Grants such as Revenue Support Grant, New Homes Bonus and Housing Benefit Administration Grant.

As well as core funding sources, the Council also relies heavily on income from fees and charges. These provide a valuable source of funding that can then be used to supplement the service delivery for the residents of Copeland.

The Council delivers a range of services as outlined above with the majority being provided by internal staffing resources. Employees are a valuable asset of the Council and as such the Council ensures its employees are well trained and empowered to achieve their best for Copeland. The Council also has partnerships with external organisations for the delivery of its leisure and cultural services.

In the light of reducing support from central government the Council has over the past few years become increasingly efficient in the way it deploys the resources it has to ensure that it can maintain an acceptable level of service delivery. It has a good history of achieving the transformational savings it requires and as such has managed to continue to set a balanced budget.

In 2018/19 the Council was able to utilise all resources (financial and non-financial) to deliver the services it provides. The non-financial performance of service delivery is outlined below and demonstrates that whilst challenging, non-financial performance was, overall, at target performance or above. This together with the delivery of these services within the approved budget mean that the Council could deliver the outcomes and value planned when the budget was set in line with the Council Plan priorities.

Financial Resources Overview

On 20th February 2018 Council agreed the 2018/21 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) that underpins this.

Economic climate

The national and international economic climate, together with the Government's ongoing commitment to reducing the deficit through reductions in public sector spending, has continued to present a very challenging financial environment for the Council throughout 2018/19.

Local authorities have taken the biggest hit in terms of central government cuts since 2010. The scale of reduction, along with a degree of volatility around the phasing and timing of these cuts has made it very difficult for authorities to plan their spending priorities strategically. The government's response to these concerns was the offer of a 4 year settlement guarantee, covering the four year period 2016/17 to 2019/20. The Council chose to take advantage of this offer and published, in line with terms of the multi-year offer, its Efficiency Plan in October 2016.

The Autumn Statement 2016 confirmed the government's commitment to the departmental spending plans set out in the 2015 Spending Review. Although reductions in departmental spending and further fiscal tightening was avoided, there was no easing of austerity for public services.

For Copeland Borough Council the main Government Grant (Revenue Support Grant) has been cut from £3.3m in 2013/14 to just £30,000 in 2019/20. Austerity for local government is expected to continue.

Medium Term Financial Strategy

The 2018/19 revenue budget is set within the context of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The MTFS provides the funding framework within which the Council seeks to achieve the priorities set out in the Corporate Strategy and highlights the key financial risks facing the Council. The 2019/20 MTFS, published alongside the Council's 2019/20 budget, shows that, for the Council to remain financially sustainable and continue to meet its statutory obligation to deliver a balanced budget, it will need to address a funding gap of £1.3m in 2020/21.

The Council has updated its MTFS during 2019/20 to reflect its key priorities and achieve financial sustainability. The MTFS was also updated to reflect changes to forecasted funding. At present considerable uncertainty exists over the funding of local government beyond 2019/20. The Governments Fair Funding Review, reset of business rates baselines and changes to the business rates retention system all have critical implications for the distribution of funding across local government. At present considerable uncertainty exists over the funding of local government. The Governments Fair Funding Review, reset of business rates baselines and changes to the business rates retention system all have critical implications for the distribution of funding across local government, implementation has been delayed.

2018/19 Revenue Budget

Revenue income and expenditure covers spending and income associated with the day to day running of services. Revenue expenditure is met from the following sources:

- Fees and charges;
- Government grants including unringfenced grants e.g., Revenue Support Grant;
- Council Tax and Business Rates; and
- Reserves - General Fund Balances and Earmarked Reserves.

The Council's original net revenue budget was set at £8,939k and is funded as follows:

Sources of Finance	£'000
Revenue Support Grant	377
Business Rates	2,815
Other Grants	390
New Homes Bonus Grant	227
PFI Grant	837
Council Tax	4,152
Council Tax: Collection Fund Surplus	141
	8,939

*Amounts for Council Tax and Business Rates represent Copeland's share of overall receipts.

The amount of Revenue Support Grant provided to the Council through the 2018/19 Local Government Finance Settlement was £377k. This represents a reduction of £302k (44%) on the amount (£679k) awarded in 2017/18. The Council's share of Council tax was increased by 1.95% across all council tax valuation bands.

Capital Resources

The Revised Capital Programme for 2018/19 was £1,664k. The provisional outturn and funding for 2018/19 is £1,401k. Funding for the programme was a mixture of Capital Receipts (£699k) and Grants and Contributions (£702k).

Significant projects within the 2018/19 revised capital programme include:

- £832k for Disabled Facilities Grants (mandatory and discretionary);
- £34k as part of the Accommodation Strategy;
- £205k on the Whitehaven Townscape; and
- £186k on Town Centre Regeneration.

Revenue Performance

The table below shows the actual expenditure for 2018/19 compared to the budget and how that expenditure was financed, excluding transfers to and from reserves and the funding of cyber recovery costs.

	Budget £000	Actual £000	*Variance £000*
Service Area			
Corporate Services	2,896	4,280	*1,384*
Customer and Community Services	595	440	*(155)*
Democracy	653	605	*(48)*
Housing and Environmental Health	1,113	1,055	*(59)*
Planning and Economic Development	411	(1,291)	*(1,703)*
Property and Estates	1,430	1,685	*255*
Refuse and Recycling	1,501	2,199	*698*
Revenues and Benefits	307	317	*10*
All Other	(143)	(114)	*29*
Net Budget Requirement	**8,763**	**9,175**	***412***
Sources of Finance	**(8,939)**	**(9,818)**	***(879)***
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	**(176)**	**(643)**	***(467)***

- Significant variances during 2018/19 Corporate Services variance is mainly due to Cyber Attack recovery work on restoring Council systems. These costs are met from the capitalisation directive shown in the table below. Increased pension contributions for the year also added to the year-end position.
- Planning and Economic Development reflects unbudgeted for income including grants, for Well Whitehaven and Business Development including the Works and Skills programme.
- Refuse and Recycling is overspent due to the need to incur additional costs such as staffing due to the need to handle higher levels of materials. In addition, income targets were not achieved due to a reduction the price paid for the sale of recyclates.

The table above shows a surplus on the provision of services during the year of (£643k) before transfers to and from reserves and the funding of cyber recovery costs. After these items the Unplanned Transfer to the General Reserve (the Outturn) was a £251k deficit, this is set out in the table below:

	Budget	Actual	*Variance*
	£000	£000	*£000*
Impact on the General Fund			
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	(176)	(643)	*(467)*
Transfers to / (from) earmarked reserves	176	1,885	*1,709*
Planned Use of General Fund	0		*0*
Funding of Cyber Costs from Capital Receipts (Capitalisation Directive)	0	(991)	*(991)*
Unplanned Transfer (to) / from General Reserve (outturn)	**0**	**251**	***251***

The Revenue performance above excludes the impact of changes in the value of assets and the pension liabilities. These are included in the CIES provision of services figures and have no funding impact on the budget outturn position. Further details are contained in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (Note 8) and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (page 120) . The segments (service descriptions) reported in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement reflects the Council's internal management reporting structure. In some cases, the segments reported are an aggregation of several services in accordance with the following table.

Segment	Aggregation
Corporate Services	Audit. Business Support. Director of Commercial and Corporate Resources. Financial Services. Human Resources. ICT Services. Legal Services. Procurement. Corporate Health and Safety. Communications. Head of Paid Service.
Customer and Community Services	Beacon Museum. Copeland Community Fund. Customer Services. Director of Customer and Community Services. Parks and Open Spaces.
Democracy	Democratic Services. Elections.
Housing and Environmental Health	Strategic Housing. Environmental Health.
Planning and Economic Development	Building Control. Economic Development. Strategic Planning.
Property and Estates	Property and Estates
Refuse and Recycling	Refuse and Recycling
Revenues and Benefits	Revenues and Benefits
All Other	Licensing. Nuclear.

Budget reports, including the outturn position summarised above, are prepared on a statutory basis (also referred to as the funding basis) reflecting amounts chargeable to the general fund under statutory provisions. This differs from the accounting policies (accounting basis) used in preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. Details of the adjustments made to Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund (GF), to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see page 29) amounts are summarised in Expenditure and Funding Analysis (see page 65).

Financial position at the Balance Sheet date

The following table summarises the Council's financial position at 31 March 2019:

	31st March 2018 '£000	**31st March 2019 '£000**	***Year on Year Change '£000***
Long Term Assets	33,162	32,799	*(363)*
Current Assets	31,582	32,725	*1,143*
Current Liabilities	(9,722)	(8,460)	*1,262*
Long Term Liabilities	(32,720)	(36,537)	*(3,817)*
Net Assets	**22,302**	**20,527**	***1,775***
Usable Reserves	(21,134)	(22,640)	*(1,506)*
Unusable Reserves	(1,168)	2,113	*3,281*
Total Reserves	**(22,302)**	**(20,527)**	***1,775***

Significant balance sheet movements during 2018/19

- There was a decrease in the value of Long Term Assets of £363k, this is primarily due to a net change in the value of Property, Plant and Equipment and investment properties.

- Current Assets increased by £1,143k primarily due to a change in levels of cash held.

- Current Liabilities reduced by £1,262k largely due to a reduction in the NNDR appeals provision.

- There was a large increase in Long Term Liabilities of £3,817k due to an increase in the pensions liability from £22,410k to £26,330k. This change is largely as a result of changes in actuarial assumptions. Reducing the long term pension liability will be considered as part of the triannual review of the pension fund that will in turn impact on employer contribution rates from April 2020.

- Usable Reserves have increased by (£1,506k) primarily due to increases in earmarked reserves.

- Unusable reserves have decreased by(£3,281k) due the change in the pension liability and the impact of the changes in the long term assets through the revaluation reserve.

Statement of Accounts 2018/19

Valuation of non-current assets: The Council carries out a rolling programme of revaluations to ensure that Property, Plant and Equipment assets required to be measured at current value are:

- revalued at intervals of not more than five years
- reported in the balance sheet at a carrying amount that does not differ materially from that which would be determined using the assets current value at the balance sheet date.

Investment Property and Assets Held for Sale are revalued annually.

Audits of the 2017/18 and 2018/19 accounts, including detailed challenge of the valuation of property assets, found issues related to the asset values including inconsistencies and errors. These findings also reflected the findings in some areas from the auditor’s own property experts who assessed the valuation approach.

The accounts for 2018/19 include a Prior Period Adjustment for 2017/18. This means that the core financial statements and appropriate notes, previously published, have been restated following observations on valuations made the Council’s external auditors, Grant Thornton. To address audit concerns in 2017/18 and 2018/19 a full revaluation of the Council’s property portfolio has been undertaken to address what was raised, with the intention of providing a consistent and measured approach that gives reassurance over the values contained in the accounts.

A full revaluation, of land and properties, was undertaken as at March 2019 and for the financial years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 so that comparator information could be determined and reviewed across a number of years. Further details are contained in Note 2, Prior Period Adjustments.

Defined Benefit Pensions Liability: The Council offers retirement pensions to its staff under a statutory scheme and also makes contributions on their behalf. Although the pension benefits are not payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments and must account for them in the year in which the future entitlements are earned. This commitment is compared with the pension fund assets (investments) and the net amount is included in the accounts as an asset or liability.

At 31 March 2019 the Council’s net pension liability was £26.3m (31 March 2018: £22.4m). Although this sum has a significant impact on the net assets of the Council, as shown in its Balance Sheet, the deficit will be addressed by increased contributions to the scheme in future years. These increased contributions have been reflected in the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The £3.9m increase in the net pension liability is underpinned by:

- an increase in the benefit obligation of £7m including:
- Services costs of £2.9m

- Interest costs of £2.5m
- Contributions by scheme participants of £0.4m
- Actuarial losses associated with changes to financial assumptions of £4.9m.
- Benefits paid of £3.1m reducing the obligation.
- an increase in the carrying value of the Council's share of scheme assets of £3.7m including:
- an increase of £1.9m relating to net interest on plan assets, and
- re-measurement gains, reflecting a difference between the actual investment return on plan assets and the interest rate used to calculate the net interest cost included in the CIES, of £2.9m
- Contributions by the employer of £1.7m
- Contributions by scheme participants of £0.4m
- Benefits paid of £3.1m reducing the plan assets.

Short and Long-term Borrowing - At 31 March 2019, the Council's external borrowing stood at £5m (31 March 2018: £5m). This relates to a Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) fixed rate loan. During the financial year the Council made scheduled repayments of £377k. No new borrowing was undertaken during 2018/19.

Revenue Reserves - At 31 March 2019, un-earmarked general fund reserves stood at £2,756k (31 March 2018: £3,251k) and earmarked revenue reserves at £12,776k (31 March 2018: £10,648k). Earmarked reserves include amounts set aside:

- to meet planned future expenditure - including budgets carried forward to meet existing commitments;
- to ring-fence unspent revenue grants where there are restrictions on use; and
- as a contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or transactions.
- An overview of the Council's earmarked reserves is set out below:
- £2,241k PFI Reserve to smooth the cost of the PFI scheme;
- £3,963k External Resources Shortfall Reserve to meet the cost of unbudgeted changes in external funding for example from a Business rates appeal;
- £2,756k in various reserves relating to contributions for future projects;
- £701k property related reserves.

Cash flows - During 2018/19 the net increase in cash and cash equivalents (i.e. short-term highly liquid investments with maturities at the date of acquisition of three months or less) was £5,872k.

2017/18 £000		2018/19 £000
(2,736)	Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	625
6,779	Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	7,087
(2,794)	Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(1,840)
1,249	**Net increase / (decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents**	**5,872**

The net cash inflow from operating activities totalled £625k, compared to net cash outflow of (£2,736k) in 2017/18. The year on year change of £3,361k is mainly due to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services, which is a £490k deficit in 2018/19 and was a £2,112k deficit in 2017/18.

The net cash inflow from investing activities totalled £7,087k, which is consistent with the net cash inflow of £6,779k in 2017/18.

The net cash outflow from financing activities totalled £1,840k, compared to net cash outflow of £2,794k in 2017/18. The year on year change of £954k is mainly due to the change in the Council Tax and NNDR adjustments from an outflow of £2,296k in 2017/18 to an outflow of £1,251k in 2018/19.

The Financial Statements - The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2018/19 financial year and its financial position at 31 March 2019. The Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts (page 28) sets out the responsibilities of the Authority and Authority's Chief Financial Officer (Chief Finance Officer) in relation to the Statement of Accounts.

The Financial Statements, consists of:

- Single entity (Authority only) financial statements comprising:
- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the period (page **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- Movement in Reserves Statement for the period (page 29)
- Balance Sheet as at the end of the period (page 31)
- Cash Flow Statement for the period (page 32)
- Notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (page 33)

- Collection Fund and related notes (page 120)

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement - The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Movement in Reserves Statement - This statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e., those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Movement in Reserves Statement shows how the movements in the Council's reserves during the year are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices (Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure) and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax for the year. The Net Increase/Decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movement in the year following those adjustments.

Balance Sheet - The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. (i). Usable reserves, i.e., those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. (ii). Unusable reserves, i.e., those that cannot be applied to fund expenditure or reduce taxation. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold, and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

Cash Flow Statement - This statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council is funded by way of taxation and grant income or from recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

Collection Fund - The Collection Fund statement reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the Council in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and Central Government of council tax and business rates (non-domestic rates – NDR.

Going Concern

These accounts have been prepared on the basis that the Council continues to operate as a going concern for the foreseeable future. Due to the economic and statutory environment in which local authorities operate it has been confirmed that as authorities cannot be created or dissolved without statutory prescription, it would not therefore be appropriate for their financial statements to be provided on anything other than a going concern basis.

Although that is the technical definition, to allow a going concern basis to be provided the Council can also clearly demonstrate that it can continue to meet its financial commitments as they occur via the delivery of its Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The usable cash reserves position (£22,640k) remains healthy and on the Balance Sheet the Current Assets position of £32,725k is higher than Current Liabilities position of £8,460k so liquidity in the short term is positive.

In preparing these Statement of Accounts, materiality has been guided by the External Auditors materiality level (£381k), but also has consideration to any item that it is thought would be of interest and significance to the reader of the accounts in the context of the activities of the Council (for example, Members' Allowances and Officers' remuneration).

Material events after the Balance Sheet date

Details of any material events after the Balance Sheet date are set out in Note 57 to the Financial Statements.

Statement of Accounts 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22

At the time of writing the Statement of Accounts for future years will follow the completion of the audit of the 2018/19 accounts. This will see the sequential finalisation of accounts for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22. The detailed financial transactions for these years are available and will be formatted as required by CIPFA following completion of the 2018/19 audit. The delay in the production reflects the time it has taken to revalue assets and a shortage of staff to complete the necessary compilation of the documents and supporting evidence for audit. This situation is now largely resolved, and the priority is to move forward with producing the outstanding set of accounts.

However, given the time that has passed since 2018/19 it is important that any reader of these accounts is given a summary update of subsequent events that will be covered more fully in the Statement of Accounts for later years. These events have impacted on the finances as presented in the 2018/19 accounts. Therefore, below is a summary of several key contextual changes that have impacted on the Councils operations and its finances. Fuller details will be contained in the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20-2022/23.

Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23

The Council has set annual budgets and council tax increases for the period 2019/20-2022/23. The MTFS has also been updated each year. A summary of the key figures is given below:

Year	Revenue Budget Approved £m	Council Tax increase
2019/20	8.571	1.95%
2020/21	8.006	1.95%
2021/22	8.626	1.95%
2022/23	10.165	1.95%

The budgets above include funding for several areas that have and are experiencing financial pressures. In February 2022 the MTFS 2022-2025 was agreed by the Council. The forecast budget gap for 2023/24 and 2024/25, the final two years of this MTFS identifies a budget gap of £4m for each year.

The 2021/22 budget included the use of reserves and a government capitalisation directive of £1.5m to balance the budget. The capitalisation directive is a permission to borrow to finance revenue expenditure. Copeland along with several other local authorities have received financial assistance in the form of capitalisation directives to mitigate the considerable financial pressures that they have experiences some the result of the COVID 19 pandemic. An external assurance review concluded 'that the Council will require immediate Government support in the form of a capitalisation direction of £1.5m per annum for the financial years of 21/22 and 22/23'. The budget for 2022/23 assumes that the 2022/23 capitalisation directive incorporated in the budget will be approved by Government following Copeland meeting the required approval conditions. Provisional approved for this approach has already been received by the borough.

COVID 19

The budget for 2020/21 was set before the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic were known about. COVID 19 had a significant impact on the financial situation of the Council and the borough, although this has been largely offset through various government initiatives to support local government. It has not had a material impact on the Council's finances for 2019/20. In 2020/21, businesses in the borough were supported through the provision of business rate reliefs and grants, funded by central government. Residents were supported with multi agency work involving the Copeland, the County Council, health, and the voluntary sectors. The COVID-19 response took, out of necessity, precedence over the delivery of day-to-day services and involved new ways of working such as remote access.

Local Government Reorganisation

In February 2021 the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government commenced consultation on a locally led proposal for the reorganisation of local government in Cumbria. Inviting views from any interested persons, including residents. The proposal to create two new Unitary Councils for the County was originally submitted by Allerdale and Copeland councils. The Sectary of State has now approved the move to two unitary authorities, with a vesting date of 1st April 2023. This will see Copeland Borough forming part of Cumberland Council along with Allerdale and Carlisle Councils and the current county council services in these areas.
On vesting day all the assets, liabilities, resources, staff, rights and functions of the predecessor councils will transfer to Cumberland Council on its creation.

Further Information

Further information about the accounts is available on request from the Chief Finance Officer (and Section 151 Officer), The Market Hall, Market Place, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 7JG.

Statement of Responsibilities

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. The responsible officer is designated as the Chief Financial Officer, or equivalent. In this Council, that officer is the Chief Financial Officer (and Section 151 Officer);

- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and

- approve the Statement of Accounts – a function that is delegated to the Audit and Governance Committee.

The Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code)

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Financial Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;

- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and

- complied with the local authority Code.

- The Chief Financial Officer has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date; and

- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Steven Brown
Chief Finance Officer   Dated: December 2021

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services, arrived at using generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Councils raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

2017/18 Restated*					2018/19		
Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Note	Gross Expenditure £'000	Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
4,384	(175)	4,209	Corporate Services		4,807	(172)	4,635
4,186	(2,670)	1,516	Customer and Community Services		4,522	(4,020)	502
702	(251)	451	Democracy		621	(2)	619
2,465	(925)	1,540	Housing and Environmental Health		2,384	(1,099)	1,285
1,339	(534)	805	Planning and Economic Development		1,580	(2,684)	(1,104)
1,445	(359)	1,086	Property and Estates		2,246	(911)	1,335
3,719	(1,870)	1,849	Refuse and Recycling		4,131	(1,674)	2,457
17,622	(17,296)	326	Revenues and Benefits		16,051	(15,696)	355
558	(880)	(322)	All Other		321	(430)	(109)
36,420	**(24,960)**	**11,460**	**Net Cost of Services**		**36,663**	**(26,688)**	**9,975**
946	(1,717)	(771)	Other Operating Income and Expenditure	11	1,068	-	1,068
1,972	(388)	1,584	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	12	1,828	(1,021)	807
-	(10,161)	(10,161)	Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	13	-	(11,360)	(11,360)
39,338	**(37,226)**	**2,112**	**(Surplus) or Deficit on Provisions of Services**		**39,559**	**(39,069)**	**490**
		(1,113)	(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of non-current assets	26			(757)
		(4,458)	Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)	42			2,042
		(5,571)	**Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**				**1,285**
		(3,459)	**Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**				**1,775**

Movement in Reserves Statement

This Statement shows the movement from the start of the year until the end on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Statement shows how the movements in the year of the Council's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax for the year. The Increase or Decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movements in the year following those adjustments. (Note: The figures for Earmarked Reserves are merged into a single column with the General Fund Balance).

	Note	Revenue General Fund Balance	Capital Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1st April 2017 Restated*		**(12,572)**	**(1,597)**	**(329)**	**(14,498)**	**(4,345)**	**(18,843)**
Movement in reserves during 2017/18 Restated*							
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		2,112	-	-	**2,112**	(5,571)	**(3,459)**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	9	(3,439)	(5,082)	(227)	**(8,748)**	8,748	**-**
(Increase) or Decrease in 2017/18 Restated*		**(1,327)**	**(5,082)**	**(227)**	**(6,636)**	**3,177**	**(3,459)**
Balance at 1st April 2018 Restated*		**(13,899)**	**(6,679)**	**(556)**	**(21,134)**	**(1,168)**	**(22,302)**
Movement in reserves during 2018/19							
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		490	-	-	**490**	1,285	**1,775**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	9	(2,123)	1,352	(1,225)	(1,996)	1,996	-
(Increase) or Decrease in 2018/19		**(1,633)**	**1,352**	**(1,225)**	**(1,506)**	**3,281**	**1,775**
Balance at 31 March 2019 carried forward		**(15,532)**	**(5,327)**	**(1,781)**	**(22,640)**	**2,113**	**(20,527)**

The General Fund balance comprises earmarked reserves of £12,776k (31/3/18 £10,648k) and General Reserve of £2,756k (31/3/18 £3,251k).

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves is usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets were sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

31st March 2017 Restated* £'000	31st March 2018 Restated* £'000		Note	31st March 2019 £'000
27,668	27,090	Property, Plant & Equipment	15	26,359
1,569	1,569	Heritage Assets	16	1,569
4,631	4,444	Investment Properties	17	4,762
31	7	Intangible Assets	18	99
478	52	Long Term Debtors	20	10
34,377	**33,162**	**Long Term Assets**		**32,799**
19,982	20,067	Short Term Investments	45	15,155
3,941	41	Assets Held for Sale	22	15
47	56	Inventories		83
3,109	5,325	Short Term Debtors	20	5,507
4,844	6,093	Cash and Cash Equivalents	21	11,965
31,923	**31,582**	**Current Assets**		**32,725**
-8,937	-7,200	Short Term Creditors	23	-6,844
-534	-2,461	Provisions	24	-1,556
-	-61	Short term Borrowing	45	-60
-9,471	**-9,722**	**Current Liabilities**		**-8,460**
-5,061	-5,000	Long Term Borrowing	45	-5,000
-27,274	-22,410	Net Pensions Liability	42	-26,330
-5,651	-5,310	Other Long Term Liabilities	38,39	-5,207
-37,986	**-32,720**	**Long Term Liabilities**		**-36,537**
18,843	**22,302**	**Net Assets**		**20,527**
-14,498	-21,134	Usable Reserves	25	-22,640
-4,345	-1,168	Unusable Reserves	26	2,113
-18,843	**-22,302**	**Total Reserves**		**-20,527**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from the operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources, which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

2017/2018 Restated* £'000		Note	2018/2019 £'000
(2,112)	**Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services**		**(490)**
6,521	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements		3,378
(7,145)	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities		(2,263)
(2,736)	**Net cash flows from operating activities**	27	**625**
6,779	Investing Activities	28	7,087
(2,794)	Financing activities	29	(1,840)
1,249	**Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents**		**5,872**
4,844	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		6,093
6,093	**Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period**	21	**11,965**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2018/19 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2019. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Statement must be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices which primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19 (the Code) supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and statutory guidance issued under section 21 of the Local Government Act 2003. The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.

- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed. Where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet;

- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made;

- Interest payable on borrowings and receivable on investments is accounted for respectively as expenditure and income on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract; and

- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in less than 3 months from the date of acquisition and that are readily converted to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change of value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policy or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change, and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of the transactions, or other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

The 2018/19 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code) adopts the requirements of the following new or amended standards effective for the first time to annual periods beginning on or after 1 April 2018:

- IFRS 9 Financial Instruments
- IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers including amendments to IFRS 15 Clarifications to IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses
- amendments to IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows: Disclosure Initiative

Information on these new standards and their impact on the Authority's single entity and group accounts - is set out below.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments replaces IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement and all previous versions of IFRS 9. The standard introduces:

- major changes to previous (IAS 39) guidance on the classification and measurement of financial assets
- an 'expected loss' model for impairment of financial assets
- new requirements on the application of hedge accounting.

Further details on the measurement and impairment of financial assets are in the Financial Instruments section of the accounting policies.

Hedge accounting

The optional hedge accounting requirements contained in IFRS 9 retain the three types of hedge accounting mechanisms, cash flow hedges, fair value hedges and net investment in foreign operations, previously available under IAS 39. However IFRS 9 introduces greater flexibility to the types of transactions eligible for hedge accounting by broadening the types of instruments that qualify as hedging instruments and increasing the number of eligible hedged items. In addition, the hedge effectiveness criteria contained in IAS 39 has been replaced with a more principles based approach. Retrospective assessment of hedge effectiveness is no longer required. The accounting and presentation requirements for designated hedging relationships remain largely unchanged.

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities

The classification and measurement of financial liabilities in accordance with IFRS 9 remains largely unchanged from IAS 39. The main exception relates to the accounting and presentation of changes in the fair value of an entity’s own debt when the entity has elected to measure that debt at fair value under the fair value option.

IFRS 9 requires changes in the fair value of a financial liability attributable to changes in the entity’s own credit risk, to be recognised in other comprehensive income (and expenditure for local authorities) rather than in profit or loss (Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services), unless the recognition of such changes in other comprehensive income would create or enlarge an accounting mismatch in profit or loss. Changes in fair value attributable to a financial liability’s own credit risk are not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss.

Presentation and disclosures

IFRS 9 also amends extensively, the requirements of IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures, introducing a number of new disclosures relating to classification and measurement, impairment, hedge accounting and transitional reporting requirements.

IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements is also amended by IFRS 9 to include new line items in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income (Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for local authorities).

Transition

IFRS 9 applies retrospectively for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2018. However transitional reporting requirements provide certain detailed exceptions and exemptions from full retrospective application of the standard’s classification, measurement and impairment requirements. This includes an exception, mandated under the Code, from the requirement to restate preceding year (comparative) information.

Differences in the carrying amount of financial instruments arising from the adoption of IFRS 9 in relation to classification, measurement and impairment are recognised as an opening adjustment to reserves in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

On the date of initial application (1 April 2018) the assessment of whether a financial asset meets the business model is made test basis of the facts and circumstances that exist at that date. IFRS 9 is not applied to financial instruments derecognised before 1 April 2018.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service;
- revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off; and
- amortisation of intangible non current assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement (equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance). Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund Balance (Minimum Revenue Provision) by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates

Billing authorities such as the Council act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NNDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including the Government for NNDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NNDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (called the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NNDR. Under the legislative framework for the Collection Fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and the Government share proportionately the risk and the reward that the amount of Council Tax and NNDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Cumbria has a Business Rates Pool, established on 1st April 2018. It comprises Cumbria County Council, Allerdale Borough Council, Barrow Borough Council, Eden District Council, South Lakeland District council, Carlisle City Council and Copeland Borough Council.

Government treats the Pool as a single body with Cumbria County Council actingas the lead authority. The Cumbria Business Rates Pool has a formal agreement and a financial protocol agreed by all members. At the financial year end, alongside reporting of the Business Rate income for the Council the financial protocol requires that each member retains its relative proportion of the Cumbria Business Rate Pool Local Volatility Reserve on its own Balance Sheet. An element of the Net Retained Levy for the Pool is set aside each year to provide protection for Pool members from falls in Business Rates income.

The Council Tax and NNDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of Council Tax and NNDR that must be included in the Council's General Fund. The difference between the income included in the CIES and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the Council's share of the end of year balances in respect of Council Tax and NNDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

Where debtor balances for the above are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the statutory arrangements will not be made (fixed or determinable payments), the asset is written down and a charge made to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. The impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the revised future cash flows.

Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable During Employment - Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the salary rate applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits - Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits, and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring. Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-employment Benefits - The majority of employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme administered by Cumbria County Council. The scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the Cumbria pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis discounted to present value using the projected units method. The discount rate to be used is determined by reference to market yields at the reporting date of high quality corporate bonds.
- The assets of the pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
    - Equities
    - Government and Other Bonds
    - Property
    - Cash and other

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

- Service cost comprising:
    - Current service cost - the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.
    - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment the effect of which relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
    - Net interest on the defined benefit liability (asset), i.e. net interest expense for the Council (the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement). This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation

at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period because of contribution and benefit payments.

- Remeasurements comprising:

    - The return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in the net interest on the defined benefit liability (asset)) charged to the Pension Reserve as Other Comprehensive income and Expenditure

    - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

    - Contributions paid to the pension fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

Discretionary Benefits - The Council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Events After the Reporting Period - Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events; and

- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities - Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest) and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are credited and debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of repurchase or settlement. However, where repurchase has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio which involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is respectively deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write-down to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. The Council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net charge required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Financial assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and

- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

The authority's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified as amortised cost, except for those whose contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (ie where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the authority, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

However, the authority has made a number of loans to voluntary organisations at less than market rates (soft loans). When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal.

Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Impairment – Expected Credit Loss Model

IFRS 9 replaces IAS39's incurred loss model with a more forward looking 'expected loss' approach to accounting for credit losses. Under IFRS 9, it is no longer necessary for there to be objective evidence of impairment before credit losses are recognised. The expected credit loss model requires an entity to recognise a loss allowance, from the point of initial recognition, for all financial assets based on expected credit losses. The amount of expected credit losses (loss allowance) is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition.

The expected loss approach applies to all financial assets measured at amortised cost, debt instruments measured at FVOCI, trade receivables, contract assets under IFRS 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers, lease receivables, loan commitments and certain financial guarantee contracts.

Equity instruments measured at FVOCI are not subject to IFRS 9's impairment accounting requirements.
Under the expected loss model, impairments are recognised in three stages to reflect changes in credit risk:

- Stage 1 (Performing) - financial assets that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have a low credit risk at the reporting date.
- Stage 2 (Underperforming) - financial assets that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition (unless they have low credit risk at the reporting date) but do not have objective evidence of a credit loss event
- Stage 3 (Non-performing) - financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date.

For financial assets at stage 1, 12-month expected credit losses are recognised and interest calculated on the gross carrying amount of the asset (i.e. without reduction for expected credit losses). For items at stages 2 and 3 life-time expected credit losses are recognised. At stage 2 interest revenue continues to be calculated on the assets gross carrying amount while for financial assets at stage 3, interest revenue is calculated on the assets net carrying amount (i.e. reduced for expected credit losses).

A simplified approach to the general model described above applies to trade receivables, contract assets and lease receivables. For trade receivables or contract assets within the scope of IFRS 15, that do not contain a significant financing component, a loss allowance equal to lifetime expected credit losses should be recognised. Where such assets do contain significant financing component in accordance with IFRS 15, an entity is permitted to choose to apply either the simplified approach or the general approach.

The policy choice may be applied separately to trade receivables and contract assets. For lease receivables within the scope IAS 17 Leases, an entity may elect to measure the loss allowance at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses. The selected policy may be applied separately to finance and operating lease receivables.

Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, Government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and

- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset in the form of the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure (non-ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

Heritage Assets

The Council's Heritage Assets are held at the Beacon Museum, the Museum Resource Centre at Haig Enterprise Park, the Museum Store at Moresby and the Copeland Centre. They are held in support of the primary objective of increasing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the borough's history and local area. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's accounting policies for property, plant and equipment, although some of the measurement rules are relaxed as detailed below. The collections of assets are accounted for as follows.

- Civic Regalia are reported in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation, based on market value.

- The Copeland Collection consists of pictures prints and sculptures. 67 lower value items are reported in the Balance Sheet at historic cost and 5 higher value items at insurance valuation as at November 2012. There is no cost information for the remaining 14 low value items, and the Council considers that the cost of valuing the items would be disproportionate in comparison to the benefit to the users of the Council's financial statements. The Council does not recognise those items on the Balance Sheet.

- The Museum Collection comprises fine and decorative arts, social history, archaeology, photographs, prints and natural science. Items with an estimated value of £500 or more are carried in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation as at

November 2012. The remaining low value items are not recognised in the Balance Sheet for the reason given for the low value items in the Copeland Collection.

If possible, all valued items are revalued at least once every 5 years. Any acquisition, impairment or disposal of Heritage Assets is accounted for in accordance with the policies in respect of property, plant and equipment. The Council considers that its Heritage Assets have indeterminate lives and hence does not consider it appropriate to charge deprecation.

Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the authority as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the authority. Internally generated assets are capitalised where it is demonstrable that the project is technically feasible and is intended to be completed (with adequate resources being available) and the authority will be able to generate future economic benefits or deliver service potential by being able to sell or use the asset. Expenditure is capitalised where it can be measured reliably as attributable to the asset and is restricted to that incurred during the development phase (research expenditure cannot be capitalised).

Expenditure on the development of websites is not capitalised if the website is solely or primarily intended to promote or advertise the authority's goods or services.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the authority can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the authority meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Interests in Companies and Other Entities
The Council does not have any material interests in companies and other entities.

Inventories –
Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the weighted average costing formula.

Long-term Contracts
Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

Investment Property
Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As non-financial assets, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are not depreciated but are valued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account; and sale proceeds greater than £10,000 to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Leases
Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and building elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where the fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council as Lessee

Finance Leases - Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Initial direct costs of the Council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property applied to write down the lease liability; and

- A finance charge, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Property, Plant and Equipment recognised under finance leases are accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life (where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the Council at the end of the lease period).

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore substituted by a revenue contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Operating Leases - Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

The Council as Lessor

Finance Leases - Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Council's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal) matched by a lease (long-term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premium received) and

- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When the future rentals are received, the element for the capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point, the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Operating Leases - Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to Corporate Services.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and which are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as property, plant and equipment.

Recognition - Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of property, plant and equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be reliably measured. Expenditure that maintains, but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (e.g. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred. The de-minimis level for recognition of capital expenditure is £6,000.

Measurement - Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management
- the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item(s) and restoring the site on which it is or they are located.

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be the fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Council). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Council.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in a Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet, using the following measurement bases:

- infrastructure, assets under construction and vehicles, plant and equipment – depreciated historical cost.
- community assets – historical cost.
- surplus assets – current value determined as fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective.
- all other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value. Where non-property assets that have short useful lives or low values (or both) depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying value is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but as a minimum every 5 years.

Increases in valuations of property, plant and equipment are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains, unless they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service when the gains are credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services up to the level of the previous loss.

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Impairment losses are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up the amount of the accumulated gains)
- Where there is no or an insufficient balance in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Other buildings – straight line allocation over the remaining life of the property as estimated by the valuer.

- Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment – straight-line allocation over the estimated useful life of each class of assets in the Balance Sheet, as advised by a suitably qualified officer.

- Infrastructure – straight-line allocation from 10 to 20 years.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately. The de minimis value of an item, below which components are not depreciated separately, is £900k.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classed as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale, adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as Held for Sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying value of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10k are categorised as capital receipts. A proportion of capital receipts relating to housing disposals is payable to the Government. The balance of receipts remains within the Capital Receipts Reserve and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council’s underlying need to borrow (the Capital Financing Requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against Council Tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and Similar Contracts

PFI and similar contracts are agreements to receive services where the responsibility for making available the non-current assets needed to provide the service passes to the PFI contractor. As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under its PFI scheme and, as through an option to purchase (at market value) the residual interest in the non-current asset at the end of the contract, the Council is deemed to control significant residual interest in the non-current asset, the Council carries it on its Balance Sheet as part of property, plant and equipment.

The original recognition of the asset at fair value, based on the cost of construction, was balanced by the recognition of a liability for amounts due to the scheme operator to pay for the capital investment.

Non-current assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as Property, Plant and Equipment owned by the Council.

The amounts paid to the PFI operator each year are analysed into five elements:

- fair value of the services received during the year – debited to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

- finance cost – an interest charge on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

- contingent rent – increases in the amount to be paid for the property arising during the contract, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

- payment towards liability – applied to write down the Balance Sheet liability towards the PFI operator. The profile of write-downs is calculated using the same principles as for a finance lease

- lifecycle replacement costs – either recognised immediately as additions to Property, Plant and Equipment on the Balance Sheet when the relevant works are carried out or, if required, a prepayment is posted to the Balance Sheet for the lifecycle costs payable in that year and then recognised as additions to PPE when the relevant works are carried out. Where it is not possible to evidence that lifecycle replacements costs meet the capital expenditure definition, then they are treated as revenue.

Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Provisions – Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the authority may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Council has an obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year. Where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision or part provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Council settles the obligation.

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

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the financial statements, but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

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

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

Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, local taxation, and employee and retirement benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council. These reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset is charged as expenditure in the year to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement then reverses out the amounts charged so there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

Fair Value Measurement

The Council measures some of its non-financial assets such as surplus assets and investment properties and some of its financial instruments - its Private Finance Initiative (PFI) liability, Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) fixed rate loan and its short-term investments - at amortised cost at each reporting date. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

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

The Council measures the fair value of an asset or liability using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

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

The Council uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.
Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Council's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

Level 1 – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Council can access at the measurement date

Level 2 – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly

Level 3 – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Rounding

The Council accepts that minor rounding differences of between £1k and £2k may occur within its Statements of Accounts, these amounts are not material and the Council does not intend to alter any totals where this occurs.

2. Prior Period Adjustment

The 2017/18 core financial statements and appropriate notes have been restated following observations made the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton. As part of the audits of 2017/18 and 2018/19 accounts, including detailed examination and challenge of the valuation of property assets, the auditors highlighted several issues related to the asset values contained in the Statement of Accounts. This included findings in some areas from the auditor's own property experts who assessed the valuation approach.

Several weaknesses, inconsistencies and errors were therefore initially identified and contained in the Audit Findings Report for 2017/18. The observations made by GT included concerns over unexpected movements in asset valuations, processes followed, information use including the form of instructions to valuers and errors in the valuations of specific high value assets. Further points were raised on the level of assets that had not be revalued in 2017/18. As part of the audit of the 2018/19 concerns in the same areas have also been made by GT.

To address 2017/18 and 2018/19 audit concerns a full revaluation of the Council's property portfolio has been undertaken to address what has been raised, with the intention of providing a consistent and measured approach that gives reassurance over the values contained in the accounts.

A full revaluation was undertaken as at March 2019 and for the financial years 2016/17 and 2017/18 so that comparator information could be determined and reviewed across a number of years.

In line with Accounting Standards (IAS8- Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors). The CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom requires that an authority presents a balance sheet at the beginning of the preceding period when an authority makes a retrospective restatement. Consequently, it has been necessary to show the changes required in the balance sheet in 2016/17, at 31 March 2017. The main statements only need to show the impact of the restatements on the comparator year, 2017/18.

The tables below set out the impact the changes in the asset valuations have had on the main financial statements and includes the lines that have now been restated. Further details about assets are provide in Note 15, Note 17 and Note 22. Prior year comparators are also changed on the Expenditure and Funding Analysis, Note 8, Note 9, Note 11, Note 12, Note 14, Note 15, Note 17, Note 22, Note 26 and Note 27.

Effect on Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2017/18

	Original Published 31st March 2018 £'000	Restated 31st March 2018 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2017/18 £'000
Corporate Services	4,209	4,209	-
Customer and Community Services	1,841	1,516	- 325
Democracy	451	451	-
Housing and Environmental Health	1,539	1,540	1
Planning and Economic Development	805	805	-
Property and Estates	1,408	1,086	- 322
Refuse and Recycling	2,302	1,849	- 453
Revenues and Benefits	325	326	1
All Other	- 323	- 322	1
Net Cost of Services	**12,557**	**11,460**	**- 1,097**
Other Operating Income and Expenditure	784	- 771	- 1,555
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	1,650	1,584	- 66
Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	- 10,161	- 10,161	-
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provisions of Services	**4,830**	**2,112**	**- 2,718**
(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of non-current assets	- 4,340	- 1,113	3,227
Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)	- 4,458	- 4,458	-
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	**- 8,798**	**- 5,571**	**3,227**
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	**- 3,968**	**- 3,459**	**509**

Effect on Movement in Reserves Statement 2017/18

	Original Published 31st March 2018 £'000 Usable Reserves	Restated 31st March 2018 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2017/18 £'000	Original Published 31st March 2018 £'000 Unusable Reserves	Restated 31st March 2018 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2017/18 £'000
Balance at 1st April 2017	**-14,498**	**-14,498**	**-**	**-13,070**	**-4,345**	**8,725**
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	4,830	2,112	-2,718	-8,798	-5,571	3,227
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	-11,466	-8,748	2,718	11,465	8,748	-2,717
(Increase) or decrease in 2017/18	**-6,636**	**-6,636**	**-**	**2,667**	**3,177**	**510**
Balance at 1st April 2018	**-21,134**	**-21,134**	**-**	**-10,403**	**-1,168**	**9,235**

Effect on the Balance Sheet -2016/17 and 2017/18

	Original Published 31st March 2017 £'000	Restated 31st March 2017 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2016/17 £'000	Original Published 31st March 2018 £'000	Restated 31st March 2018 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2017/18 £'000
Property, Plant & Equipment	36,873	27,668	-9,205	38,359	27,090	-11,269
Heritage Assets	1,569	1,569	0	1,569	1,569	0
Investment Properties	2,558	4,631	2,073	2,307	4,444	2,137
Intangible Assets	31	31	0	7	7	0
Long Term Debtors	478	478	0	52	52	0
Long Term Assets	**41,509**	**34,377**	**-7,132**	**42,294**	**33,162**	**-9,132**
Short Term Investments	19,982	19,982	0	20,067	20,067	0
Assets Held for Sale	5,534	3,941	-1,593	145	41	-104
Inventories	47	47	0	56	56	0
Short Term Debtors	3,109	3,109	0	5,325	5,325	0
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,844	4,844	0	6,093	6,093	0
Current Assets	**33,516**	**31,923**	**-1,593**	**31,685**	**31,582**	**-103**
Short Term Creditors	-8,937	-8,937	0	-7,200	-7,200	0
Provisions	-534	-534	0	-2,461	-2,461	0
Short term Borrowing	-	-	0	-61	-61	0
Current Liabilities	**-9,471**	**-9,471**	**0**	**-9,722**	**-9,722**	**0**
Long Term Borrowing	-5,061	-5,061	0	-5,000	-5,000	0
Net Pensions Liability	-27,274	-27,274	0	-22,410	-22,410	0
Other Long Term Liabilities	-5,651	-5,651	0	-5,310	-5,310	0
Long Term Liabilities	**-37,986**	**-37,986**	**0**	**-32,720**	**-32,720**	**0**
Net Assets	**27,568**	**18,843**	**-8,725**	**31,537**	**22,302**	**-9,235**
Usable Reserves	**-14,498**	**-14,498**	**0**	-21,134	-21,134	0
Unusable Reserves	**-13,070**	**-4,345**	**8,725**	-10,403	-1,168	9,235
Total Reserves	**27,568**	**-18,843**	**8,725**	**-31,537**	**-22,302**	**9,235**

Effect on Cash Flow Statement 2017/18

	Original Published 31st March 2018 £'000	Restated 31st March 2018 £'000	Amount of Restatement 2017/18 £'000
Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services	- 4,830	-2,112	2,718
Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	9,239	6,521	-2,718

3. Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard which has been issued but is yet to be adopted by the 2018/19 Code.

The Code also requires that changes in accounting policy are to be applied retrospectively unless transitional arrangements are specified, this would result in an impact on disclosures spanning two financial years.

Accounting changes that are introduced by the 2019/20 code are:

- Amendments to IAS40 Investment Property: Transfers of Investment Property
- Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2014-2016 Cycle
- IFRIC22 Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration
- IFRIC23 Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments
- Amendments to IFRS9 Financial Instruments: Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation.

These changes are not expected to have a material impact on the Council's single entity statements.

IFRS16 Leases will require local authorities that are lessees to recognise most leases on their Balance Sheets as right-of-use assets with corresponding lease liabilities (there is recognition for low-value and short term leases). CIPFA/LASAAC have again deferred implementation of IFRS16 for local government until 1 April 2022 i.e. financial year 2022/23.

4. Critical Judgements in applying accounting policies

In applying accounting policies, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those that involve uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

- The Council leases a number of vehicles, primarily to deliver its waste and parks services. The leases vary in terms so each individual contract is assessed, using best judgement against a set of criteria, to determine if the lease falls into the category of finance or operating lease. This in turn determines if the vehicle is included on the Balance Sheet within Property, Plant and Equipment or charged to service lines within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If a lease is deemed to be a finance lease, the Council has estimated an implied interest rate to calculate interest and capital payments.

- The Council also entered into a PFI agreement with London Regional and the agreement was assessed to determine whether it also fit the criteria of Finance Lease or Operating Lease. It was deemed to be a Service Concession arrangement under IFRIC12 and, as defined in the CIPFA Code of Practice, so is therefore included on the Balance Sheet within Property, Plant and Equipment.

- The Council sublets some areas of the Copeland Centre administrative building during the year. It is deemed that the areas leased do not comprise investment property under International Accounting Standard (IAS) 40 because it is incidental income rather than having been bought to lease out.

- The original agreement for the annual amount to be paid by the Council to the provider for occupation of Copeland Centre included assumptions around the amounts of expenditure, both revenue and capital, that would be needed over the lifecycle of the building. These were estimates across a 25-year period, rather than definite plans, with the underlying commitment being to maintain the building in its required state. Technical accounting adjustments are required each year in respect of the capital element of these lifecycle costs. Up until 2015/16, these were of limited importance, because neither the amounts in the original schedule nor the level of actual capital expenditure were material. In 2018/19, the figure in the original schedule was £129k and only a relatively small amount of expenditure has been made by the provider. A judgement has therefore had to be made as to whether or not the payment of the unitary charge effectively included a prepayment in respect of these capital works, i.e. it should be assumed that they will occur at some future date, or the view taken that there is only a limited likelihood that they will occur and that this notional element in the overall payment should be treated on the same basis as the general service charge. In coming to a decision on this, the following have been considered:

    - Over the lifetime of the agreement to date, actual capital expenditure has remained low, at the level necessary to keep building in required state rather than carrying out major works.

- No plans have been notified by the provider of intention to carry out such major works in the medium-term future.

- There are current refurbishment plans, which stand outside the main agreement, which will themselves potentially obviate the need for works that might have been required later.

A further consideration was that the treatment chosen for what is a technical accounting issue (the actual amounts payable by the Council are not affected) should be one which aids understanding of the underlying substance of the transactions by users of the Statement of Accounts. For a combination of these reasons, the judgement made has been to treat the payment on the same basis as the general service charge.

- There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government, and the Council remains at risk from the localisation of both Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR), both of which may result in cost to the Council.

5. Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2019 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

- The pension liability to the Council at 31 March 2019 has been valued by the actuary to Cumbria Pension Fund using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about life expectancy, employee turnover rates, inflation and pay growth. The net pension liability at 31 March 2019 was £26,330k. If the assumptions made prove incorrect, there will be significant changes to the pension liability. A sensitivity analysis of key assumptions made is included at page 112.

- Property, Plant and Equipment is depreciated over its estimated useful life. Judgement is required to determine what that useful life is and, under the current economic climate, it is possible that some assets will not be maintained to the current standard with some assets being disposed of or mothballed. Assets could also be reclassified as new ways are found to utilise some properties. This could result in changes to the value of assets held and the amount of depreciation or impairment being charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure

Statement. It is estimated that, should the estimated useful lives reduce by one year, depreciation would increase by £487k.

- If the Property, Plant & Equipment asset base subject to valuations was to change by 5 to 10% the movement in asset values would be between £1,138k to £2,277k.

- The PFI contract was assessed at the inception of the lease using estimated interest rates and RPI forecasts. As time elapses, there will be variances from those originally forecast and the actual interest rates.

- The Council has used its best judgement to provide for refunds of non-domestic (business) rates in the event of successful appeals by ratepayers (see page 89). Estimates have been made using local information and professional advice. The total provision stands at £3,663k at 31 March 2019, the Council's share of which is £1,465k.

6. Material items of income and expense

Material Items within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) are all items that are not disclosed separately elsewhere in the CIES, these include:

- Housing Benefits - The Council has incurred spending of £14,986k on housing benefits in 2018/19 (£16,358k in 2017/18) and received Government grants of £14,237k to meet this cost (£15,884k in 2017/18).

- Non Domestic Rates - The Council received Non Domestic Rates of £15,209k under the rate retention system in 2018/19 (£13,382k in 2017/18). This was offset by a payment to the Government, under the system, of £11,583k in respect of a tariff and levy (£10,994k in 2017/18).

- Council Tax - The Council received £5,299k from the Collection Fund as its share of Council Tax receipts in 2018/19 (£5,067k in 2017/18).

- PFI Charges - The Council paid unitary charges of £1,619k in 2018/19 (£1,422k in 2017/18) relating to the Copeland Centre.

7. Events after the reporting period

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue on December 2021 by Steven Brown, Chief Finance Officer (and Section 151 Officer). Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. The financial statements and notes have not been adjusted for the following events which took place after 31 March 2019 as they provide information that is relevant to an understanding of the authority's financial position but do not relate to conditions at that date:

- The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020, an 11-month transition period followed during which the UK effectively remains in the EU's customs union and single market and continued to obey EU rules. A trade deal with the EU was agreed on 24 December 2020.

- The impact of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic will continue to be assessed up until the publication of the audited accounts.

- On 31 March 2020 the Council terminated its PFI contract and the building legally transferred to the Council. The Council funded the purchase with a Capital Grant provided by Government, paying all future debt liabilities relating to the building. The Copeland Centre is already recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet however, liabilities set out in note 37 as at 31 March 2019 totalling £4,680k, will not be required to be paid.

8. Expenditure and Funding Analysis

This analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (Government grants, fees and charges, Council Tax and Business Rates) in comparison with those resources consumed or earned in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision-making purposes between the Council's services. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices are presented more fully in the CIES.

2017/18 *Restated				2018/19		
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
3,989	220	4,209	Corporate Services	4,280	355	4,635
245	1,271	1,515	Customer and Community Services	(269)	771	502
452	(1)	451	Democracy	605	14	619
922	618	1,540	Housing and Environmental Health	1,055	230	1,285
530	275	805	Planning and Economic Development	(582)	(522)	(1,104)
1,711	(625)	1,086	Property and Estates	1,685	(350)	1,335
2,106	(257)	1,849	Refuse and Recycling	2,199	258	2,457
312	14	326	Revenues and Benefits	317	38	355
(325)	3	(322)	All Other	(114)	5	(109)
9,943	**1,518**	**11,460**	**Net Cost of Services**	**9,175**	**800**	**9,975**
(10,481)	1,133	(9,348)	Other Income and Expenditure	(9,818)	333	(9,485)
(538)	**2,651**	**2,112**	**(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services**	**(643)**	**1,133**	**490**
(12,572)			**Opening General Fund Balance**	**(13,898)**		
(538)			Less/plus (surplus) or deficit on General Fund Balance in year	(643)		
(788)			Plus Credit to the General Fund for Capitalisation Directive	(991)		
(13,898)			**Closing General Fund Balance at 31 March**	**(15,532)**		

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Notes to the Expenditure Funding Analysis

Segment reporting aggregation

The segments (service descriptions) reported in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (page **Error! Bookmark not defined.**) are based on the Council's internal management reporting. In some cases, the segments reported are an aggregation of a number of services in accordance with the following table.

Segment	Aggregation
Corporate Services	Audit. Business Support. Director of Commercial and Corporate Resources. Financial Services. Human Resources. ICT Services. Legal Services. Procurement. Corporate Health and Safety. Communications. Head of Paid Service.
Customer and Community Services	Beacon Museum. Copeland Community Fund. Customer Services. Director of Customer and Community Services. Parks and Open Spaces.
Democracy	Democratic Services. Elections.
Housing and Environmental Health	Strategic Housing. Environmental Health.
Planning and Economic Development	Building Control. Economic Development. Strategic Planning.
Property and Estates	None.
Refuse and Recycling	None.
Revenues and Benefits	None.
All Other	Licensing. Nuclear.

Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis

Further details of the adjustments from the General Fund, funding basis, to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, accounting basis, are given in the tables and notes shown on the following pages.

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2018/19				
Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts	**Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 1) £000**	**Net Change for Pensions Adjustments (Note 2) £000**	**Other Differences (Note 3) £000**	**Total Adjustments £000**
Corporate Services	-	342	14	356
Customer and Community Services	705	79	(14)	771
Democracy	-	10	4	14
Housing and Environmental Health	175	48	8	231
Planning and Economic Development	(570)	42	6	(522)
Property and Estates	234	5	(589)	(350)
Refuse and Recycling	522	84	(348)	258
Revenues and Benefits	-	33	5	38
All Other	-	4	1	5
Net Cost of Services	**1,066**	**647**	**(914)**	**800**
Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	(289)	603	21	333
Difference between General Fund (surplus) or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**776**	**1,250**	**(893)**	**1,133**

Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2017/18 Restated*				
Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts	**Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 1) £000**	**Net Change for Pensions Adjustments (Note 2) £000**	**Other Differences (Note 3) £000**	**Total Adjustments £000**
Corporate Services	94	118	8	220
Customer and Community Services	1,244	23	5	1,272
Democracy	-	1	(2)	(2)
Housing and Environmental Health	177	14	427	618
Planning and Economic Development	262	13	1	275
Property and Estates	(625)	1	-	(624)
Refuse and Recycling	(284)	24	4	(256)
Revenues and Benefits	-	11	2	13
All Other	-	1	1	2
Net Cost of Services	**868**	**205**	**445**	**1,518**
Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	(2,137)	650	2,620	1,133
Difference between General Fund (surplus) or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**1,269**	**855**	**3,065**	**2,651**

Note 1. Adjustments for Capital Purposes - This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the services line, together

with the costs and income associated with Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (see glossary for definition) and for:

- Other Operating Expenditure – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written out for those assets.

- Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the statutory charges for capital financing – Minimum Revenue Provision and revenue contributions to capital expenditure are deducted from other income and expenditure, as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.

- Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practice. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

Note 2. Net Change for Pensions Adjustments - The net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of employee benefits pension-related expenditure and income under generally accepted accounting practice:

- for services - this represents the removal of the employer's pension contributions made by the Council as allowed by statute and the replacement by current service costs and past service costs.

- for Financing and investment income and expenditure – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Note 3. Other Differences - Other differences between amounts debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable or receivable to be recognised under statute:

- for Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure, adjustments to the General Fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.

- for Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure, the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practice in the Code. This is a timing difference, which will be brought forward in future Surpluses or Deficits on the Collection Fund.

9. Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations

This note details the adjustments made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The following sets out a description of the usable reserves that the adjustments are made against.

General Fund Balance - The General Fund is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of an authority are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the authority are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact the General Fund Balance, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The General Fund Balance therefore summarises the resources that the Council is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment at the end of the financial year.

Capital Receipts Reserve - The Capital Receipts Reserve holds the proceeds from the disposal of land or other assets, which are restricted by statute from use other than to fund new capital expenditure or to be set aside to finance historical capital expenditure. The balance on the reserve shows the resources that have yet to be applied for these purposes at the year-end.

Capital Grants Unapplied - The Capital Grants Unapplied Account (Reserve) holds the grants and contributions received towards capital projects for which the Council has met any conditions that would otherwise require repayment of the monies, but which have yet to be applied to meet expenditure. The balance is restricted by grant terms as to the capital expenditure against which it can be applied and/or the financial year in which this can take place.

2018/19	General Fund Balance £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000
Adjustments to Revenue Reserves			
Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:			
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(1,250)	-	-
Council tax and NNDR (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	376	-	-
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(72)	-	-
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(2,216)	-	-
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	**(3,162)**	**-**	**-**
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources			
Capitalisation Direction	(991)	-	-
Net Revaluation gains / (losses) on non-current assets	131	-	-
Transfer of capital grants to the capital grants unapplied accounts	1,310	-	(1,310)
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	589	-	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	**1,039**	**-**	**(1,310)**
Adjustments to Capital Resources			
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	1,354	-
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts		(2)	
Use of Capital Grants Unapplied Account to finance capital expenditure	-	-	85
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	**-**	**1,352**	**85**
Total Adjustments	**(2,123)**	**1,352**	**(1,225)**

2017/18 Restated*	General Fund Balance £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000
Adjustments to Revenue Reserves			
Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:			
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(864)	-	-
Financial instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	51	-	-
Council tax and NNDR (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	(1,991)	-	-
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(9)	-	-
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(130)	(5,889)	-
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	**(2,943)**	**(5,889)**	**-**
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources			
Revenue expenditure funded by capital receipts under statute	(788)	807	-
Transfer of capital grants to the capital grants unapplied accounts	258	-	(258)
Write off of loan advances (transferred from the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve)	(477)	-	-
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	493	-	-
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	18	-	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	**(496)**	**807**	**(258)**
Adjustments to Capital Resources			
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	31
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	**-**	**-**	**31**
Total Adjustments	**(3,439)**	**(5,082)**	**(227)**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

10. Movements in earmarked reserves

Amounts set aside from the General Fund in Earmarked Reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from Earmarked Reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2018/19.

Earmarked Reserves	Balance as at 31 March 2017 £'000	Transfers Out 2017/18 £'000	Transfers In 2017/18 £'000	Balance as at 31 March 2018 £'000	Transfers Out 2018/19 £'000	Transfers In 2018/19 £'000	Balance as at 31 March 2019 £'000
Corporate							
Delivering Differently Fund (transformation fund)	**276**	(204)	-	**72**	(78)	-	**(6)**
Budget Carry Forwards	**1**	-	-	**1**	-	-	**1**
External Resources Shortfall	**2,300**		1,663	**3,963**	-	-	**3,963**
Commercial and Corporate Resources							
Information Technology	**220**	(10)		**210**	-	-	**210**
Asset and Land Management	**97**	-	-	**97**	-	-	**97**
PFI Reserves	**2,241**	-	153	**2,394**	(153)	-	**2,241**
Coastal Management	**200**	-	-	**200**	-	-	**200**
Repair and Maintenance	**269**	-	11	**280**	-	11	**291**
Insurance	**70**			**70**	-	-	**70**
Budget Carry Forwards	**35**		267	**302**	-	222	**524**
Customer and Community Services							
Revenues and Benefits	**150**	-	-	**150**	-	-	**150**
Welfare Support	**-**	-	126	**126**	-	-	**126**
Housing	**259**	(36)	10	**233**	(35)	63	**261**
The Beacon	**236**	(156)	-	**80**	(62)	37	**55**
Refuse Collection and Recycling	**117**	(117)	5	**5**	(83)	150	**72**
Car Parks	**171**		20	**191**	-	88	**279**
Crematorium	**326**	-	36	**362**	-	34	**396**
Knotweed Treatment	**18**	-	-	**18**	-	-	**18**
Elections	**224**	-	102	**326**	-	30	**356**
Budget Carry Forwards	**391**	(391)	407	**407**	(18)	38	**427**
Parks & Open Spaces	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	11	**11**
Economic Growth							
Planning	**115**	(56)	71	**130**	-	34	**164**
Development and Building Control	**15**	-	-	**15**	-	-	**15**
Buildings	**17**	-	-	**17**	-	-	**17**
Coastal Park	**44**	-	-	**44**	(40)	-	**4**
Enabling Growth Strategy	**49**	-	-	**49**	-	-	**49**
Nuclear Activities	**792**	(76)	150	**866**	(108)	96	**854**
Localism Grants	**-**	-	39	**39**	(14)	-	**25**
Budget Carry Forwards	**37**	(73)	37	**1**	-	3	**4**
Business Development	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	510	**510**
Contribution Sports & Leisure Strategy	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	25	**25**
Digital Research Project	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	25	**25**
Tourism	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	399	**399**
Well Whitehaven	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	709	**709**
Work & Skills Programme	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	234	**234**
Total	**8,670**	**(1,119)**	**3,097**	**10,648**	**(591)**	**2,719**	**12,776**

11. Other operating expenditure

2017/18 Restated*	Other Operating Income and Expenditure	2018/19
£'000		£'000
917	Parish council precepts	1,005
29	Pension Administration Costs	35
(1,717)	(Gain) / Loss on Disposal of Non Current Assets	28
(771)	**Total**	**1,068**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

12. Financing and investment income and expenditure

2017/18 Restated*	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	2018/19
£'000		£'000
1,017	Interest Payable and similar charges	1,010
621	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	568
(133)	Interest receivable and similar income	(255)
79	Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(516)
1,584	**Total**	**807**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

13. Taxation and Non-specific grant income

2017/18 £'000	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	2018/19 £'000
(5,044)	Council tax income	(5,182)
(1,553)	Non-domestic rates income and expenditure	(3,410)
(2,957)	Non-ringfenced government grants	(2,768)
(607)	Capital grants and contributions	-
(10,161)	**Total**	**(11,360)**

14. Expenditure and income analysed by nature

The Council's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

Expenditure/Income	2017/18 Restated* £'000	2018/19 £'000
Expenditure		
Employee benefits expenses	9,167	10,781
Other services expenses	26,351	24,488
Depreciation, amortisation, revaluation and impairment	3,353	2,151
Interest payments	1,017	1,010
Precepts and levies	917	1,005
Decrease in fair value of investment properties	250	96
Loss on the disposal of assets	(1,717)	28
Total Expenditure	**39,338**	**39,559**
Income		
Fees, charges and other service income	(10,130)	(11,637
Increase in fair value of investment properties	(62)	(415)
Interest and Investment income	(133)	(591)
Income from council tax and non-domestic rates	(6,597)	(8,592)
Government grants and contributions	(20,304)	(17,834)
Total Income	**(37,226)**	**(39,069)**
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**2,112**	**490**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

15. Property, Plant and Equipment

Movements in 2018/19

	Land & Buildings £'000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £'000	Infrastructure £'000	Community Assets £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £'000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment £'000
Cost or Valuation								
As at 1 April 2018	20,943	5,575	7,313	204	2,399	-	36,434	4,835
Additions	61	553	-	-	-	-	614	34
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(279)	-	-	-	2	-	(277)	121
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(336)	-	-	-	(20)	-	(356)	-
De-recognition - Disposals	(28)	(214)	-	-	-	-	(242)	-
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	26	-	26	-
Other movements in cost or valuation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	**20,361**	**5,914**	**7,313**	**204**	**2,407**	**-**	**36,199**	**4,990**
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
As at 1 April 2018	-	4,223	5,121	-	-	-	9,344	-
Charged in year	1,165	310	400	-	-	-	1,875	153
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	(1,034)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,034)	(153)
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(131)	-	-	-	-	-	(131)	-
De-recognition - Disposal	-	(214)	-	-	-	-	(214)	-
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	-	**4,319**	**5,522**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**9,840**	-
Net Book Value	-							
As at 31 March 2019	20,361	1,595	1,792	204	2,407	-	26,359	4,990
As at 1 April 2018	20,943	1,352	2,192	204	2,399	-	27,090	4,835

Movements in 2017/18

	Land & Buildings Restated* £'000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £'000	Infrastructure £'000	Community Assets Restated* £'000	Surplus Assets Restated* £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £'000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment Restated* £'000
Cost or Valuation								
As at 1 April 2017	19,323	5,890	7,313	196	2,599	1,144	36,465	4,840
Additions	79	160	-	-	-	287	526	18
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	93	-	-	-	-	-	93	(23)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	46	-	-	-	-	-	46	-
De-recognition - Disposals	-	-	-	-	(200)	-	(200)	-
De-recognition - Other	-	(475)	-	(22)	-	-	(497)	-
Reclassifications	1,401	-	-	30	-	(1,431)	-	-
Other movements in cost or valuation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2018	**20,943**	**5,575**	**7,313**	**204**	**2,399**	**-**	**36,434**	**4,835**
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
As at 1 April 2017	-	4,101	4,696	-	-	-	8,797	-
Charged in year	1,032	545	425	-	-	-	2,002	144
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	(1,020)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,020)	(144)
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(12)	-	-	-	-	-	(12)	-
Impairment losses/(reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
De-recognition - Other	-	(423)	-	-	-	-	(423)	-
At 31 March 2018	-	**4,223**	**5,121**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**9,344**	**-**
Net Book Value								
As at 31 March 2018	20,943	1,352	2,192	204	2,399	-	27,090	4,835
As at 31 March 2017	19,323	1,789	2,617	196	2,599	1,144	27,668	4,840

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

The Council carries out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at fair value is re-valued at least every five years. Following audit comments a revaluation of all land and buildings has been carried out for 2018/19 and 2017/18. Further details are contain in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustments.

Valuations were carried out by Montague Evans (UK) Ltd. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Details are disclosed in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

The history of asset valuations is as follows:

	Land & Buildings £'000	Surplus Assets £'000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £'000
Carried at Historic Cost	-	-	-
Valued at fair value as at:			
31 March 2019	20,352	2,407	**22,759**
31 March 2018	-	-	-
31 March 2017	-	-	-
31 March 2016	-	-	-
31 March 2015	9	-	9
Total	**20,361**	**2,407**	**22,768**

Surplus assets comprise land holdings from which the Council does not provide services, and which do not meet the criteria required in order to be classified as either investment properties or assets held for sale.

All Surplus Assets have been re-valued as at 31 March 2019 at fair value by Montague Evans (UK) Ltd. A description of the different levels of the hierarchy used in fair value valuations and an analysis of the Council's Surplus Assets between them, is shown in the table below.

Level	Fair Value at 31 March 2018 Restated* £000	Fair Value at 31 March 2019 Restated* £000
Other significant observable inputs (Level 2)	152	445
Unobservable inputs (Level 3)	2,247	1,962
Total	**2,399**	**2,407**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Category	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) at 31 March 2018 Restated* £000	Unobserv-able inputs (Level 3) at 31 March 2018 Restated* £000	Fair Value at 31 March 2018 Restated* £000	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) at 31 March 2019 £000	Unobserv-able inputs (Level 3) at 31 March 2019 £000	Fair Value at 31 March 2019 £000
Development land parcels	152	2,220	2,372	418	1,962	2,380
Car park land	-	27	27	27	-	27
Total	**152**	**2,247**	**2,399**	**445**	**1,962**	**2,407**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Surplus Assets Categorised Within Level 3

	31 March 2018 Restated* £000	31 March 2019 £000
Opening Balance	1,956	2,247
Transfers Into Level 3	291	-
Transfers out of Level 3	-	(293)
Total gains or losses resulting from changes in Fair Value	-	(18)
Transfers from Asset Held for Sale	-	26
Total	**2,247**	**1,962**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

At 31 March 2018 and 31 March 2019 there were no outstanding contractual commitments for the acquisition of Property, Plant and Equipment.

16. Heritage assets

Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets Held by the Council.

	Civic Regalia £'000	Paintings and Fine Art £'000	Museum Exhibits £'000	Total Assets £'000
Cost or valuation				
1 April 2017	**208**	**780**	**581**	**1,569**
Revaluations Impairment Losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-
31 March 2018	208	780	581	**1,569**
Revaluations Impairment Losses/(reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-
31 March 2019	208	780	581	**1,569**

An insurance valuation was carried out by H. R. Naylor ASFAV on 17 November 2012 on all Beacon Museum exhibits and material items within the Copeland Collection paintings. There have been no acquisitions or disposals relating to the heritage assets contained within the Balance Sheet since that time.

Heritage assets held by the Council consist of Civic Regalia, Paintings, Fine Arts and Museum Exhibits, which are exhibited or stored in the Beacon Museum, the Museum Resource Centre at Haig Enterprise Park, the Museum Store at Moresby or the Copeland Centre.

The assets are generally carried in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation based on open market replacement. Exceptionally, 67 assets are carried at a total historic cost of £11k. Museum exhibits of an estimated individual value of less than £500 (unless considered a high risk by the curator), and a number of smaller value items where no historical cost data is available, are not carried in the Balance Sheet on the basis that the cost of valuing the items would be disproportionate in comparison to the benefit to the users of the Council's financial statements.

Civic Regalia - Items of jewellery and civic regalia are carried in the Balance Sheet at an insurance valuation of £208k based on a current estimate of market value by Michael King Ltd. in February 2012.

Paintings and Fine Arts - The Copeland Collection consists of paintings and sculptures on display or stored in the Beacon Museum and other public buildings. It includes four paintings by Robert Salmon with a combined value of £310k. Assets are included in the Balance Sheet at a value of £780k based on a valuation by H.R. Naylor ASFAV in November 2012.

Museum Exhibits - The collection as a whole has been considered for valuation purposes, with the museum curator seeking an external professional valuation to be carried out on any individual asset that they deem to have a value in excess of £500 or are considered to be at a higher risk. This has resulted in a combined valuation totalling £1,325k, and represents the insurance valuations of the individual assets within the collection. These valuations are based on an estimate of market replacement values and are carried out every five years, with the last valuation being carried out in November 2012.

The residual items – those deemed to be worth less than £500 individually by the museum curator, have been excluded from the Balance Sheet as neither historic cost nor valuations are held and the Council believes the cost of valuing these assets would be disproportionate to their actual value.

Museum Collection assets are made up of the following categories:

- Archaeology
- Geographical and Natural Sciences
- The Norman Roberts Collection
- Decorative Arts
- Historic Pictures
- Print Collection Fine Arts
- Maps
- Photographs
- Social History
- Other collections

As well as assets held and displayed in buildings, the Council also owns other heritage assets, which are in situ throughout Copeland. These comprise buildings or structures for which there is no recorded historic cost, and therefore they are not carried on the Balance Sheet.

The Council's policies on Heritage Assets, which includes details of the collection's acquisition, preservation, management, disposal and documentation, can be accessed on the Beacon website.

17. Investment properties

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

	2017/18 Restated £'000	2018/19 £'000
Rental income from investment property	(169)	(336)
Net (gains)/losses from fair value adjustments	182	(356)
(Gain)/loss on disposal of investment property	5	38
Direct operating expenses arising from investment property	61	138
Net (gain)/loss on investment Properties in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	**79**	**(516)**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property nor on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property, but has obligations for repairs and maintenance on some of its investment properties. The following table summarises the movements in the fair value of investment properties in the Balance Sheet over the year:

	2017/18 Restated £'000	2018/19 £'000
Balance at start of the year	**4,631**	**4,444**
Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	(182)	356
Disposals/De-recognition	(5) -	(38)
Balance at end of the year	**4,444**	**4,762**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Investment properties have been re-valued as at 31 March 2019 at fair value (using a combination of Level 2 – other significant observable inputs and Level 3 – unobservable inputs) by Montague Evans. Details of the Council's investment properties and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 31 March 2019 are shown below.

Category	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) at 31 March 2018	Unobserv-able inputs (Level 3) at 31 March 2018	Fair Value at 31 March 2018	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2) at 31 March 2019	Unobserv able inputs (Level 3) at 31 March 2019	Fair Value at 31 March 2019
	Restated	Restated	Restated			
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Garage sites	154	-	154	213	2	215
Grazing plots	531	-	531	482	-	482
Industrial units	2,209	-	2,209	2,389	-	2,389
Offices and other commercial premises	1,505	-	1,505	1,502	-	1,502
Other	45	-	45	173	1	174
Total	**4,444**	-	**4,444**	**4,759**	**3**	**4,762**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Investment Properties Categorised Within Level 3

	31 March 2018	31 March 2019
	Restated	
	£000	£000
Opening Balance	6	0
Transfers Into Level 3	-	3
Transfers out of Level 3	(1)-	-
Disposal/De-recognition	(5)	-
Total	**0**	**3**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

In estimating the fair value of the Council's investment properties, the highest and best use of the properties is their current use.

At 31 March 2019, contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements amounted to £109k (2018 - nil).

18. Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for software as intangible assets. This is only software that is not an integral part of computer equipment, which is accounted for as Property, Plant and Equipment. All intangible assets are given a finite useful life based on the number of years the software is expected to be used by the Council. The intangible assets are amortised on a straight line basis over their useful life. In 2018/19 the amortisation of £6k was charged to revenue for Building Control under the Planning and Economic Development directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. In 2017/18 the amortisation of £24k was charged to revenue; £15k for Management Information Services under the Corporate Services directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement; £6k for Building Control and £3k for Economic Development both under the Planning and Economic Development directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The movement on Intangible Assets is shown below.

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Cost or Valuation		
As at 1 April	1,698	1,698
Additions - Purchases	-	98
At 31 March	**1,698**	**1,796**
Accumulated Amortisation and Impairment		
As at 1 April	1,667	1,691
Charged in year	24	6
At 31 March	**1,691**	**1,697**
Net Book Value		
As at 31 March	7	99
As at 1 April	31	7

19. Financial instruments

Reclassification and re-measurement of financial assets at 1 April 2018

The effect of reclassification of financial assets following the adoption of IFRS9 Financial Instruments by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting has not resulted in any re-measurement to the carrying amounts of assets or liabilities

The adoption of IFRS9 Financial Instruments has had no impact on the general fund or financial instrument revaluation reserve. The effect of the adoption of IFRS9 has had no material impact on the measurement of impairment loss allowances and no opening balances have therefore been restated.

Categories of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of financial assets presented in the Balance Sheet relate to the following measurement categories as defined in IFRS9 and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

Financial Assets

c	Non Current Debtors		Current Investments		Current Cash & Cash Equivalents		Current Debtors	
	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000
Amortised Cost	52	10	20,067	15,155	6,093	11,765	1,201	1,194
Total Financial assets	**52**	**10**	**20,067**	**15,155**	**6,093**	**11,765**	**1,201**	**1,194**
Non Financial Assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,124	4,313
Total	**52**	**10**	**20,067**	**15,155**	**6,093**	**11,765**	**5,325**	**5,507**

Financial Liabilities

	Non Current Borrowing		Non Current Other Long Term Liabilities		Current Borrowing		Current Creditors	
	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000	31-Mar-18 £'000	31-Mar-19 £'000
Amortised Cost	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,310)	(5,207)	(61)	(60)	(2,407)	(2,510)
Total Financial liabilities	**(5,000)**	**(5,000)**	**(5,310)**	**(5,207)**	**(61)**	**(60)**	**(2,407)**	**(2,510)**
Non Financial Liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	(4,793)	(4,334)
Total	**(5,000)**	**(5,000)**	**(5,310)**	**(5,207)**	**(61)**	**(60)**	**(7,200)**	**(6,844)**

Material Soft Loans made by the Council

The Council historically made interest-free loans to homeowners so they could make improvements to their properties, bringing them to a habitable condition. The loan becomes repayable when ownership transfers. Individually these are not material amounts but are disclosed in aggregate. There were no soft loans in 2018/19.

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Opening balance at start of year	**427**	**-**
Fair value adjustment on initial recognition	-	-
Loans repaid	-	-
Other changes	(427)	-
Closing balance at end of year	**-**	**-**

Income, Expense, Gains and Losses

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments are as follows.

	2017/18			2018/19		
	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost £'000	Financial Assets: Loans and receivables £'000	Total £'000	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost £'000	Financial Assets: Loans and receivables £'000	Total £'000
Interest Expense	1,017	-	**1,017**	1,010	-	**1,010**
Total expense in the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**1,017**	**-**	**1,017**	**1,010**	**-**	**1,010**
Interest Income	-	(48)	**(48)**	-	(255)	**(255)**
Total income in the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**-**	**(48)**	**(48)**	**-**	**(255)**	**(255)**
Net (gain)/loss for the year	**1,017**	**(48)**	**969**	**1,010**	**(255)**	**755**

Fair Values of Assets and Liabilities

Financial liabilities and financial assets held by the Council are classified as loans and receivables, long-term debtors and creditors and are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. The Council does not hold any financial instruments on the Balance Sheet at fair value, for which there is a requirement also separately to disclose their fair value using the following levels of evidence:

Level 1	Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets/liabilities that the Council can access at the measurement date
Level 2	Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
Level 3	Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

Except for the financial assets carried at fair value (the Council does not hold any financial assets held at fair value, described above), all other financial liabilities and financial assets represented by amortised cost and long-term debtors and creditors are carried on the balance sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that take place over the remaining life of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- For non-PWLB loans payable, PWLB prevailing market borrowing rates have been applied to provide the fair value under PWLB debt redemption procedures;
- For loans receivable prevailing benchmark market rates have been used to provide the fair value;
- No early repayment or impairment is recognised;
- Where an instrument has a maturity of less than 12 months or is a trade or other receivable the fair value is taken to be the carrying amount or the billed amount;
- The fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

All financial assets are classed as amortised cost and held with money market funds and notice accounts. The financial liability is held with a market lender. None of these investments and borrowings were quoted on an active market and so a Level 1 valuation is not available. Fair value has been calculated using a net present value approach above, which provides an estimate of the value of payments in the future in today's terms as at the Balance Sheet date. Given that the interest rates/discount factors, which will determine the present value are observable inputs, this is a Level 2 assessment.

The fair values calculated are as follows:

Financial liabilities	**31 March 2018**		**31 March 2019**	
	Carrying Amount £'000	**Fair Value (Level 2) £'000**	**Carrying Amount £'000**	**Fair Value (Level 2) £'000**
PFI Finance Lease	4,994	7,090	4,680	6,629
Other Finance Lease	805	805	1,068	1,068
LOBO Commercial Loan	5,061	9,516	5,000	9,627

The fair value of the liabilities is greater than the carrying amount because the Council's PFI and loan are fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the rates available for similar loans in the market at the balance sheet date. This shows a notional future loss (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2019) arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders above current market rates.

If the Council were to seek to avoid the projected loss by repaying the LOBO loan at assumed PWLB redemption yields, the bank would raise a penalty charge for early redemption. The exit price under this basis including the penalty charge and accrued interest would be £10.940m.

Fair Value of financial assets	31 March 2018		31 March 2019	
	Carrying Amount £'000	Fair Value £'000	Carrying Amount £'000	Fair Value £'000
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6,093	6,093	11,765	11,765
Short Term Investments	20,067	20,067	15,155	15,155
Debtors	1,253	1,253	1,204	1,204

Debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value.

20. Debtors

	31 March 2018 (Restated)		31 March 2019	
	Current £'000	Long Term £'000	Current £'000	Long Term £'000
Trade receivables	445	-	365	-
Council tax receivable	1,128	-	1,133	-
NNDR receivable	385	-	1,610	-
Housing benefit overpayments	72	-	53	-
Other taxation and social security	858	-	744	-
Rents Receivable			214	
Other receivables	2,437	52	1,388	10
Total	**5,325**	**52**	**5,507**	**10**

The 2017/18 debtors have been restated to reflect the revised debtors classifications for 2018/19.

Past due or impaired assets in relation to non IFRS9financial assets

An age analysis of nonIFRS9 financial assets, comprising Council Tax, NNDR and Housing Benefit overpayments that are past due but not impaired is as follows:

	31 March 2018				31 March 2019			
Past due status	Council Tax £'000	NNDR £'000	Housing benefit over payment £'000	Total £'000	Council Tax £'000	NNDR £'000	Housing benefit over payment £'000	Total £'000
Past due less than 12 months	597	282	323	1,202	339	722	225	1,290
Past due more than 12 months	661	177	569	1,407	951	138	704	1,793
Total	**1,258**	**459**	**892**	**2,609**	**1,290**	**860**	**929**	**3,079**

A summary of the loss allowance at the Balance Sheet date analysed by class of debtor and showing the amounts determined on an individual and collective basis.

	31 March 2018			31 March 2019		
	Individual impairment £'000	Collective impairment £'000	Total £'000	Individual impairment £’000	Collective impairment £’000	Total £’000
Council tax	-	(130)	(130)	-	(157)	(157)
NNDR	-	(74)	(74)	-	(68)	(68)
Housing benefits overpayment	-	(819)	(819)	-	(876)	(876)
Total Loss Allowance	**-**	**(1,023)**	**(1,023)**	**-**	**(1,101)**	**(1,101)**

21. Cash and cash equivalents

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents consists of the following elements:

	31 March 2018 £’000	31 March 2019 £’000
Cash held by the Council	4	2
Bank current accounts	146	45
Short-term investments	5,943	11,918
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	**6,093**	**11,965**

22. Assets held for sale

	2017/18 Restated* £’000	2018/19 £’000
Balance outstanding at start of year	**3,941**	**41**
Assets newly classified as Property, Plant & Equipment transferred from held for sale	-	(26)
Assets sold	(3,900)	-
Balance outstanding at year-end	**41**	**15**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

23. Short Term Creditors

	31 March 2018 (restated) £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Trade payables	(13)	(1)
Other payables	(2,439)	(2,888)
Deferred income	(1,122)	(782)
Finance lease liabilities	(188)	(234)
PFI deferred liability	(301)	(307)
Other taxation and social security	(104)	(161)
Council tax received in advance	(89)	(98)
NNDR received in advance	(2,848)	(2,206)
Accumulated absences	(96)	(168)
Total	**(7,200)**	**(6,844)**

The 2017/18 creditors have been restated to reflect the revised creditors classifications for 2018/19.

24. Provisions

Short Term Provisions	NNDR Appeals Provision £'000	Other Provisions £'000	Total £'000
Balance as at 1 April 2017	**(444)**	**(90)**	**(534)**
New provision raised 2017/18	(2,226)	(31)	(2,257)
Utilised in 2017/18	330	-	330
Balance as at 1 April 2018	**(2,340)**	**(121)**	**(2,461)**
New provision raised 2018/19	-	-	-
Utilised in 2018/19	186	30	216
Unused amounts reversed in year	689	-	689
Balance as at 31 March 2019	**(1,465)**	**(91)**	**(1,556)**

NNDR Appeals Provision - all business ratepayers can appeal against the value of their premises, which is set by the Valuation Office Agency and used to calculate the amount of rates payable. If an appeal is successful, the value reduces, as does the amount payable. A number of ratepayers have appealed against the values in effect from 2010/11 to date. The provision is made to meet any refunds of rates. The total provision at 31 March 2019 is £3,663k, which has been made by the Government (£1,832k), the Council (£1,465k) and the County Council (£366k). It is based on 4.2% for all rateable properties.

Other Provisions – all other provisions are individually insignificant.

25. Usable reserves

Movements in the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement (page 29) and there are further details of the earmarked reserves movements in note 10 (page 71).

Usable Reserves	As at 31 March 2018 £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
General Reserves	(3,251)	(2,756)
Earmarked Reserves	(10,648)	(12,776)
Total General Fund Reserve	**(13,899)**	**(15,532)**
Capital Receipts Reserve	(6,679)	(5,327)
Capital Grants Unapplied	(556)	(1,781)
Total Usable reserves	**(21,134)**	**(22,640)**

26. Unusable reserves

Unusable Reserves	As at 31 March 2018 Restated* £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
Revaluation Reserve	(12,047)	(12,098)
Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	(152)	(150)
Capital Adjustment Account	(13,352)	(13,011)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	607	232
Pensions Reserve	23,680	26,972
Accumulated Absences Account	96	168
Total Unusable Reserves	**(1,168)**	**2,113**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Revaluation Reserve - The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost; used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or disposed of and the gains are realised.

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

As at 31 March 2018 Restated* £'000	Revaluation Reserve	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
(16,002)	**Balance at 1 April**	**(12,047)**
(1,961)	Upward revaluation of assets	(1,212)
848	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	455
(1,113)	**Surplus or Deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services**	**(757)**
507	Difference between fair value and historical cost depreciation	706
4,561	Accumulated gains on assets sold, transferred or scrapped	-
5,068	**Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account**	**706**
(12,047)	**Balance at 31 March**	**(12,098)**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

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

As at 31 March 2018 £'000	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
(629)	**Balance at 1 April**	**(152)**
477	Amounts written off	-
-	Transferred to usable capital receipts	2
(152)	**Balance at 31 March**	**(150)**

Capital Adjustment Account – The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or subsequent costs as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert current and fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and subsequent costs.

The account contains accumulated gains and losses on investment properties. The account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before the 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

As at 31 March 2018 Restated* £'000	Capital Adjustment Account	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
(13,742)	**Balance at 1 April**	**(13,352)**
	Reversal of Items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	
2,002	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	1,874
58	Revaluation Gains / (Losses) on Property Plant and Equipment and Assets Held for Sale charged to the CIES	224
24	Amortisation of intangible assets	6
1,732	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	2,214
4,173	Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	28
7,873		**4,346**
(5,068)	Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(706)
2,805	**Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year**	**3,640**
	Capital Financing applied in the year:	
(807)	Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(1,354)
(1,256)	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(952)
(31)	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(85)
(493)	Statutory Minimum Revenue Provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund balance	(589)
(16)	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund	-
(2,603)		**(2,980)**
188	Movement in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(319)
(13,352)	**Balance at 31 March**	**(13,011)**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account - The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expense relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains per statutory provisions. The Council uses the account to manage premiums paid on the early redemption of loans, which are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred but reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the expense is posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on council tax.

As at 31 March 2018 £'000	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
51	**Balance at 1 April**	**-**
(51)	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	-
-	**Balance at 31 March**	**-**

Collection Fund Adjustment Account - The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from council taxpayers and business ratepayers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

31 March 2018 £'000	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
(1,384)	**Balance at 1 April**	**607**
1,991	Amount by which Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(375)
607	**Balance at 31 March**	**232**

Pensions Reserve - The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pension for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

As at 31 March 2018 £'000	Pensions Reserve	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
27,274	**Balance at 1 April**	**23,680**
(4,458)	Re-measurements of the net defined benefit liability/asset	2,042
2,487	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2,951
(1,623)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(1,701)
23,680	**Balance at 31 March**	**26,972**

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

As at 31 March 2018 £'000	Accumulated Absences Account	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
87	**Balance at 1 April**	**96**
(87)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(96)
96	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	168
96	**Balance at 31 March**	**168**

27. Cash flow statement – operating activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
48	Interest received	167
(1,017)	Interest paid	(950)

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following non-cash movements:

2017/18 Restated* £'000		2018/19 £'000
2,002	Depreciation	1,875
(58)	Impairments and downward revaluations	225
24	Amortisations	6
135	Increase/(decrease) in impairment for bad debts	53
(289)	Increase/(decrease) in creditors	203
(1,591)	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	317
(9)	(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(28)
863	Movement in pension liability	1,250
4,174	Carrying amount of non-current assets sold	28
1,270	Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(551)
6,521		**3,378**

*Restatement as detailed in Note 2 Prior Period Adjustment

The surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing and financing activities:

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
(5,889)	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	-
(1,256)	Capital grants	(2,263)
(7,145)		**(2,263)**

28. Cash flow statement – investing activities

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
(366)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(178)
(20,000)	Purchase of short term and long term investments	-
-	Other payments for investing activities	2
5,889	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	-
20,000	Proceeds from short term and long term investments	5,000
1,256	Other receipts from investment activities	2,263
6,779	**Net cash flows from investing activities**	**7,087**

29. Cash flow statement – financing activities

2017/18 £'000		2018/19 £'000
(498)	Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and on-Balance Sheet PFI contracts	(589)
(2,296)	Council Tax and NNDR adjustments	(1,251)
(2,794)	**Net cash flows from financing activities**	**(1,840)**

30. Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

	1 April 2018 £'000	Financing cash flows £'000	Acquisition £'000	Other £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Long-term borrowings	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Short term borrowings	61	-	-	(1)	60
Finance lease liabilities	805	(272)	535	-	1,068
PFI finance lease	4,994	(314)	-	-	4,680
Billing Authorities - Council Tax and NNDR adjustments	1,710	(1,251)	-	-	459
Total liabilities from financing activities	**12,570**	**(1,837)**	**535**	**(1)**	**11,267**

The other change for the long-term borrowings relates to the reclassification of the interest accrued but not yet paid to ensure the borrowings are recognised at their principal value. The Council recognises interest paid as cash flows from operating activities.

The finance lease liabilities are the effect of repayments of finance leases and new leases acquired during the year. The acquisition of assets on finance leases are deducted from the value of non-current asset acquisitions recognised in cash flows from investing activities.

The PFI finance lease liability is the effect of the repayment during the year.

The liabilities from the Billing Authorities comprise the difference between:

- The major preceptors' share of the net cash collected from Council Tax payers and net cash paid to major preceptors as precepts and settlement of the previous year's surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund for Council Tax income.
- The Central Government and the major preceptors' share of the net cash collected from Non-Domestic rating debtors and net cash paid to Central Government and major preceptors as precepts and settlement of the previous year's surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund for NNDR income.

31. Trading operations

The Council operates a number of trading units, which are required to operate in a commercial environment and maintain a balanced budget by generating income from third parties; these are included in service expenditure within the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. Details of those units with a turnover of over £100k are as follows:

Charged to Net Cost of Services		2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000
The Council operates pay and display car parks where the running costs include rates, electricity and water charges, maintenance of ticket machines and car parking orders. The operation recovers its costs apart from capital charges, which are mitigated through the Movement in Reserves Statement.	Turnover	(445)	(448)
	Expenditure	453	224
	(Surplus) / deficit	**8**	**(224)**
The Council collects and disposes of waste collected from commercial and non-domestic properties. A charge per collection is made.	Turnover	(319)	(369)
	Expenditure	285	311
	(Surplus) / deficit	**(34)**	**(58)**

32. Members' allowances

The Council paid the following amounts to Members of the Council during the year.

	Restated 2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Allowances	267	262
Expenses	9	6
Total	**276**	**268**

Members' allowances for 2017/18 have been restated to exclude £10k of employers National Insurance contributions that had previously been included in error.

33. Officers' remuneration

The remuneration of the Council's senior employees:

Post Holder information	Note	Year	Salary, Fees & Allowances	Redundancy	Expenses	Benefits in Kind	Total Remuneration excluding Pension	Pension Contributions	Total Remuneration including Pension
Chief Executive (formerly Managing Director)		2018/19	99,713		106	-	**99,819**	15,854	**115,673**
		2017/18	97,505		41	72	**97,618**	14,622	**112,240**
Director of Commercial and Corporate Resources	1	2018/19	21,729	30,000	448	-	**52,177**	-	**52,177**
		2017/18	92,984		5	-	**92,989**	-	**92,989**
Executive Director Operations	2	2018/19	83,481		-	-	**83,481**	13,273	**96,754**
		2017/18	77,644		76	441	**78,161**	11,650	**89,811**
Head of Governance and Commercial	3	2018/19	43,805		-	-	**43,805**	6,965	**50,770**
		2017/18	-		-	-	**-**	-	**-**
Head of Corporate Resources	4	2018/19	65,474		132	-	**65,606**	10,410	**76,016**
		2017/18	-		-	-	**-**	-	**-**
Chief Finance Officer	5	2018/19	50,334		-	-	**50,334**	8,003	**58,338**
		2017/18	-		-	-	**-**	-	**-**
Total		2018/19	**364,536**	**30,000**	**686**	**-**	**395,222**	**54,506**	**449,728**
		2017/18	**268,133**	**0**	**122**	**513**	**268,768**	**26,272**	**295,040**

Notes:

1. *On 3 June 2018 the post of Director of Commercial and Corporate Resources was deleted and their responsibilities transferred to new or revised roles.*
2. *The post of Director of Customer & Community Services was renamed to Executive Director Operations.*
3. *The post of Head of Governance is a new role, with the position being filled on 21 August 2018.*
4. *The Head of Corporate Resources was a role created on 1 June 2018 and ceased on 31 March 2019.*
5. *The Chief Finance Officer was appointed on 4 June 2018.*

The number of employees (including senior employees) whose remuneration, excluding pension contributions, was £50k or more, in bands of £5k was:

Remuneration band (£)	2017/18	2018/19
50,000-54,999	-	4
55,000-59,999	1	-
60,000-64,999	-	-
65,000-69,999	-	1
70,000-74,999	-	-
75,000-79,999	1	-
80,000-84,999	-	1
85,000-89,999	-	-
90,000-94,999	1	-
95,000-99,999	1	1
Total	**4**	**7**

34. External audit costs

During the year, the following fees relating to external audit and inspection were payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP.

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns	15	12
Scale fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor	54	41
Additional fees for external audit	113	100
Total	**182**	**153**

The external audit fee for 2018/19 is expected to be in the region of £141k. This is made up of the scale audit fee of £41k which was paid during 18/19 plus £100k additional charges.

35. Grant income

The Council credited the following grants and contributions to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2017/18 and 2018/19.

Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	2017/18 Restated £'000	2018/19 £'000
Revenue Support Grant	(678)	(377)
PFI Grant	(837)	(837)
Capital Grants and Contributions	(607)	-
New Home Bonus Grant	(670)	(227)
Non-Domestic Rates Relief Grants	(680)	(1,105)
New Burdens Grant	(53)	(105)
Other Grants	(39)	(117)
Total	**(3,564)**	**(2,768)**

Credited to Services	2017/18 Restated £'000	2018/19 £'000
Council Tax 2nd Home Discount Grant	(155)	-
Rent Allowance Subsidy	(15,887)	(14,237)
Administration Grants	(396)	(203)
Social Investment Funding	(533)	-
Well Whitehaven	-	(750)
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital	(908)	(952)
Other Grants	(1,782)	(1,802)
Total	**(19,661)**	**(17,944)**

36. Related parties

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

Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides part of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. housing benefits and Council Tax bills). Grants received from Government departments are shown on page 74 notes.

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of Members' allowances paid in 2018/19 is disclosed in Note 31 on page 97. In addition, details of any transactions (if they exist) are recorded in the Register of Members' Interests, open to public inspection at the Council's offices or on the Council's website. This is in addition to specific declarations obtained in respect of Related Party Transactions.

Material transactions that have taken place with related parties during 2018/19 are as follows:

Copeland Community Fund - The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) established the fund in December 2007 to recognise the unique part a community plays in hosting a low-level nuclear waste storage facility.

The Fund is administered by a project board of eight members two of which are from the Council - Councillor David Moore and Elected Mayor Mike Starkie. In addition, there are two members from Cumbria County Council, one from the NDA, one from the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) and two independent members. The Fund is an agreement negotiated with the Government to recognise the service Copeland provides to the nation by hosting the repository close to the village of Drigg. The overriding principle is that the Fund is managed to provide a benefit to the residents of Copeland even after the borough has ceased receiving waste.

The Council received £203k from the Fund in 2018/19 to pay for the costs of staffing and the management charges required to administer the activities of the Fund (£203k in 2017/18).

North Country Leisure / Greenwich Leisure Limited - The Council has a contract with the above for the provision of leisure services at Whitehaven Leisure Centre, Whitehaven Swimming Pool and Cleator Moor Bowls.

There are two Copeland Councillors on the board. NCL was paid £228k during 2018/19 (£228k in 2017/18).

The Council is a member of, and has voting rights in, Energy Coast West Cumbria Ltd (ECWC). As it is a partnership with a number of other parties with decisions covered by majority voting, where the Council is a minority partner, it is not appropriate for the Council to consolidate ECWC in the group accounts.

ECWC aims to support new business initiatives and to promote economic development. West Cumbria is facing significant losses of employment opportunities following the decommissioning of the Sellafield nuclear facility. The Board membership comprises:

Nuclear Decommissioning Agency	1 Nominated Members
Cumbria County Council	1 Nominated Member
Copeland Borough Council	1 Nominated Member
Allerdale Borough Council	1 Nominated Member
Independent Board Members	4 selected by Nolan Principles one of the independent members is elected as Chair.

Officers of the Council - Related parties in respect of officers are only required to be disclosed where control exists. During the year, no such relationship existed.

Other public bodies - Transactions in relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by Your Pension Service, run by Cumbria County Council, are set out on page 92.

Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council

The Council continues to work with partners across a range of areas. This support is made in a number of ways but can include:

- Acting as the Accountable Body. The Council effectively becomes the conduit enabling available funding streams to be accessed in a more effective manner. As the Council is underwriting performance on these projects for which grants have been obtained, it is incurring a financial risk. However, without this position being taken, many sources of funding would not be available.
- Providing administrative and advisory support.
- Providing political support through the involvement of Members.
- Providing technical expertise.

Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners

During the year the Council agreed to act as accountable body on behalf of Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners (WHC). Grant funding was provided by the then Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) as part of the Coastal Community Fund in order to support the commissioners' 'Old New Quay' Project. The Council agreed to receive a Section 31 Grant from DCLG in order for expedient release of funds to support the project. During the year the council received £263k and subsequently paid the same amount to WHC.

37. Capital expenditure and capital financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year (investment) is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PFI contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the Council, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed. The movement in the CFR is analysed in the second part of the note.

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	**7,709**	**7,364**
Capital Investment		
Property, Plant and Equipment	526	614
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	1,732	2,214
Intangible Assets	-	98
Sources of Finance		
Capital receipts	(807)	(1,355)
Governments grants and other contributions	(1,287)	(952)
Application of Capital Grants Unapplied	-	(85)
Sums set aside from revenue	(16)	-
Minimum revenue provision	(493)	(589)
Closing Capital Finance Requirement	**7,364**	**7,309**
Explanation of movements in year		
Increase/(decrease) in underlying need to borrow (unsupported by government financial assistance)	(345)	(55)
Total movement in year	**(345)**	**(55)**

There is an underlying difference of £388k in the opening capital financing requirement which relates to adjustments in respect of Home Improvement Loans in 2009/10 and 2010/11.

38. Leases

Council as Lessee

Finance Leases - The Council uses light vans, medium vans, tipper trucks, refuse collection vehicles, specialised environmental cleansing vehicles, grounds maintenance tractors and other specialised items of plant, financed under terms of finance leases.

The Council leases all its vehicles and plant for periods of up to 10 years through a contract with a single supplier, which was awarded through a competitive tendering process. At the end of the primary lease period, the Council has the option to enter into a secondary lease at reduced rates but generally, vehicles and plant are returned to the lessor.

There are no purchase options attached to the lease at its inception and the lease costs do not attract annual inflationary increases or increases in financing costs that may be incurred by the lessor over the life of the individual leases.

The assets acquired under these leases are carried as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts:

	As at 31 March 2018 £’000	As at 31 March 2019 £’000
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment	773	1,114
Total	**773**	**1,114**

The Council is committed to making minimum payments under these leases comprising settlement of the long term liability for the interest in the assets acquired by the Council and the finance costs that will be payable by the Council in future years while the liability remains outstanding. The minimum lease payments consist of the following amounts.

	As at 31 March 2018 £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
Finance Lease liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments)		
Current	188	234
Non-current	617	834
Finance costs payable in future years	207	240
Minimum lease payments	**1,012**	**1,308**

The minimum lease payments will be made over the following periods.

	Minimum Lease Payments		Finance Lease Liabilities	
	As at 31 March 2018 £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000	As at 31 March 2018 £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
Not later than 1 year	263	335	188	234
Later than 1 year and not later than five years	746	971	614	832
Later than 5 years	3	2	3	2
Total	**1,012**	**1,308**	**805**	**1,068**

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews (unless agreed at the start of the contract). There are no contingent rents in respect of the above leases.

Council as Lessor

Operating Leases - The Council sublets portions of the Copeland Centre (disclosed under the PFI page 106) to the Department for Work and Pensions under an operating lease that run to September 2029. The future minimum lease receipts due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	As at 31 March 2018 £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
Not later than one year	241	241
Later than one year and not later than five years	965	965
Later than five years	1,641	1,400
Total	**2,847**	**2,606**

The minimum lease receipts do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews (unless agreed at the start of the contract). In 2018/19 contingent rents of £214k were receivable by the Council (2017/18 £214k).

In addition to the Copeland Centre above, the Council rents out various parcels of land, commercial buildings and garage plots. All of these properties are classed as investment properties on the Balance Sheet, being held solely for either rental income or capital appreciation, with related rental income and property expenditure being charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Most of these leases are deemed to be operating leases.

The future minimum lease receipts due under non-cancellable leases in future years are estimated as:

	As at 31 March 2018 Restated £'000	As at 31 March 2019 £'000
Not later than one year	82	115
Later than one year and not later than five years	286	240
Later than five years	685	712
Total	**1,053**	**1,067**

The minimum lease receipts do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews (unless agreed at the start of the contract). Contingent rents receivable by the Council relating to these leases in 2018/19 was £44k (2017/18 £21k).

39. Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and similar contracts

Copeland Centre PFI Scheme

The Council entered into a PFI building agreement on 17 September 2004 for a 25-year period, for the main administration centre (the Copeland Centre) in Whitehaven. The contract specifies minimum levels of services to be provided including the provision of:

- maintenance – planned preventative, lifecycle replacement and reactive
- security
- waste disposal
- health, safety and fire protection
- cleaning, both internal and external.

The building is to be available to the Council between 7.15am and 6.45pm during the normal working week plus additional hours within limits.

At the end of the 25-year period, the Council has the choice of:

- purchasing the facilities by paying the provider an amount equal to the market value of the residual head lease interest (being 125 years)
- retendering for the provision of services
- pursuing neither option.

The Copeland Centre is recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet. Movements in the value over the year are detailed in the analysis of Property, Plant and Equipment on page 1575.

The Council was committed at 31 March 2019 to making the following payments under the Copeland Centre PFI scheme:

	Repayments of Liability	Interest (excluding contingent rents)	Service charges	Lifecycle replacement costs	Contingent rents	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Due within one year	307	392	644	208	440	**1,991**
Due within 2-5 years	1,328	1,297	2,742	1,151	1,953	**8,471**
Due within 6-10 years	2,684	876	3,832	1,113	3,334	**11,839**
Due within 11-15 years	361	30	383	-	409	**1,183**
Total	**4,680**	**2,595**	**7,601**	**2,472**	**6,136**	**23,484**

Prices are based on an estimate of the cash amount that will actually be paid and therefore include estimated inflationary increases. Payments can also be reduced if the contractor fails to meet performance and availability standards.

The Council has the following liability resulting from the Copeland Centre PFI scheme.

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
As at 1 April	**5,268**	**4,994**
Finance Lease Liability Redemption Payments During Year	(274)	(314)
As at 31 March	**4,994**	**4,680**
Short Term	301	307
Long Term	4,693	4,373
Total	**4,994**	**4,680**

40. Impairment Losses

There have been no impairment losses during 2018/19, nor were there any during 2017/18.

41. Termination Benefits

The number of exit packages with the total cost band total cost of compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below. There were no compulsory redundancies in 2017/18 or 2018/19.

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of other agreed departures		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band	
	2017/18 No.	2018/19 No.	2017/18 No.	2018/19 No.	2017/18 £	2018/19 £
Up to £20,000	7	-	7	-	94,342	-
£20,001-£40,000	1	1	1	1	30,000	27,573
£40,001-£60,000	2	-	2	-	101,831	-
Total	10	1	**10**	**1**	**226,173**	**27,573**

42. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its staff, the Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments (for those benefits) and to disclose them at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Cumbria Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions' liabilities with investment assets. The LGPS is a statutory scheme operated under the regulatory framework established under the Superannuation Act 1972. This framework sets out the administrative arrangements and processes for the scheme, specifies the nature and amounts of benefits payable and establishes the basis for calculating contributions payable by the Council and its employees.

Cumbria County Council is the administering authority for the Cumbria LGPS and is responsible for administering the scheme - collecting employer and employee contributions, maintaining members' records and paying out benefits; and investing the accumulated contributions of the scheme until they are used to pay the benefits. The Cumbria Pensions Committee is responsible for ensuring that these responsibilities are discharged in accordance with the relevant regulations and that appropriate governance arrangements are in place and operating effectively.

The principal risks to the Council of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme, changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of equity investments. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge the General Fund the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

In addition, there are arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement – this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.

Transactions Relating to Post-Employment Benefits

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the net cost of services when earned by the employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge made against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year. In order to make this adjustment, the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Cost of services		
Service cost comprising:		
Current service cost	1,686	1,903
Curtailments	151	58
Administration expense	29	35
Past service cost	-	387
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		
Net interest expense	621	568
Total Post-employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**2,487**	**2,951**
Other Post-employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:		
Actuarial (gains) and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	(3,453)	4,934
Re-measurement of plan assets	(1,005)	(2,892)
Total Other Post-employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	**(4,458)**	**2,042**
Total Post-employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	**(1,971)**	**4,993**
Movement in Reserves Statement		
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	**(2,487)**	**(2,951)**
Actual Amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year		
Employers contributions payable to the scheme	**1,623**	**1,701**

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council's obligation in respect of its defined benefits plans is as follows:

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Present value of the defined benefit obligation	(96,739)	(103,732)
Fair value of plan assets	73,059	76,760
Upfront Pension Deficit Repayment	1,270	642
Net Liability arising from the defined benefit obligation	**(22,410)**	**(26,330)**

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities (defined benefit obligation):

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Benefit obligation at 1 April	**(99,049)**	**(96,739)**
Current service cost	(1,686)	(1,903)
Interest cost	(2,436)	(2,478)
Contribution by scheme participants	(301)	(375)
Re-measurement gains and (losses):		
Actuarial gains and (losses) arising on changes in financial assumptions	3,453	(4,934)
Curtailments	(151)	(58)
Past service (cost) / gain	-	(388)
Benefits Paid	3,431	3,142
Benefit obligation at 31 March	**(96,739)**	**(103,732)**

Reconciliation of the fair value of scheme (plan) assets:

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	**71,775**	**73,059**
Interest income	1,815	1,910
Re-measurement gain/(loss):		
The return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	1,005	2,892
Administration expenses	(29)	(35)
Contributions by employer	1,623	1,701
Contributions by scheme participants	301	375
Benefits paid	(3,431)	(3,142)
Closing fair value of scheme assets	**73,059**	**76,760**

Local Government Pension Scheme assets comprised:

	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000
Equities:		
UK quoted	9,279	7,215
Global quoted	15,635	16,580
UK equity pooled	804	768
Overseas equity pooled	10,594	10,823
Equity Protection	-	998
Bonds:		
UK corporate bonds	4,310	4,682
Overseas corporate bonds	219	154
UK government indexed pooled	12,785	13,740
Property:		
UK	4,676	4,836
Property funds	2,119	2,303
Alternatives:		
Private equity funds	1,753	2,226
Infrastructure funds	4,676	5,987
Real estate debt funds	438	384
Private Debt Fund	1,607	1,842
Healthcare Royalties	292	461
Cash:		
Cash accounts	3,872	3,684
Net current assets	-	77
Total	**73,059**	**76,760**

In summary:

	2017/18 %	2018/19 %
Equities	49.7	47.4
Government bonds	17.5	17.9
Other bonds	6.2	6.3
Property	9.3	9.3
Cash / liquidity	5.3	4.9
Other	12.0	14.2
Total	**100**	**100**

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets.

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years, dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc. Funded and unfunded liabilities have been assessed by Mercer Limited, an independent firm of actuaries using estimates based on the latest full valuation of the scheme at 31 March2016. The significant actuarial assumptions used to determine the present value of the defined benefit obligation are set out in the following table:

	2017/18	2018/19
Life expectancy:		
Current pensioner aged 65 male (female)	23.2(25.8) years	23.3 (25.9) years
Future pensioner aged 65 in 20yr time male (female)	25.5 (28.5) years	25.6 (28.6) years
Rate of CPI inflation	2.1%	2.2%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6%	3.7%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.2%	2.3%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	2.6%	2.4%

The estimated defined benefit obligation is sensitive to changes in the actuarial assumptions set out in the preceding table. The sensitivity analysis below shows how the defined benefit obligation would have been affected by reasonably possible changes in the actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date. The impact of the change in each assumption assumes that all other assumptions remain constant. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis are calculated on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method.

	As at 31 March 2019 £'000	+0.1% p.a. discount rate £'000	+0.1% p.a. inflation £'000	+0.1% p.a. pay growth £'000	+1 year increase in life expectancy £'000
Liabilities	(103,732)	(102,044)	(105,448)	(103,904)	(105,789)
Assets	76,760	76,760	76,760	76,760	76,760
(Deficit) / Surplus	(26,972)	(25,284)	(28,688)	(27,144)	(29,029)
Projected service cost for next year	2,138	2,080	2,198	2,138	2,180
Projected net interest cost for next year	628	611	670	633	678

Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

The objective of the scheme is to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The County Council, as administering body, has agreed a strategy with the scheme's actuary to achieve a funding level of 100% by employers paying additional contributions over a reasonable timeframe.

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for scheme members is 16 years (2017/18 - 16 years). Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation (as at 31 March 2019) is due to be completed by 31 March 2020. The Council anticipates paying £1,827k in employer's contributions to the scheme in 2019/20.

43. Contingent liabilities

The Council has used its best judgement to provide for refunds of non-domestic rates in the event of successful appeals by ratepayers up until 31 March 2019 (see Note 3 page 61). In respect of ratepayers submitting and being successful with appeals against a new valuation list effective from 1 April 2017, the Council has made provision in its accounts in respect of such appeals based on historical experience.

44. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, the key risks are:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council,
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments,
- Re-financing risk – the possibility that the Council might be required to renew a financial instrument on maturity at disadvantageous interest rates or terms,
- Market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council, because of changes in such measures as interest rates movements.

Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The procedures for risk management are set out through a legal framework based on the Local Government Act 2003 and associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code, the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services and investment guidance issued through legislation.

Overall, these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

- by formally adopting the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice;

- by the adoption of a Treasury Policy Statement and treasury management clauses within its financial regulations;

- by approving annually in advance prudential indicators for the following three years limiting the Council's overall borrowing; its maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates; its maximum and minimum exposures of the maturity structure of its debt; and its maximum annual exposure to investments maturing beyond a year;

- by approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year setting out its criteria for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with the Government guidance.

The above are required to be reported and approved at, or before the Council's annual Council Tax setting meeting or before the start of the year to which they relate. They are reported with the annual Treasury Management Strategy, which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Council's financial instruments exposure. Actual performance is also reported quarterly in addition to a mid-year update and final outturn report.

The annual Treasury Management Strategy, which incorporates the prudential indicators, was approved by Council on 20 February 2018. The key issues within the strategy were:

- The Authorised Limit for 2018/19 was set at £17m. This is the maximum limit of external borrowings or other long term liabilities;

- The Operational Boundary was expected to be £12m. This is the expected level of debt and other long term liabilities during the year

- The maximum amounts of fixed and variable interest rate exposure were set at:

	£m
Limits on fixed interest rates based on net debt	5.1
Limits on variable interest rates based on net debt	5.1
Limits on fixed interest rates	
Debt only	5.1
Investments only	100.0
Limits on variable interest rates	
Debt only	5.1
Investments only	100.0

The policies and practices are implemented by a central treasury team. The Council maintains written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies

(Treasury Management Practices – "TMPs") covering specific areas such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash. These TMPs are a requirement of the Code of Practice and are reviewed periodically.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers.

- This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which has regard to the Government's Guidance on Local Government Investments ("the Guidance") and the 2011 revised CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes ("the CIPFA TM Code"). The strategy requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's Credit Ratings Services.

- The Council's investment priorities will be security first, liquidity second and then return.

- The Council uses a creditworthiness service provided by a third party, which uses a sophisticated modelling approach with credit ratings from all three rating agencies forming the core element. It does not rely solely on the current credit ratings of counterparties but also uses credit watches and credit outlooks from rating agencies, credit default swap spreads to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings and sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries.

- The criteria for choosing counterparties set out above provide a sound approach to investment in "normal" market circumstances. During the exceptional market conditions which were experienced in the recent past, the Section 151 Officer restricted further investment activity to those counterparties considered of a higher credit quality than the minimum criteria set out for approval, and this approach has continued. The time periods for investments has also been restricted.

- The Annual Investment Strategy for 2018/19 was approved by the Council on 20 February 2018.

- The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in financial institutions cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk to recoverability applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at the 31 March 2019 that this was likely to crystallise.

The Council had investments with the following financial institutions, listed with credit ratings as per Standard and Poor's Credit Rating Services:

	A+ £'000	A £'000	BBB+ £'000	Unrated £'000	Total £'000
At 31 March 2019					
Royal Bank of Scotland	-	-	10,088	-	**10,088**
Lloyds	5,066	-	-	-	**5,066**
Total					**15,155**
At 31 March 2018					
Royal Bank of Scotland	-	-	10,035	-	**10,035**
Surrey County Council	-	-	-	5,010	**5,010**
Lloyds	-	5,022	-	-	**5,022**
Total	**-**	**5,022**	**10,035**	**5,010**	**20,067**

The Council generally allows 21 days' credit for its trade debtors. The past due amount can be analysed by age as follows:

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
30 - 60 Days Outstanding	57	29
60 - 90 Days Outstanding	83	7
90+ Days Outstanding	345	314
Total	**485**	**350**

During the period there was movement on the bad debt provision for customers as follows:

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Balance at 1 April	**(1,020)**	**(1,155)**
(Increase)/Decrease in provision for year	(134)	(68)
Balance at 31 March	**(1,155)**	**(1,223)**

Liquidity risk

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above (the setting and approval of prudential indicators and the approval of the treasury and investment strategy reports), as well as through a comprehensive cash flow management system, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice. This seeks to ensure that cash is available when it is needed.

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow need, and whilst the PWLB provides access to longer term funds, it also acts as a lender of last resort to councils (although it will not provide funding to a council whose actions are unlawful). The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The maturity analysis of financial assets is as follows:

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Less than one year	27,364	28,316
Between one and five years	14	5
Between five and ten years	18	3
Between ten and fifteen years	7	-
More than fifteen years	10	-
Total	**27,413**	**28,324**

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains a significant debt and investment portfolio. Whilst the cash flow procedures outlined above safeguard the Council against shorter-term risk, there is a longer-term risk to the Council in respect of managing the exposure to replacing longer- term financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to both the maturing of longer term financial liabilities and longer term financial assets.

The approved prudential indicators for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments placed for greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk.

The Council's approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks and the central treasury team addresses the operational risks within the approved parameters. This includes:

- monitoring the maturity profile of financial liabilities and amending the profile through either new borrowing or the rescheduling of the existing debt; and

- monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day-to-day cash flow needs and the spread of longer- term investments provides stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer term cash flow needs.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows, with the maximum and minimum limits for fixed interest rates maturing in each period.

	31 March 2018 £'000	31 March 2019 £'000
Less than one year	(2480)	(2,571)
Between one and five years	(1,908)	(2,160)
Between five and ten years	(2,366)	(2,686)
Between ten and fifteen years	(1,023)	(361)
More than 15 years	(5,000)	(5,000)
Total	**(12,777)**	**(12,778)**

Market risk

Interest rate risk – The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council, depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument periods. For instance, a rise in variable and fixed interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement will rise;
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the borrowing will fall (no impact on revenue balances);
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement will rise; and
- investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall (no impact on revenue balances).

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the Balance Sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. Changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services and affect the General Fund Balance, subject to influences from Government grants.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The Annual Treasury Management Strategy draws together the Council's prudential and treasury indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. From this strategy, a treasury indicator is set, which provides maximum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The central treasury team monitors market and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposures appropriately. For instance, during periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long-term returns. Similarly, the drawing of longer-term fixed rates borrowing would be postponed.

If all interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would have been:

	£'000 +1%
Increase in interest payable on variable rate borrowings	0
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	260
Impact on Surplus or Deficit of the Provision of Services	260
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate investment assets	0
Impact on Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	260
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings liabilities (no impact on Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure)	1,240

The approximate impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the movements being reversed. These assumptions are based on the same methodology as used in the Note – Fair value of Assets and Liabilities carried at Amortised Cost.

Price risk – The Council does not invest in equity shares or marketable bonds and so is not exposed to losses arising from the movements in share prices.

Collection Fund

	2018/19 Council Tax £'000	2018/19 NNDR £'000	2018/19 Total £'000	2017/18 Total £'000
INCOME				
Council Tax amount due	(37,727)		(37,727)	(36,313)
Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)				
Amount due		(42,142)	(42,142)	(40,487)
Reduction in the provision for appeals		(2,187)	(2,187)	-
Contribution to previous year's deficit				
Central Government		-	-	-
Cumbria County Council		-	-	-
Copeland Borough Council		-	-	-
Total Income	**(37,727)**	**(44,329)**	**(82,056)**	**(76,800)**
EXPENDITURE				
Council Tax				
Precepts and demands				
Cumbria County Council	27,340		27,340	25,878
Police and Crime Commissioner	4,776		4,776	4,460
Copeland Borough Council	5,157		5,157	4,926
Distribution of previous year's surplus				
Cumbria County Council	741		741	730
Police and Crime Commissioner	127		127	128
Copeland Borough Council	141		141	141
Non-Domestic Rates				
Shares		17,484	17,484	16,367
Central Government				
Cumbria County Council		3,497	3,497	3,273
Copeland Borough Council		13,987	13,987	13,094
Distribution of previous year's surplus				
Central Government		1,484	1,484	316
Cumbria County Council		297	297	63
Copeland Borough Council		1,187	1,187	253
Cost of Collection		103	103	101
Transitional Protection Payments		5,336	5,336	6,806
Increase in the provision for appeals		-	-	4,740
Increase in the provision for bad debts	279	33	312	220
Write offs				19
Total Expenditure	**38,561**	**43,408**	**81,969**	**81,515**
(Surplus) / Deficit for the year	**834**	**(921)**	**(87)**	**4,715**
(Surplus) / Deficit at 1 April	(1,011)	1,549	538	(4,177)
(Surplus) / Deficit at 31 March	**(177)**	**628**	**451**	**538**

Notes to the Collection Fund

1. COUNCIL TAX

Council Tax income derives from charges raised according to the value of residential properties, which have been classified into eight valuation bands, calculated using estimated 1 April 1991 values for this specific purpose. Individual charges are calculated by estimating the amount of income required to be taken from the Collection Fund by Cumbria County Council, Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner and the Council for the forthcoming year and dividing this by the Council Tax base. The Council Tax base, which is 20,523.35 for 2018/19 (20,200.94 for 2017/18), is the aggregate of an adjusted total number of properties in each valuation band (reduced by allowances for discounts and an estimated collection rate) adjusted by a proportion to convert the number to Band D equivalent chargeable dwellings.

The tax base was calculated as follows:

Band	Number of Properties	Proportion	Band D Equivalent Dwellings
A Disabled	85.50	5/9	47.50
A	16,833.50	6/9	11,222.33
B	4,254.00	7/9	3,308.98
C	3,804.55	8/9	3,381.82
D	2,981.10	9/9	2,981.10
E	1,749.35	11/9	2,138.09
F	415.10	13/9	599.59
G	80.65	15/9	134.42
H	6.50	18/9	13.00
Total			**23,826.83**
Allowance for discounts			2,884.64
Total Equivalent Chargeable Dwellings			20,942.19
Tax Base at 98% Collection Rate			**20,523.35**

The basic amount of Council Tax for a Band D property of £1,767.19 (£1,700.24 for 2017/18) is multiplied by the proportion specified for the particular band to give an individual amount due.

2. NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) is based on local rateable values provided by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) multiplied by a uniform business rate (a “multiplier”) set nationally by Central Government. The national multipliers for 2018/19 were 48.0p for qualifying small businesses and 49.3p for all other businesses (46.6p and 47.9p respectively in 2017/18).

The NNDR income due (after exemptions and reliefs) of £44,364k for 2018/19 (£40,487k in 2017/18) was based on an average rateable value for the Council’s area of £83,731k for the year (£80,782k in 2017/18).

Independent auditor's report to the members of Cumberland Council in respect of Copeland Borough Council

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Disclaimer of Opinion

We were engaged to audit the financial statements of Copeland Borough Council (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19.

We do not express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements of the Authority. Because of the significance of the matters described in the basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Basis for disclaimer of opinion

We were unable to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence in several key areas (which included, but were not limited to):

Inadequate books and records

We identified significant weaknesses in the Authority's financial record keeping. This was not helped by turnover of staff in the finance team and the demise of the Authority on 31 March 2023. These weaknesses in record keeping resulted in management being unable to produce sufficient evidence to support several material account balances and disclosures within the financial statements. The Authority's records were insufficient in respect of reported values for land and buildings, infrastructure, investment property, assets held for sale, depreciation, reserves, gross expenditure, the expenditure and funding analysis and leases. As part of our audit work in respect of Copeland Council we have also become aware of some potentially irregular transactions, involving a member of senior management (at the time) for which we have asked management to investigate further and for which work is currently ongoing. As a result of all of the above, we were unable to obtain assurance that entries within the financial statements were supported by sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

Compliance with capitalisation direction

The Authority suffered a severe cyber-attack in August 2017, which had a significant impact on its IT systems, services and financial reporting. Key Authority IT systems were lost for five weeks and the Authority was without a financial system for eight months. Systems had not been adequately backed up and could not be easily restored resulting in significant cost and disruption to the Authority. The Authority received a capitalisation direction of £0.99 million from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for the year ended 31 March 2019 which enabled it to capitalise costs incurred in responding to the cyber-attack, rather than charging them in full to their annual revenue budget. However, the Authority was unable to provide us with financial records that fully explained the make-up of the cyber-related costs and lost income to support the capitalisation direction issued to them by DLUHC. As a result, we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to enable us to conclude that the cyber-related costs that the Authority capitalised in the year ended 31 March 2019 complied with the terms of the capitalisation direction.

Consequently, we were unable to conclude whether any adjustments were required to the financial statements in respect of this matter.

Use of journals

The Authority did not close its ledger after the completion of the audit for the year ended 31 March 2018. We found evidence that numerous journals had been posted across multiple financial years, including to years for which audits had previously been completed. As a result, we were unable to conclude whether the Authority had provided us with a complete list of journals for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Consequently, we were unable to complete our testing of journals and so were unable to determine whether any adjustments to the Authority's financial statements were necessary in respect of this matter.

Demise of the Authority

The Authority ceased to exist on 1 April 2023 following a reorganisation of local government in Cumbria. The Authority's services, assets and liabilities transferred to its successor body, Cumberland Council, on this date. The Authority has not disclosed this matter within its financial statements, which we consider to be a material omission.

Summary

We considered alternative testing options, but due to the significant difficulties we encountered in respect of inadequate records, turnover in senior finance personnel and the subsequent demise of the Authority we concluded that we were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements. The possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements arising from these matters could be both material and pervasive.

Other information we are required to report on by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

Under the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice) we are required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)' published by CIPFA and SOLACE or is misleading or inconsistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit. We are not required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement addresses all risks and controls or that risks are satisfactorily addressed by internal controls.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matter except that we do not consider that the Annual Governance Statement complies with the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)' published by CIPFA and SOLACE. or is consistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit, in that the Annual Governance Statement does not adequately address the matters described in the basis for disclaimer of opinion and basis for adverse conclusion sections of our report.

Opinion on other matter required by the Code of Audit Practice

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the Authority's financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Because of the significance of the matters described in the basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we have been unable to form an opinion, whether based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the financial statements and our knowledge of the Authority gained through our work in relation to the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, whether the other information published together with the financial statements in the Statement of Accounts for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters except:

- on 18 February 2021, we made two written recommendations to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in relation to the production of financial statements and governance arrangements. We recommended that the Authority should:
    - put in place robust arrangements for the production of the 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial statements, which meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards; and
    - implement outstanding audit recommendations and Annual Governance Statement governance related weaknesses and actions, especially those related to ICT and business continuity, and to regularly update management and members with progress and implementation of improved controls and carry out independent internal audit and Audit Committee effectiveness reviews to assess their impact on improving the Authority's internal control environment.
- on 14 March 2022, we issued five written recommendations to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in relation to the production of financial statements, medium term financial planning and governance arrangements. We recommended that the Authority should:
    - continue to put in place robust arrangements for the production of late 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/2022 financial statements, which meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards;
    - ensure the critical financial governance weaknesses identified by the DLUHC review and Grant Thornton UK LLP review of medium term financial planning, budgeting assumptions and sensitivity analysis are implemented with immediate effect to enable the Authority to set realistic financial revenue plans for the short term;

- protect against overcommitment on their capital ambitions especially in the context of dependency on capitalisation directions and the demise of the Authority and subsequent transfer of services to Cumberland Council;
- develop a composite and robust action plan from all the Grant Thornton UK LLP, DLUHC and CIPFA external reviews, ensuring there is appropriate capacity and capability in place to implement the required governance improvements with adequate and regular oversight and challenge from Full Council, Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committee; and
- take immediate action to strengthen the Authority's internal governance arrangements, especially its internal audit service and the effectiveness of its Audit Committee.

Responsibilities of the Authority, the Chief Finance Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities the Authority is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Chief Finance Officer. The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Chief Finance Office determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention by government that the services provided by the Authority will no longer be provided.

The Audit Committee is Those Charged with Governance. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Authority financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and to issue an auditor's report. However, because of the matters described in the basis for disclaimer of opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on those financial statements.

We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - Conclusion on the Authority’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Adverse conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2017, because of the significance of the matters described in the basis for adverse conclusion section of our report, we are not satisfied that, in all significant respects Copeland Borough Council put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Basis for adverse conclusion

In considering the Authority's arrangements for securing efficiency, economy and effectiveness in its use of resources, we identified the following matters:

Informed decision making

- The Authority did not have adequate arrangements in place to produce financial statements which met reporting deadlines, statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards;
- A CIPFA review of the Authority’s internal audit function found that it only partially complied with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. CIPFA’s review of the effectiveness of the Audit Committee concluded that there was scope to enhance the skills and knowledge of members and to improve the Committee’s effectiveness;
- The Authority received a capitalisation directive of £0.99 million from DLUHC for the year ended 31 March 2019 which enabled it to capitalise costs in responding to the August 2017 cyber-attack, rather than charging them in full to their annual revenue budget. The Authority was unable to produce sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support this expenditure and we are therefore unable to conclude that the terms of the capitalisation directive were met;
- The Authority suffered a severe cyber-attack in 2017 which had a significant impact on its IT systems, services and financial reporting. An independent IT health check in May 2019 identified 99 recommendations for improvement. In addition, the Authority did not have robust business continuity plans in place; and
- The Authority lacked sufficient capacity, skill and experience within its finance team to clear the backlog of financial statements, provide business as usual activity, implement improvements to financial planning, and support local government reorganisation effectively.

These matters are evidence of weaknesses in proper arrangements for:

- reliable and timely financial reporting that supports the delivery of strategic priorities; and
- managing risks effectively and maintaining a sound system of internal control.

Sustainable resource deployment

- The Authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) was refreshed in February 2018. This indicated that efficiencies and additional income totalling £2.43 million were required to ensure the delivery of balanced budgets in each of the three remaining years of the MTFS (2018/19 to 2020/21). By February 2019 the efficiencies required to deliver balanced budgets had increased to £4.659 million for the period from 2018/19 to 2021/22. The level of required efficiencies indicated the fragility of the Authority's financial position. In addition, the lack of audited financial statements hinders the setting of accurate, robust and prudent budgets.
- A DLUHC review identified critical weaknesses in the Authority's financial governance arrangements. In addition, we identified weaknesses in the Authority's arrangements for medium term financial planning, making budgeting assumptions and performing sensitivity analysis.

These matters highlight pervasive strategic financial planning weaknesses at the Authority and are evidence of weaknesses in proper arrangements for planning finances effectively to support the sustainable delivery of strategic priorities and maintain statutory functions.

Responsibilities of the Authority

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to be satisfied that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2017, as to whether in all significant respects the Authority had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people. The Comptroller and Auditor General determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2019.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to be satisfied that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of Copeland Borough Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of Cumberland Council, as a body, in respect of Copeland Borough Council, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of Cumberland Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report in respect of Copeland Borough Council and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Cumberland Council and Copeland Borough Council and the members of both entities, as bodies, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Paul Dossett,
Key Audit Partner for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor
London

9 April 2024

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Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

Vision for Copeland
The **2016-2020 Corporate Strategy** set out the Council's Vision:
Copeland Borough Council is a commercially focused organisation with a national reputation for high quality services. The corporate strategy sets out the intended outcomes for citizens and service users and is used as a basis for setting the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The Council works with its partners and collaborations in order to deliver the vision for Copeland.

The Copeland Vision 2040 document sets out the Council's vision for Copeland to be:

- A globally-recognised place of innovation and opportunity
- A major clean energy hub for the UK
- A sustainable place, with a resilient economy that supports thriving communities

Scope of Responsibility
The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards and that public money is safeguarded, property accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.
The Council also has a set best value duty under the Local Government Act 1999, to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. In discharging this responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

What is Corporate Governance?
Corporate Governance generally refers to the process by which organisations are directed, controlled, led and held to account.
The Council's governance framework aims to ensure that in conducting business it:

- Operates in a lawful, open, inclusive and honest manner
- Ensures that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively
- Has effective arrangements for the management of risk
- Secures continuous improvements in the manner in which it operates.

These aims are inherent to the principles upon which the Local Code is based.

The purpose of the Governance Framework
The Governance Framework comprises the culture, values, systems and processes by which the Council is directed and controlled. The Local Code forms a key part of the Framework, which brings together an underlying set of legislative requirements, good practice principles and management processes that support and give practical application of the principles contained in the Code.
Adhering to this Framework enables the Council to monitor the success of its strategic objectives and to consider whether these objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate/cost effective services. Both risk management and internal control measures are a significant part of the Council's corporate governance framework and are designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. These safeguarding processes cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve the goals set by our policies, aims and strategic

objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable, rather than absolute assurances of their effectiveness.

The systems of risk management and internal control are based upon an ongoing process, designed to identify and prioritise the risk to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and strategic objectives, to evaluate the likelihood and potential impact of those risks being realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

Review of Effectiveness

Copeland Borough Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Leadership Management Team within the Authority who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the Interim Internal Audit Manager's annual report, and also comments made by external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates.

The work of the above committees and individuals has been used in compiling this Annual Governance Statement and arriving at an assessment of the internal control arrangements in place within the Council. Listed below are additional processes that have been used to maintain and review the effectiveness of the governance framework.

- The Council's internal management process, and reporting mechanisms, such as Performance and Risk Management, Customer Feedback, Health and Safety, Policy Development and Review.
- An assessment of the Council's Partnership Working Framework.
- An annual self-assessment of the adequacy of governance arrangements within services undertaken by Service Managers.

Principles of Good Governance

The Council has approved and adopted a Local Code of Corporate Governance ("the Code"), which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/Solace Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government'. A copy of the Code is available on the Council's website Local Code of Corporate Governance

The Council has also recognised the requirements of the 2010 CIPFA application note 'Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2015) and the CIPFA Statement on the 'Role of the Head of Internal Audit (2010)'.

This statement explains how the Council has complied with the Code and application note and also meets the requirements of regulation 6 (1) and (2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control – the Annual Governance Statement

Copeland Borough Council's Governance Framework

Copeland Borough Council's Code of Corporate Governance is based on the CIPFA/SOLACE Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework (2016)

Full Council

The Full Council is responsible within the scope of its responsibilities under law, for ensuring that the Authority's business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, effectively and efficiently. All reports to Full Council document the financial, legal, and operational implications of the decisions to be made. Reports are reviewed to ensure there are no governance issues identified or, where such an issue is identified, to ensure that it is appropriately addressed.

Council's Executive
The Council's Executive, comprising the Elected Mayor and three portfolio holders, is responsible, within the scope of its responsibilities under the law, for ensuring that the Council's business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, effectively and efficiently. All reports to the Executive document the financial, legal, governance, policy and equality implications of the decisions to be made. Reports are reviewed to ensure there are no governance issues identified or, where such an issue is identified, to ensure that it is appropriately addressed. The findings of the Annual Governance Statement are reported to and discussed with the Elected Mayor.
Head of Paid Service
The Head of Paid Service is responsible for the corporate and overall strategic management of the Authority's staff in accordance with Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. This responsibility is held by the Chief Executive.
Section 151 Officer
The Section 151 Officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the Authority arising from Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. This responsibility is held by the Director of Financial Services.
Monitoring Officer
The Monitoring Officer has a responsibility to ensure compliance with relevant laws, regulations and policies and procedures and that expenditure is lawful. The Monitoring Officer also has responsibility for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct and reporting any actual or potential breaches of the law or maladministration to the full Council and /or to the Executive as set out in Section 5 (2) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. During the period of this Annual Governance Statement this responsibility was held by the Director of Corporate Services and Commercial Strategy.
Corporate Leadership Team
The Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) acts as the organisation's overall `management board', providing strategic direction to enable the business of the Authority to be undertaken. CLT provides ultimate assurance to the executive and non-executive Members in relation to the governance arrangements in place. The Annual Governance Statement is reviewed by CLT as part of the production of this statement.
Audit Committee
The Audit Committee improves corporate governance by reviewing the stewardship of the Authority's resources. The Audit Committee enhances the profile of audit throughout the Authority and enables it to be strong and effective. The findings of the annual governance review are reported to the Audit Committee and they monitor the progress of the resulting action plan.
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
The aim of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to improve services by scrutinising decisions made by the Executive and making appropriate recommendations. This is done by investigating issues of interest and concern to communities, involving communities in its work and making recommendations to decision makers on how services can be improved.
Internal Audit
Internal Audit plays a key role in the assessment of the control environment within the Council. Although part of the Council's overall framework, Internal Audit is not a substitute for effective internal control. Responsibility for the Internal Audit Service is with the Director of Financial Resources.
External Audit
Officers meet regularly with the External Audit team from Grant Thornton, who also attend the Audit Committee. Action plans are formulated to address any formal recommendations raised by them. The views of our external auditors are expressed through their Annual Audit Letter.

The Local Code of Corporate Governance
The Local Code of Corporate Governance demonstrates Copeland Borough Council's commitment to the highest standards of corporate governance. The Local Code sets out its governance arrangements in relation to **the seven best practice principles** in the CIPFA/IFAC "International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector", and, as required by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) "Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework 2016".

Principle A: Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law.
Summary:
Local government organisations are accountable not only for how much they spend, but also for how they use the resources under their stewardship. This includes accountability for outputs, both positive and negative, and for the outcomes they have achieved. In addition, they have an overarching responsibility to serve the public interest in adhering to the requirements of legislation and government policies. It is essential that, as a whole, they can demonstrate the appropriateness of all their actions and have mechanisms in place to encourage and enforce adherence to ethical values and to respect the rule of law.
Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- The Constitution (regularly reviewed and updated)
- Officer Code of Conduct
- Unacceptable Behaviour Policy
- Member Code of Conduct
- Values considered with developing Corporate Strategy and Service Plans
- Decision making process for Committees, Members and Officers
- Committee forward plans, agendas, reports (which include legal, financial, equalities and risk impact, and minutes (showing decisions taken and declaration of interests)
- Standards and Ethics Committee
- Designated Monitoring Officer
- Use of Independent Persons
- Financial Regulations
- Procurement and Contract Management Strategy
- Corporate and HR Policies
- Customer relationships and investigating complaints
- Gifts and hospitality register
- Equality & Diversity Scheme
- Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing) Policy
- Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
- National Fraud Initiative
- Anti-Money Laundering Policy

Principle B: Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement
Summary:
Local government has responsibility for the public good at its core, organisations therefore should ensure openness in their activities. Clear, trusted channels of communication and consultation should be used to engage effectively with all groups of stakeholders, such as individual citizens and service users, as well as institutional stakeholders.

Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Elected Mayor's Public Meetings and online podcasts
- Engagement with Trade Unions
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee Meeting Minutes, Task Groups and Work Plan
- Public Engagement / Consultation
- Website publication of information and documents
- Corporate Plan
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Public and officer consultations
- Employee Surveys
- Member Communications/Briefings
- Staff "Copeland Chat"
- Annual Budget public consultation
- Corporate Communications Strategy
- Publishing of agenda and minutes
- Committee Forward Plans

Communication
Copeland Borough Council is dedicated to ensuring transparency through adherence to the Local Government Transparency Code 2015. The Council aims to ensure that residents, partners and stakeholders are involved in the design and delivery of its services. All decisions and reports are publicly available unless justifiable reasoning is provided to maintain confidentiality
The Council is committed to keeping its communities engaged and informed. It does this through a variety of methods and platforms including consultations, websites, social media pages and newsletters, alongside staff and elected representative engagement. It also utilises local media outlets including press, TV and radio to engage the general public and consults a wide array of community groups, partners and stakeholders.

Principle C: Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits
Summary:
The long-term nature and impact of many local government responsibilities mean that it should define and plan outcomes, and, that these should be sustainable. Decisions should further the authority's purpose, contribute to intended benefits and outcomes, and remain within the limits of authority and resources. Input from all groups of stakeholders, including residents, service users, and institutional stakeholders, is vital to the success of this process and in balancing competing demands when determining priorities for the finite resources available.

Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Corporate Strategy
- Copeland Growth Strategy
- Service Plans
- Public consultation during annual budget process
- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- External Audit Review
- Audit Committee
- Risk Management strategy
- Performance and KPI reporting
- Key national data e.g. the Census and Indices of Deprivation
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

- Employee surveys
- Consideration of Climate and Environmental Impact in decision making

Principle D: Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes

Summary:

Local government achieves its intended outcomes by providing a mixture of legal, regulatory, and practical interventions. Determining the right mix of these courses of action is a critically important strategic choice that local government has to make to ensure intended outcomes are achieved. They need robust decision-making mechanisms to ensure that their defined outcomes can be achieved in a way that provides the best trade-off between the various types of resource inputs while still enabling effective and efficient operations. Decisions made need to be reviewed continually to ensure that achievement of outcomes is optimised.

Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Audit Committee
- Financial Monitoring Reporting
- Financial Planning
- MTFS aligning resources to corporate priorities
- Service Review Process
- Monitoring Process
- Quarterly Budget Monitoring
- Performance Management and KPI delivery reporting
- Internal Audits
- Risk Management Strategy
- Strategic and operational risk registers
- Project Management Framework

Principle E: Developing the Council's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

Summary:

Local government needs appropriate structures and leadership, as well as people with the right skills, appropriate qualifications and mind-set, to operate efficiently and effectively and achieve their intended outcomes within the specified periods. A local government organisation must ensure that it has both the capacity to fulfil its own mandate and to make certain that there are policies in place to guarantee that its management has the operational capacity for the organisation as a whole. Because both individuals and the environment in which an authority operates will change over time, there will be a continuous need to develop its capacity as well as the skills and experience of the leadership of individual staff members. Leadership in local government entities is strengthened by the participation of people with many different types of backgrounds, reflecting the structure and diversity of communities.

Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Corporate Performance Management Framework
- Regular meetings between Executive and Corporate Leadership Team
- Leadership Management Group
- Heads of Service Group

- Compliance with CIPFA guidance on the “the role of the chief finance officer” and “the role of the head of internal audit”
- Outside Bodies agenda
- Performance Reports
- Standards and Ethics Committee
- Employees’ / Members’ Code of Conduct
- Member Development Programme
- Portfolio Holder Meetings
- Overview & Scrutiny Committee Work Plan and Meetings
- Individual Appraisals
- Workforce Strategy
- New employee induction programme
- Member Development Programme
- Job Descriptions and Person Specifications for all employees
- Succession planning
- Public and officer consultations
- Employee surveys
- Mandatory training e.g. GDPR
- Corporate and HR policies and procedures, including those to support health and wellbeing.

Principle F: Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management

Summary:

Local government needs to ensure that the organisations and governance structures that it oversees have implemented, and can sustain, an effective performance management system that facilitates effective and efficient delivery of planned services. Risk management and internal control are important and integral parts of a performance management system and crucial to the achievement of outcomes. Risk should be considered, and addressed, as part of all decision-making activities. A strong system of financial management is essential for the implementation of policies and the achievement of intended outcomes, as it will enforce financial discipline, strategic allocation of resources, efficient service delivery, and accountability. It is also essential that a culture and structure for scrutiny be in place as a key part of accountable decision-making, policymaking and review. A positive working culture that accepts, promotes and encourages constructive challenge is critical to successful scrutiny and successful delivery. Importantly, this culture does not happen automatically, it requires repeated public commitment from those in authority.

Copeland Borough Council’s governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Risk Management Framework
- Strategic and Operational Risk Management Registers
- Risks jointly owned by Members and officers
- Corporate Project Management Framework
- Corporate Complaints Policy
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Internal Audit Function operating to Public Sector Internal Audit Standards
- Risk-Based Annual Audit Plan and Key Assurance Work
- Internal Audit Manager’s Annual Report to Audit Committee
- Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Compliance with Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud and Corruption

- Annual Governance Statement
- Audit Committee with Independent Chair
- Information Governance Policy
- Medium Term Financial Strategy, aligning resources to corporate priorities
- Financial Monitoring Reports
- Financial Regulations and Contract Standing Orders
- Procurement and Contract Management Strategy
- Strategic Asset Management Plan
- Treasury Management Strategy

Performance and Risk Management
The Executive assess progress against the Corporate Strategy through quarterly monitoring of a Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan (CSDP) and a suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs); this includes both service and project KPIs to ensure they are delivered in accordance with defined outcomes and that they represent the best use of resources and value for money. The report to the Executive summarises performance against the Corporate Strategy Delivery Plan and provides context and remedial actions where CSDP Key Deliverables or KPIs have not been fully achieved.
Risk Management is undertaken at operational and strategic level and is also a key element of managing our projects and partnerships. CLT takes an active part in ensuring that strategic risks are identified and managed taking into consideration the Council's priorities. All strategic risks are managed at corporate level and are jointly owned by the relevant member of CLT and Executive. All risks are reviewed on a quarterly basis at CLT meetings and by the risk owners to ensure that they are being managed effectively, with progress reported to the Audit Committee.

Principle G: Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting and audit to deliver effective accountability
Summary:
Accountability is about ensuring that those making decisions and delivering services are answerable for them. Effective accountability is concerned with not only reporting on actions completed, but also ensuring that stakeholders are able to understand and respond as the organisation plans and carries out its activities in a transparent manner. Both external and internal audit contribute to effective accountability.

Copeland Borough Council's governance framework demonstrates this through:

- Forward Plans, agendas and key decisions and minutes for all Committee meetings available publicly on the Council's website
- Work plan and meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Audit Committee
- Annual Financial Statements
- External Audit Reports: Audit Findings Report, Annual Audit Letter and Certification Report
- External Reviews, e.g. IPCO Audit etc.
- Annual Governance Statement
- Internal Audit Function operating to Public Sector Internal Audit Standards
- Risk-Based Annual Audit Plan and Key Assurance Work
- Internal Audit recommendation implementation reported to Audit Committee
- Information Management Strategy
- Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing) Policy

<u>Governance issues</u>

The following governance issues were identified:

Cyber-attack

At the end of August 2017 the Council was the target of a major `zero day' cyber-attack, which temporarily disabled the Council's IT network and access to corporate systems. Disruption to the Council systems continued throughout the remainder of the financial year and into 2018/19. Not only did the attack present the Council with a challenge in meeting the financial cost of recovery, which has been calculated at circa £2m over 2017/18 and 2018/19, but also stretched the capacity of the workforce to beyond optimal limits.

The impact on the control environment and mitigating actions / compensatory controls were set out in detail in the 2017/18 Annual Governance Statement. The recovery continued into 2018/19 and beyond. Whilst the IT infrastructure has been strengthened and improved where it has been possible to do so, the Council has put significant resources into the restoration of the (Public Services Network) PSN certification. While recovery work continues replacement of critical software and hardware applications are focused on the ability to move to an environment which provides much stronger risk mitigation opportunities (such as off-site back-up and the use of hosted applications).

COVID-19

The post-Covid world is full of uncertainty currently for Copeland and the rest of the UK. The Council was, and will continue to be, fundamentally at the core of supporting our communities through this process. In terms of resourcing the support mechanisms, a number of working groups were established through partner collaboration including;

- Copeland Recovery Group formed from the welfare response support which transitioned to the Thriving Communities Forum
- Social Prescribing Group – CBC, CCC, NHS
- Children's Trust Board locality group – emerging.
- Copeland Health and Well-Being Forum (link with Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Board)
- Town Deal Boards in Cleator Moor and Millom – Towns Fund delivery focused on Covid recovery
- Cumbria LRF – Strategic Recovery Coordination Group and Health Protection Board and Multi Agency Information Cell (MAIC).

As we moved from the response phase into recovery we needed to move forward from a reactive to a proactive mode, to provide leadership to our community and use what had been learned during the pandemic to form a plan for the future.

'ReBoot' was more than a plan for recovery, it was a plan to re-boot - the economy, our aspirations and the way we work together. It painted a picture of that aspirational 'new normal' based on three key messages:

- In the future no-one within the Copeland community will be 'left behind' – all residents will have equal access to the support services they require to meet their individual needs at a time and through a medium/channel that meets their preference.
- Our collective priority will be to ensure that we can all go about our day to day activities in a safe and healthy environment, with respect, regard and consideration for everyone inside and visiting our communities
- We will all work together to ensure that we develop a more sustainable and local approach to protecting our environment, tackling climate change and supporting the local economy

Many of the Council's strategies and policies were affected by the impact of the pandemic and the subsequent needs of our communities. Some were now outdated or outmoded and required overhaul. Others require a substantial rewrite for the post-Covid world.

Code of Conduct

During the year, the Council continued to see a significant increase in the number of Code of Conduct investigations required. This, inevitably, led to a reprioritisation of some work as senior staff devoted resources to the investigation, reporting and resolution of the complaints.

Delay in Budget Monitoring Information:

Following the cyber-attack access to the Financial Management System was disabled. Extensive testing found the general ledger was intact and information had been preserved as at 24 August 2017. A significant period of restoration work followed. As the general ledger is dependent on a number of feeder systems or interfaces to maintain information held within it, it was necessary for the majority of those interfaces to be restored by the external software providers and external IT specialists. The timeliness and accuracy of information held on the general ledger exponentially diminished as the restoration process endured.

Once interfaces were restored, work began to import the backlog of information to bring the general ledger up to date and it was crucial that the integrity and accuracy of this information was verified through a series of reconciliations. Consequentially budget monitoring reports were unable to be prepared until the missing information was updated in the system and reconciled.

The delay in providing timely and accurate information for the period following the cyber-attack resulted in the absence of budget monitoring reports from September 2017 to November 2018 to budget managers/CLT/ Executive to inform decision making. However, the Council were able to use a combination of available financial information, corporate knowledge and alternative information sources to inform the decision-making process

Delay in Production of Final Accounts:

There was a continued reliance on interim professional staff throughout the year to deliver the Statement of Accounts. Coupled with the difficulties in the ability to interrogate and accurately confirm the integrity of the data, as a result of the delay in the restoration of the financial systems following the cyber-attack meant already challenging deadlines for the production of the Draft Statement were not able to be achieved.

Reliance on Interim Support:

There was a continued need to rely on interim support in key delivery areas of Council although by the end of 2018 many vacant posts were filled with permanent staff in key areas. During 2018/19 there remained vacancies in key areas such as Finance and ICT.

External Audit Conclusion on Authority’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources:

The External auditor concluded that, in all significant aspects, the Authority had not put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2018 and has given an adverse opinion. This follows a qualified opinion in 2016/17. The following matters were identified:

- There were delays in budget monitoring reports due to the cyber-attack;
- Third year Financial Statements have not been produced on time;
- Lack of scenario planning in the Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- Timely resolution of weaknesses in the control environment;
- Reliance on temporary staff for technical accounting roles.

<u>Statement of Conformance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS)</u>

The risk-based approach has been designed to ensure all Internal Audit work is conducted in accordance with the PSIAS. Audit work has been conducted in line with the agreed audit methodology and has been subject to quality assurance checks by the CAE.

<u>External Audit reports</u>

Section 24 reports

As well as our responsibilities to give an opinion on the financial statements and assess the arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the Council's use of resources, the External Auditors Grant Thornton have additional powers and duties under the Local Audit and

Accountability Act 2014. These include powers to issue a public interest report, make written recommendations, apply to the Court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law, and to give electors the opportunity to raise questions about the Council's accounts and to raise objections received in relation to the accounts. They concluded that it was appropriate to use their powers to make written recommendations under section 24 of the Act, due to inadequate arrangements and capacity at the Council to prepare reliable financial statements by the statutory deadline and concerns regarding the Council’s timely implementation of actions to address internal control weakness.
Two Section 24 reports have been received by the Council, the first in February 2021 and the second in March 2022. The full reports are available on the Council’s website. The recommendations from these reports are set out below and progress with their implementation is set out in the composite action plan appended to this AGS:
February 2021

1. The Council should put in place robust arrangements for the production of the 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial statements, which meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards.
2. Implement outstanding audit recommendations and Annual Governance Statement governance related weaknesses and actions, especially those related to ICT and business continuity, and regularly update management and members with progress and implementation of improved controls.

   Carry out independent Internal Audit and Audit Committee effectiveness reviews to assess their impact on improving the Council’s internal control environment.

March 2022

1. Continue to put in place robust arrangements for the production of late 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/2022 financial statements, which meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards.
2. Ensure the critical financial governance weaknesses identified by DLUHC review and Grant Thornton on medium term financial planning, budgeting assumptions and sensitivity analysis are implemented with immediate effect to enable the Council to set realistic financial revenue plans for the short term.
3. Protect against over commitment on the Council’s capital ambitions especially in the context of dependency on capital directions and the transition to LGR.
4. Develop a composite and robust action plan from all the Grant Thornton, DLUHC and CIPFA external reviews, ensuring there is appropriate capacity and capability in place to implement the required governance improvements with adequate and regular oversight and challenge from Full Council, Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committee.
5. Immediate action is required to strengthen the Council’s internal governance arrangements, especially its Internal Audit service and Audit Committee effectiveness.

2017/18 Audit Letter (dated March 2021)
Following the issuing of the first Section 24 Statutory Recommendations Report on 18 February 2021 and the Full Council consideration of it at its public meeting on 25 February 2021, the external auditors were able to certify that they had completed the audit for 2017/18. The closure certificate on the audit was issued on 10th March 2021.
As part of their audit findings report the external auditors identified and agreed with management six recommendations to address their findings with regard to value for money (VFM), progress with the implementation of these recommendations is set out in the composite action plan appended to this AGS.

1. Include scenario planning and sensitivity analysis in its MTFS to aide management and member’s understanding of the impact changes to assumptions could have on future budgets.

2. Introduce estimates of the potential impact of the Fair Funding Review and the Business Rates Retention Scheme on the MTFS, to allow management and members to make informed decisions based on prudent estimates of future revenue streams.
3. Closely monitor the run rate and pressure on GF unearmarked reserves given the cumulative impact of under delivery on saving plans.
4. Ensure the timeliness of the financial statements is improved with the aim of producing accounts with high quality supporting working papers within statutory deadlines.
5. Continue to review all outstanding audit recommendations and AGS governance related weaknesses actions, especially those related to ICT and business continuity and regularly update Covalent (Pentana) with progress and implementation of improved controls.
6. Review the skills and capacity of Finance Team to ensure it can deliver internally or procure the appropriate people to enable the Council to produce technically sound financial statements.

Based on the work they performed to address the significant risks, they concluded that because of the significance of the matters identified in respect of the Council's financial reporting and sustainability arrangements, the gap in the skills and capacity within the finance team and issues in relation to the internal control environment, they were not satisfied that the Council has made proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in your use of resources.
The external auditors therefore issued a qualified 'adverse' conclusion.
The external auditor acknowledged that 2017/18 audit has been extremely challenging for the finance team and the audit team alike. This has been due to a number of factors including the cyber-attack on the Council in August 2017, which disabled systems for several months, capacity and transitioning issues within the finance team. All of which have all contributed to the late receipt of draft accounts. In addition, the scale of errors and amendments required to the draft accounts and challenging management arrangements, resulted in qualified audit and VFM opinions.
Despite the challenges faced they continued to work closely with the Director of Financial Resources and his team and maintained a professional working relationship, which was achieved through regular meetings over a prolonged audit.

Capitalisation Directives & External Assurance Review
On 2 September 2020 the Council applied to the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for exceptional financial support in respect of financial pressures to balance the 2021/22 and 2022/23 revenue budgets. On 10th February 2021 DLUHC approved the request and provided the Council with a capitalisation direction to fund revenue expenditure incurred by the Council of up to £1.5m with respect to the financial year 2021/22, subject to a number of conditions including the Council incorporating the recommendations of the external assurance review conducted by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in 2021, the s24 statutory recommendations issued by Grant Thornton in 2020 and the 2022 statutory recommendations from Grant Thornton Auditors into an integrated action plan and makes good progress towards responding to these, engaging with and providing quarterly updates to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on their progress towards fulfilling these recommendations.
The recommendations arising from the external assurance review conducted by the CIPFA are set out below, progress with their implementation is set out in the composite action plan appended to this AGS:

1. The Council refresh the MTFS to balance the budget to the year 22/23 and to 23/24 when Local Government reform is expected to take place. The current one- year MTFS is balancing the annual budget through use of reserves and the capitalisation support indicated by Government on an in-principle basis subject to this review. A new longer term MTFS will need to be balanced over a longer time horizon taking the Council into LGR with a plan of efficiencies, commercialisation of services as per the approach outlined in the Council's

commercial strategy and potential further support from DLUHC. At the time of writing, the Cumbrian authorities in scope for LGR are discussing what planning horizon they should plan for regarding their respective revised MTFS.

2. The MTFS summarises scenario planning and sensitivity analysis, but this should be more explicit and sensitivity analysis to aid management and member's understanding of the impact changes to assumptions could have on future budgets. Members need to be aware of the risks to the budget and levels of reserves in the future and will need to make choices on service-based priorities reflective of what they can afford.
   Implement Interest rate scenario planning to forecast interest rate costs in relation to forecast capital programme and monitor on on-going basis

3. Refresh capital programme to assess the on-going achievability of schemes and as business cases are put forward robustly assess affordability. Currently the time horizon of the capital programme far outstrips the MTFS. This will need to be aligned and factor in LGR to assess the affordability of the schemes and the timings of planned capital expenditure with LGR. Whilst we do not believe LGR should hinder investment in services, there must be a transparency of the affordability of the programmes over a longer time horizon.
   The Council's £33m planned borrowing (which is planned to be match funded, from savings or additional income and in some cases, levelling up and town deals will need to be refreshed and aligned with a revised MTFS to capture the affordability of these programmes. Currently the time horizon of the capital programme exceeds the MTFS in planning terms. This will need to be aligned and factor in LGR to further demonstrate affordability of the schemes and the timings of planned capital expenditure with LGR. Whilst we do not believe LGR should hinder investment in services, there must be a transparency of the affordability of the programmes over a longer time horizon. LGR will also need to examine the potential efficiencies in service delivery and the impact on Copeland's citizens, noting that the transformative elements of the LGR programme in Cumbria are likely to occur post rather than pre-vesting day.

4. The Council should consider the use of integrated reporting that considers financial performance alongside service performance targets, selected demographic and other contextual analysis and staffing KPIs. This can help members and the public to consider financial resources in the context of wider value for money and effectiveness. However, this should be considered in the context of LGR and future reporting structures post LGR.

5. The MTFS recognises the additional costs of LGR and how these costs will be funded through the period. There is a lack of explicit information in the MTFS to recognise these additional costs.

6. The impact of MRP to finance capital expenditure (incurred in future years) will be significant given the scale of the capital programme relative to core spending power and compensating 'additional income / savings. This should be made clear with scenarios factored in and adequate risk management to control these costs.

7. In the build-up to Local Government Reform, the Council should consider collaborative working with future Councils included within the new East/West proposed structures. This will provide more capacity to manage reform and ease the process.

8. Members must be aware of the financial challenges and the impending challenges of implementing Local Government Reform. Members have been engaged and this should continue to be so.

9. CIPFA supports Grant Thornton’s statutory recommendations made as part of the 2017/18 audit that robust arrangements must be put in place to address the backlog of production of the Statement of Accounts 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial statements, which must meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards. Also previously, the lead auditor did not present the Statutory recommendations. We would recommend going forward the auditors, in the interest of governance and independence are present to make reports to full Council.

10. Internal Audit plays a key role in the assessment of the control environment within the Council. Responsibility for the Internal Audit Service sits with the Director of Corporate Finance as reported to the Audit Committee on 7th November 2019. CIPFA supports Grant Thornton’s recommendation made as part of the 2017/18 audit that there is a review of Internal Audit. The Director of Corporate Finance having the responsibility for Internal Audit and the finance function is not reflective of good governance/best practice. CIPFA recommends a segregation of these roles.

11. The s.151 Officer to produce a detailed and considered action plan which aims to achieve sound financial management across the Council - CIPFA understands this is being produced. This was included in response to the Section 24 recommendation. These plans have been incorporated by the executive team into a clear annual governance statement for 2018/19 and 2019/20, the 2020-21 annual governance statement will need to be updated when the financial statements have been produced.

12. Develop and adopt a financial performance dashboard.

13. Review compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code.

14. Look for opportunities to make more use of detailed benchmarking information to challenge services.

DLUHC also confirmed in March 2022 that the Secretary of State is minded to approve a capitalisation direction for 2022/23 of a total not exceeding £1.5m in Autumn 2022 subject to a mid- year assessment of how far the conditions set out in any capitalisation direction in respect of 2021/22 have been complied with and a review of the financial position of the Council at this point in time.

Governance improvements

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Preparation:

Throughout the year the Council worked with the consultants “Inform and Consult” to produce a comprehensive Information Asset Register to comply with the requirements for change outlined in the GDPR Regulations which become effective in May 2018. The Council have been able to identify both the electronic and paper-based information systems used across the organisation and have identified specific areas for consolidation, deletion and retention. Work continued in this key area throughout 2018/19.

Corporate Peer Challenge

In November 2018 the Council undertook a Corporate Peer Challenge which resulted in a very positive report. Recommendations made by the Peer Review Team were included in an action plan which enabled CLT and Councillors to focus on opportunities for improvement and change.
These opportunities included:

- Commissioning the Copeland Vision

- A new Commercial Strategy 2020- 23
- CIPFA training for staff and councillors in commercial awareness and recognising need for culture shift
- Inauguration of a Commercial Engagement Group in Oct 2019 as part of new commercial governance framework.
- Regular budget monitoring processes re-established
- Aim High performance management framework developed
- Comprehensive Member Delivery training sessions following the 2019 elections.
- Specific training was arranged where external expertise was appropriate e.g. Code of Conduct training for all Members of the newly formed Standards and Ethics Committee

Overall Assessment of the Governance Arrangements in Place

The Corporate Leadership Team and relevant Officers have reviewed the evidence outlined above and concluded that due to the governance issues set out in this report, mainly:

- development of alternative controls until 'normal' controls were re-established following the cyber-attack;
- a "reasonable assurance" internal audit opinion;
- adverse conclusion from the External Auditor on Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources in 2017/18;
- Restoration of budget monitoring arrangements following the cyber-attack from November 2018;
- Progress with implementing the recommendations raised by the External Auditor on Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources in 2017/18.

As a result of the governance items raised above 'partial assurance' can be provided on the governance arrangements in place in 2018/19.
The progress with the Annual Governance Statement priorities is detailed in the composite action plan appended to this report.

Signatures

We, the undersigned, propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Signed:	Signed:
Mike Starkie Elected Mayor Copeland Borough Council	Pat Graham Chief Executive Copeland Borough Council
Date:	Date:

Annual Governance Statement Composite Action Plan

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
1	DLUHC	The Council refresh the MTFS to balance the budget to the year 22/23 and to 23/24 when Local Government reform is expected to take place. The current one- year MTFS is balancing the annual budget through use of reserves and the capitalisation support indicated by Government on an in-principle basis subject to this review. A new longer term MTFS will need to be balanced over a longer time horizon taking the Council into LGR with a plan of efficiencies, commercialisation of services as per the approach outlined in the Council's commercial strategy and potential further support from DLUHC. At the time of writing, the Cumbrian authorities in scope for LGR are discussing what planning horizon they should plan for regarding their respective revised MTFS	Partly Agreed, a 3-year MTFS will be presented to the Executive as part of the Mayor's budget in January 2022 and Council in February 2022. 2022/23 is the final year of the Council, it is not realistic for Copeland to balance the budget over a longer time horizon for a number of reasons. Firstly the Council will only exist for one year and any changes to strategy, service delivery and policy that may yield future savings will become the responsibility for the new Council. The Council however has been working with colleagues as part of the Local Government reform process to identify service delivery options for a financially sustainable new unitary council. The Council's commercial strategy has been widely recognised, including CIPFA, as a leading example of good practice and this will help inform the new Council's commercial ambitions.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
2	DLUHC	The MTFS summarises scenario planning and sensitivity analysis but this should be more explicit and sensitivity analysis to aid management and member's understanding of the impact changes to assumptions could have on future budgets. Members need to be aware of the risks to the budget and levels of reserves in the future and will need to make choices on service-based priorities reflective of what they can afford. Implement Interest rate scenario planning to forecast interest rate costs in relation to forecast capital programme and monitor on on-going basis	Agreed, the Council understands that Members need to be aware of the risks to the budget and levels of reserves in the future to make choices on service-based priorities reflective of what they can afford. The MTFS scenario plans used as part of the 2021/22 budget were summarised in the 2021/22 budget. For the 2022/23 budget these will be further developed and set out in detail to Council as part of the Mayor's 2022/23 budget.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
3	DLUHC	Refresh capital programme to assess the on-going achievability of schemes and as business cases are put forward robustly assess affordability. Currently the time horizon of the capital programme far outstrips the MTFS. This will need to be aligned and factor in LGR to assess the affordability of the schemes and the timings of planned capital expenditure with LGR. Whilst we do not believe LGR should hinder investment in services, there must be a transparency of the affordability of the programmes over a longer time horizon. The Council's £33m planned borrowing (which is planned to be match funded, from savings or additional income and in some cases, levelling up and town deals will need to be refreshed and aligned with a revised MTFS to capture the affordability of these programmes. Currently the time horizon of the capital programme exceeds the MTFS in planning terms. This will need to be aligned and factor in LGR to further	Agreed, we are pleased to see that the CIPFA report recognises that all schemes in the Capital Programme funded by borrowing are 'planned to be match funded, from savings or additional income'; the Council's Capital Strategy presented by Council identifies affordability as a key pillar in its decision making, as a Council that has no existing schemes funded from borrowing it is clear that the Council cannot be considered reckless within its borrowing powers. However, the Council agrees that the affordability of schemes needs to be more transparent in the Capital Programme and clarity about when business cases will be considered for approval. The capital programme will be reviewed to re-assess affordability aligned to the MTFS, this will be included in the Mayor's 2022/23 budget in February 2022.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		demonstrate affordability of the schemes and the timings of planned capital expenditure with LGR. Whilst we do not believe LGR should hinder investment in services, there must be a transparency of the affordability of the programmes over a longer time horizon. LGR will also need to examine the potential efficiencies in service delivery and the impact on Copeland’s citizens, noting that the transformative elements of the LGR programme in Cumbria are likely to occur post rather than pre-vesting day.				

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4	DLUHC	The Council should consider the use of integrated reporting that considers financial performance alongside service performance targets, selected demographic and other contextual analysis and staffing KPIs. This can help members and the public to consider financial resources in the context of wider value for money and effectiveness. However this should be considered in the context of LGR and future reporting structures post LGR.	Agree, CBC proposes to review its performance reporting against the CIPFA recommended models and identify potential areas for improvement / development during the final year of the Council. The Council needs to balance the investment in improvements in its performance reporting with the value to the Council and therefore any recommended changes made will be proportionate. However, the Council recognises the value of integrated reporting and would seek to dovetail any developments or options into the development of reporting in the new Unitary Council. Discussions have already commenced with the auditor to identify areas of good practice from their experience too. It is proposed that the findings of this review be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with recommendations made to the Executive.	Jun-22	Review completed and reported to OSC in July 22	**Green**
5	DLUHC	The MTFS recognises the additional costs of LGR and how these costs will be funded through the period. There is a lack of explicit	Agreed, the updated MTFS will set out the additional costs of LGR and how these costs will be funded as part of the Mayor's 2022/23 budget to Council in February 2022.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		information in the MTFS to recognise these additional costs.				
6	DLUHC	The impact of MRP to finance capital expenditure (incurred in future years) will be significant given the scale of the capital programme relative to core spending power and compensating 'additional income / savings. This should be made clear with scenarios factored in and adequate risk management to control these costs.	Agreed, the MTFS scenario plans used as part of the 2021/22 budget that include the impact of MRP to finance capital expenditure will be further developed and set out in detail to the Executive as part of the Mayor's 2022/23 budget to Council in February 2022.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**
7	DLUHC	In the build up to Local Government Reform, the Council should consider collaborative working with future Councils included within the new East/West proposed structures. This will provide more capacity to manage reform and ease the process.	Agreed, the Council will continue to work collaboratively with neighbouring councils; LGR structures and relationships have developed further, particularly at senior management level since planning for LGR and this is facilitating greater working and knowledge sharing.	Ongoing	Ongoing	**Green**
8	DLUHC	Members must be aware of the financial challenges and the impending challenges of implementing Local Government Reform. Members have been engaged and this should continue to be so.	Agreed, Members will continue to be engaged in the process.	Ongoing	Ongoing	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
9	DLUHC	CIPFA supports Grant Thornton's statutory recommendations made as part of the 2017/18 audit that robust arrangements must be put in place to address the backlog of production of the Statement of Accounts 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial statements, which must meet statutory requirements and international financial reporting standards. Also previously, the lead auditor did not present the Statutory recommendations. We would recommend going forward the auditors, in the interest of governance and independence are present to make reports to full Council.	Agreed, arrangements continued to be refined for the audit of the outstanding financial statements as the audits progress. The 2018/19 audit is nearing completion and draft 2019/20 accounts ready for audit. A plan for bringing the audits upto date has been discussed with Grant Thornton and will be further discussed with the Audit Committee at its next meeting. The Council accepts CIPFA's recommendation that the Auditors are present to make reports to full Council. This matter was discussed with full Council at its meeting to discuss this report.	Ongoing	Action plan discussed and agreed with Audit Committee, deadlines for audit of outstanding financial statements set out below.	**Amber**
9a	O/S Accounts	2018/19 Financial Statements	Estimated practical completion of the Audit and issue of the audit certificate - May 2022	Jul-22	Valuations have been received and the 2018/19 accounts are being updated. Revised timetable is for completion of audit in November 2022.	**Amber**
9b	O/S Accounts	2019/20 Financial Statements	Estimated practical completion of the Audit and issue of the audit certificate - Oct 2022	Oct-22	Draft accounts prepared, awaiting commencement of the audit following	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
					completion of 2018/19 accounts	
9c	O/S Accounts	2020/21 Financial Statements	Estimated practical completion of the Audit and issue of the audit certificate - Jan 2023	Jan-23	Draft accounts not prepared, resources available to prepare draft accounts for July 2022.	**Amber**
10	DLUHC	Internal Audit plays a key role in the assessment of the control environment within the Council. Responsibility for the Internal Audit Service sits with the Director of Corporate Finance as reported to the Audit Committee on 7th November 2019. CIPFA supports Grant Thornton's recommendation made as part of the 2017/18 audit that there is a review of Internal Audit. The Director of Corporate Finance having the responsibility for Internal Audit and the finance function is not reflective of good governance/best practice. CIPFA recommends a segregation of these roles.	Agreed, the Audit Committee agreed in September 2021 to explore alternative arrangements for the Chief Audit Executive Role. A shared Audit Manager role with Allerdale Borough Council has been advertised with interviews expected in January.	Mar-22	Completed, new shared role with Allerdale and Carlisle appointed and due to start in April 2022.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
11	DLUHC	The s.151 Officer produce a detailed and considered action plan which aims to achieve sound financial management across the Council - CIPFA understands this is being produced. This was included in response to the Section 24 recommendation. These plans have been incorporated by the executive team into a clear annual governance statement for 2018/19 and 2019/20, the 2020-21 annual governance statement will need to be updated when the financial statements have been produced.	Agreed, an up-to-date Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 will be prepared and presented to the Audit Committee alongside the draft 2020/21 financial statements.	Jun-22	To be presented to the October Audit Committee	**Amber**
12	DLUHC	Develop and adopt a financial performance dashboard.	Agreed, the Council will consider good practice models and make recommendations to the Executive for adoption during 2022/23.	Jun-22	Finance team have completed the dashboard and have been monitoring, due to present to informal Executive in September.	**Amber**
13	DLUHC	Review compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code.	Agreed, the CIPFA Financial Management Code is designed to support good practice in financial management and to assist local authorities in demonstrating their financial sustainability. CBC proposes to review its current Financial Management arrangements against this best	Jun-22	Review completed and reported to OSC in July 22	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
			practice guide and provide a position statement and recommendations to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for improvement / development during the final year of the Council.			
14	DLUHC	Look for opportunities to make more use of detailed benchmarking information to challenge services.	Agreed, as part of the performance management process service managers are encouraged to use benchmarking information and set out in their service plans how they compare with other services. Service managers will be encouraged to continue to do this and CLT will review this as part of approving service plans. Also services will be encouraged to benchmark their service against the Cumbrian authorities as part of the service design for the new unitary council.	Jun-22	Service managers have been encouraged to make more use of detailed benchmarking information to challenge services and this has been considered and challenged as part of approving service plans. Services have also been encouraged to benchmark their service against the Cumbrian authorities as part of the service design for the new unitary council.	**Green**
15	Section 24	Continue to put in place robust arrangements for the production of late 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/2022 financial statements, which meet statutory requirements	This recommendation has been accepted as management reported to Council on 13th January; arrangements continued to be refined for the audit of the outstanding financial statements as	Jun-22	Ongoing	**Amber**

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		and international financial reporting standards.	the audits progress. The 2018/19 audit is nearing completion and draft 2019/20 accounts ready for audit. A plan for bringing the audits upto date has been discussed with Grant Thornton and will be further discussed with the Audit Committee at its next meeting. The Council has also, under advice from the auditors recommissioned its valuations from 18/19 onwards.			
16	S24	Ensure the critical financial governance weaknesses identified by DLUHC review and Grant Thornton on medium term financial planning, budgeting assumptions and sensitivity analysis are implemented with immediate effect to enable the Council to set realistic financial revenue plans for the short term.	These recommendations have been accepted as management reported to Council on 13th January; the recommendations relating to medium term financial planning, budgeting assumptions and sensitivity analysis have been included in the Mayor's 2022/23 budget that was approved in February.	Feb-22	Completed	**Green**
17	S24	Protect against overcommitment on the Council's capital ambitions especially in the context of dependency on capital directions and the transition to LGR.	This recommendation has been accepted as management reported to Council on 13th January; We are pleased that the CIPFA report recognised that LGR should hinder investment in services, the Council's Capital Strategy presented to Council in February	Mar-22	Completed	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
			identified affordability as a key pillar in its decision making.			
18	S24	Develop a composite and robust action plan from all the Grant Thornton, DLUHC and CIPFA external reviews, ensuring there is appropriate capacity and capability in place to implement the required governance improvements with adequate and regular oversight and challenge from Full Council, Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit Committee.	This recommendation is accepted, a composite action plan and will be discussed with the Audit Committee to ensure there is appropriate capacity and capability in place to implement the required governance improvements.	Jun-22	Completed	**Green**
19	S24	Immediate action is required to strengthen the Council's internal governance arrangements, especially its Internal Audit service and Audit Committee effectiveness.	This recommendation is accepted. Following previous recommendations by the Auditor the Council has undertaken a review of Internal Audit, and is now implementing those actions, and a review of the Effectiveness of the Audit Committee which it is discussing at its next Audit Committee.	Jun-22	CIPFA recommendations from review of IA and effectiveness of the Audit Committee are built into this composite plan.	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
20	IA Review	There is a potential impairment to the objectivity and independence of the Chief Audit Executive who is also the Council's Director of Financial Resources and Section 151 Officer as the Council has been unable to fill the vacant Audit Manager post. Whilst this arrangement is permitted, it is not ideal, although the Council has arrangements in place to mitigate any potential impairment and maintain the independence and objectivity of both roles. There are however alternative models that should be explored by the Council, for example a shared service arrangement with one of the other authorities that will join with Copeland to become the new West Cumbria Unitary Authority	Currently working with Allerdale Borough Council on the recruitment of a shared Internal Audit Manager post.	Mar-22	Completed	**Green**
21	IA Review	The mission statement from the PSIAS needs to be added to the audit charter at the next revision. The Standards define the Mission of Internal Audit as follows: "To enhance and protect organisational value by providing risk-based and objective assurance, advice and insight".	The mission statement has been included in a draft 2022/23 Internal Audit Charter	Sep-21	Completed. The mission statement has been included in a draft 2022/23 Internal Audit Charter.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
22	IA Review	The statement 'conforms to the public sector internal audit standards' is currently included in the annual report. The standard states that this statement should only be used if it is supported by the outcomes of the QAIP. Unfortunately, this EQA has indicated that the Service is only partially conforming to the PSIAS and therefore it is our opinion that the statement should not be used until the actions set out in the action plan relating to compliance with the PSIAS have been addressed and the Service generally conforms to the standards.	The inclusion of the statement will be revised during the drafting of the next annual report to ensure it is only included when full compliance with PSIAS has been achieved.	Jun-22	Completed	**Green**
23	IA Review	The Chief Audit Executive should undertake an assessment of the skills of the two Senior Auditors and assess these against the needs of the Council. The results of this assessment can then form the basis of a learning and development programme for each of them, which should also include encouraging and supporting them to obtain a relevant qualification, such as completing their AAT qualifications or obtaining the IIA	Initial appraisal meetings have been undertaken and staff training requirements are being assessed.	Sep-21	Completed. Action has been taken to assess training requirements and courses are being discussed, no formal training has commenced yet.	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		Certified Internal Auditor qualification. In addition, the annual appraisals for the Senior Auditors should be undertaken and recorded in accordance with the process in place at the Council.				
24	IA Review	Since the Audit Manager post became vacant in 2019, and, coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic which has increased pressure on the Chief Audit Executive, the recording of evidence that supervision of Internal Audit engagements has taken place has been limited and needs to be strengthened.	Current process will be revised and a suitable method to record the supervision of engagements will be put in place.	Sep-21	Completed. Current process has been revised but this will now be reviewed by the newly appointed IA Manager.	**Green**
25	IA Review	The QAIP needs to be a strengthened and formally documented It should include a wide range of issues including the learning and development of the Senior Auditors, the performance of the service, feedback from stakeholders, any learning points from audits relating to service delivery, issues identified from external sources such as	The QAIP will be revised to include the issues raised. Guidance will be sought from other local authorities. Evidence will be held to support the QAIP summary included in the annual report.	Jun-22	Completed	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		networking events or the CIPFA Better Governance Forum, and the outcomes from the self-assessments and this EQA.				
26	IA Review	The published audit plan consists of a list of audits and the number of days allocated to each one, whereas the standards expect internal audit services to provide more detail than this to the audit committee, such as a brief outline of the scope of the proposed audit, and the priority of each audit, linked to their importance to the Council as a whole. In addition, it is good practice to cross reference the audit plan to the Council's priorities and the strategic risk register to demonstrates how the internal audit plan links to these other key documents.	The Audit Plan report will be revised for 2022/23 to include sufficient detail.	Mar-22	Completed	**Amber**
27	IA Review	Paragraph 2.1 of the 2020/21 annual report states that there have been no threats to the independence of Internal Audit and makes no mention of the dual role of the CAE and S151 Officer. In such circumstance it is good practice to	Annual report will be revised, dependent upon the recruitment of the shared Internal Audit Manager role.	Jun-22	Completed. IA Manager appointed from 04 April and this will remove any possible conflict of interest.	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		make reference to the potential impairment in the annual report to remove any element of doubt for the reader as this document looks back at the year just ended, whereas the audit charter is designed to be forward looking.				
28	IA Review	All internal auditors are required by the standards to undertake continuous professional development and to maintain suitable records of the development undertaken. The Senior Auditors only tend to record training course and they have undertaken and there have been very few of these in the past few years. In reality any form of knowledge enhancement, including networking, reading technical manuals and journals, and carrying out research prior to undertaking an audit are all learning and development opportunities can be recorded on their training logs.	Senior Auditors will now record the routine research which is undertaken during the development of audit scopes and risks.	Sep-21	Ongoing	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
29	IA Review	The Chief Audit Executive should provide a strategic or high-level statement to support the published audit plan, setting out how the audit plan is going to be delivered and where the Chief Audit Executive is going to get assurance from, whether the available resources are adequate and where they are coming from, the various types of audit to be carried out etc. Whilst some information is provided in the covering report that accompanies the published audit plan, it is missing some key elements of a strategic statement and needs to be strengthened.	Advice will be sought as to which additional key elements are required and these will be included in the next audit plan.	Mar-22	Ongoing	**Green**
30	IA Review	Where an audit report is revised after it has been issued, to correct errors or because the assurance opinion has been changed, a revised version of the report should be issued to all of the recipients on the report distribution list. In addition, consideration should also be given to linking the number of high priority recommendations to the assurance opinion, for example if there are, say three or more high priority recommendations, the auditors cannot issue an audit	Consideration with the Audit Committee will be given to revising the definitions and reasoning for the overall assurance opinions, with the possible inclusion of the number of high priority recommendations as a rationale	Nov-21	Ongoing	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		opinion higher than ‘partial assurance’.				
31	IA Review	The audit charter makes reference to consultancy services but does not define what consultancy services are, as required by the PSIAS. There is no section or definition for consultancy services in the audit manual. Definitions need to be added to both documents. An example of a suitable definition is as follows:- “Internal audit also provides an independent and objective consultancy service which is advisory in nature, and generally performed at the specific request of management which evaluates policies, procedures, systems and operations put in place or being considered by management. Such consultancy work is separate from but contributes to the opinion which internal audit provides on risk management control and governance. When performing	Audit charter and manual will be revised to clarify the provision of consultancy services	Jun-22	Ongoing	**Green**

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		consulting services, the internal auditor will maintain objectivity and not take on management responsibility”.				
32	IA Review	From the evidence that we have seen there does not appear to be any assessment of the materiality of the issues that have been identified i.e. the impact the issue has on the Council as a whole, or indeed the cost benefit of the suggested recommendation. It is suggested that materiality and the cost benefit of all recommendations are taken into consideration	Advice will be sought to clarify the requirements so that the materiality of issues will be included in reports where applicable	Sep-21	Ongoing	**Green**
33	IA Review	A section relating to auditors maintaining independence and objectivity, and how to deal with any potential impairments should they arise, should be added to the audit manual.	Audit manual will be revised to include the maintenance of independence and objectivity, and the process of how to deal with any potential impairments should they arise	Sep-21	Completed. IA Manual revised.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
34	IA Review	We suggest that the Service undertakes an in-depth review of the number of days actually required for each audit assignment, based on the various elements of the engagement.	A review of the individual audit budgets will be assessed and consideration given to the drafting of the 2022/23 audit plan	Mar-22	Completed	**Green**
35	IA Review	Internal Audit has used specialist data analytics software applications in the past as they are an efficient way of auditing systems with large volumes of data , but they are no longer doing so. It is suggested that consideration is given to obtaining an application and training the Senior Auditors on its use. There are a number of applications on the market that can be considered, although an application that is commonly found being used in the local government sector is IDEA, which is often coupled with the SmartAnalyser add-on tool to provide an effective and efficient way of auditing the core financial and HR systems. IDEA was used by CBC in the past but is no longer in use.	Consideration will be given to assess the cost benefits of implementation of data analytic software	Mar-22	Completed. Consideration of costs undertaken but, in light of LGR, decision taken not to pursue further. Alternative methods will be used.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
36	IA Review	The Service states that it uses four opinion levels for the audits however, the weakest opinion level is confusing as it has a dual identity being entitled limited / none. Whilst both of these descriptors are in common use by internal audit services, they are usually used on their own and not linked. It is suggested that greater clarity will be achieved if the title of the weakest category is changed to either limited or none, or if preferred, a completely different word such as 'minimal' for example.	Description of audit opinions will be revised to provide clarity	Sep-21	Completed	**Green**
37	Audit Committee Effectiveness	The Audit Committee should undertake an annual self-assessment of its effectiveness using the guidance set out in the CIPFA publication 'Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police (2018)' and use the outcomes from these reviews to develop and enhance the Committee. This should be quite simple to implement and is a low-cost item, although there will be a cost involved if the Council does not already have the latest CIPFA	An annual self-assessment of its effectiveness using the guidance set out in the CIPFA publication 'Audit Committees – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police (2018)' will be undertaken for consideration at the next Audit Committee.	Jun-22	To be discussed at the October Audit Committee	**Amber**

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		guidance (although this may be included as part of a CIPFA publications package if CBC subscribes to one). Undertaking an annual self-assessment of the effectiveness of the Audit Committee is a requirement of the Committee's terms of reference.				
38	AC Eff	The Audit Committee should produce an annual report setting out the work undertaken by the Committee during the year, its achievements, and showing where it has added value to the Council, and present this to Full Council. Production of such a report is common practice amongst audit committees around England. and is already in place for the other overview and scrutiny committees at CBC. Producing such a document tends to raise the profile of the committee with the executive and the members. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a low-cost item.	The Audit Committee will produce an annual report to Council setting out the work undertaken by the Committee during the year with particular focus on bringing the Council's financial statements up to date.	Sep-22	To be discussed at the October Audit Committee	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
39	AC Eff	Officers should put together a programme of training sessions for members of the Committee covering the key topics covered by an audit committee, including the topics referred to above. To minimise the impact on member's time, some training sessions could be held before or after the scheduled Committee meetings, whilst others such as understanding financial statements, risk management and treasury management, may be better as standalone events hosted by an external trainer. Some topics lend themselves to being delivered by web casts or as on-line courses. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.	Agree a training programme with the Audit Committee to support their programme of work in the final year of the Council; 2022/23.	Jun-22	The Director of Financial Resources presented a report to the July Audit Committee	**Green**
40	AC Eff	Officers should put together a series of regular briefing papers for members of the Committee covering current and key topics that should feature on an audit committee's radar, including the subjects referred to above. This action could run in parallel with the training sessions referred to in 5.3 above. The frequency for the issue	Agree the suite of Briefing Papers with the Audit Committee to support their programme of work in the final year of the Council; 2022/23.	Jun-22	To be discussed at the October Audit Committee	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		of the briefing papers should be determined by the Committee, although it is suggested that, initially, this could be monthly.				
41	AC Eff	The Council should consider subscribing to CIPFA's Better Governance Forum as this will provide access to a range of specialist adviser, training courses, webinars, and the quarterly Audit Committee briefings. This action should be quite simple to implement but it does have a cost attached to it.	To Subscribe to CIPFA's Better Governance Forum to provide access to a range of specialist adviser, training courses, webinars, and the quarterly Audit Committee briefings.	Apr-22	This was not completed in time for the July Audit Committee, will discuss with the Audit Committee in October.	**Amber**
42	AC Eff	The Council should consider raising the profile of the Audit Committee by ensuring that all officers and members are aware of its function and how it adds value to the Council. The production of an annual report to Full Council will help with this, but consideration could also be given to the Audit Committee issuing briefing papers for members (and officers) on relevant topics and having a presence on the Council's web site. This action should be quite simple	Discuss the merits of this recommendation with the Audit Committee, the annual report to Full Council will help raise the profile but further work may be of limited value in the final year of the Council.	Mar-22	Discussed with the Audit Committee and agreed is of limited value in the final year of the Council.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.				
43	AC Eff	Many Councils have pre-meetings prior to the Audit Committees that are attended by the key officers and external audit to formalise the agenda for the meeting, and to go through the key issues in the reports being presented to the Committee. This helps the Chair and Vice-chair to get a better understanding of the material issues in the reports that they are receiving and can identify key areas that need to be discussed during the meeting. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.	Pre-meetings with the Chair and Vice-chair of the Committee will be put in place with key officers to discuss the agenda items.	Mar-22	Discussed with the Audit Committee and agreed to put in place.	**Green**
44	AC Eff	Provide copies of key documents produced by CIPFA and the IIA-UK to the Audit Committee as part of a library of relevant reference material.	Provide electronic access to these documents on a dedicated page of the intranet.	Apr-22	This was not completed in time for the July Audit Committee, will discuss with the Audit Committee in October.	**Amber**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
45	AC Eff	Consideration should be given to introducing a process where Heads of Service are required to attend Audit Committee meetings and make a joint presentation with Internal Audit when an audit report is being presented. Internal Audit can set out the details of the audit and the findings, and then the Head of Service can explain the progress they have made in addressing the issues identified during the audit. Using this type of model not only raises the profile of internal audit but is more likely to lead to greater ownership by the Heads of Service of the identified issues and prompt action to rectify them. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.	Invite Heads of Service to attend the Audit Committee when their audit reports are discussed to give a management perspective and progress on key recommendations.	Mar-22	Discussed with the Audit Committee and agreed to put in place.	**Green**
46	AC Eff	Sound risk management is a fundamental part of a well-managed local authority. Some members of the Audit Committee felt that they would like to see more frequent and detailed information on the Council's risk management processes. Consideration should be given to including risk management on	Risk management to be included on every Audit Committee agenda to give members the opportunity to question and challenge officers on the way the Council is managing its strategic and operational risks.	Jun-22	Discussed with the Audit Committee and agreed to put in place.	**Green**

Number	Report	Recommendation	Agreed Action	When	Comment	RAG Status
		every Audit Committee agenda to give members the opportunity to question and challenge officers on the way the Council is managing its strategic and operational risks, the Council's risk appetite and its risk maturity. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.				
47	AC Eff	Consider using working groups of Audit Committee members to carry out in-depth or 'deep dive' exercise on key issues outside of the Committee meetings and feeding back the outcomes of the exercises to the Audit Committee. This action should be quite simple to implement and is a relatively low-cost item.	Discuss with the Audit Committee opportunities for deeper work by the Audit Committee whilst being cognisant of the remit of the committee and the context of the final year of the Council.	Mar-22	Discussed with the Audit Committee and to review at every meeting. Director of Financial Resources to bring options to next AC.	**Green**

Glossary of Terms

Accounting period

The period of time covered by the accounts. Normally a period of twelve months commencing on 1 April and ending on 31 March the following year. The end of the accounting period is the Balance Sheet date.

Accounting Policies

The various conventions, rules, principles and practices which the Council applies in preparing and presenting financial statements.

Accounts

A generic term for financial statements setting out details of income and expenditure or assets and liabilities or both, in a structured manner. Accounts may be categorised either by the type of transactions they record, e.g. revenue account, capital accounts or by the purpose they serve, e.g. management accounts, final accounts, balance sheets.

Accrual

An accrual is a sum included in the accounts to cover income or expenditure attributable to an accounting period for goods received or works done, for which payment has not been received/made by the end of that accounting period. In other words, income and expenditure are recognised when they are earned or incurred, not when they are received or paid.

Actuary

An actuary is a suitably qualified independent consultant employed to advise the Council on the financial position of the Pension Fund.

Actuarial gains and losses

Actuarial gains or losses for defined benefit pension scheme arise because events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation (experience gains and losses); or the actuarial assumptions have changed.

Amortisation

The reduction of the value of an asset over a period. Amortisation, although by definition similar to depreciation, is used for the write-off of intangible assets, for example. It can also refer to the reduction of debt, either through periodic payments of principal and interest, or through use of a sinking fund.

Appropriation

The transfer of resources to and from the reserves.

Asset

An asset is a resource controlled by the Council as a result of past events, from which future economic benefits or service potential is expected to flow to the Council. Assets can be defined as either current or non-current.

- A current asset will be consumed or cease to have material value within the next financial year (e.g. cash and stock)
- A non-current asset provides benefits to the Council and to the services it provides for a period of more than one year, e.g. an office building.

Audit of accounts

An independent examination of the Council's financial affairs, to ensure that relevant legal obligations and codes of practice have been conformed with.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value of all assets and liabilities recognised by the Council at the Balance Sheet date.

Billing Authority

A local council charged by statute with the responsibility for the collection of, and accounting for, Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates, which are then distributed amongst relevant local government bodies in the local county area (including the billing authority itself) and, in the case of Non-Domestic Rates, also central government.

Budget

A budget is a financial statement that expresses the Council's service delivery plans and capital programmes in monetary terms i.e. a forecast of net revenue and capital expenditure. This covers the same period as the financial year and is typically accompanied by longer term financial forecasts.

Capital Adjustment Account

This account represents amounts set aside from revenue resources or capital receipts to finance expenditure on assets, or for the repayment of external loans.

Capital expenditure

Expenditure on the acquisition of a non-current asset, which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure that adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing non-current asset.

Capital financing

Funds applied to pay for capital expenditure. There are various methods of financing capital expenditure including borrowing, leasing, direct revenue financing, usable capital receipts, capital grants, capital contributions, revenue reserves and earmarked reserves.

Capital programme

Details the capital schemes the Council intends to carry out over a specified period of time and also provides estimates of the resources needed to finance the programme.

Capital receipt

The proceeds from the disposal of land or other non-current assets. Proportions of capital receipts of up to 100% can be used to finance new capital expenditure, within rules set down by the Government. They cannot be used to finance revenue expenditure, except in very restricted circumstances.

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

The Capital Financing Requirement is a measure of the Council's need to borrow to support capital expenditure, which has yet to be repaid.

Cash Equivalents

Short term, highly liquid investments, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Cash equivalents are used for the purpose of meeting short term cash commitments, rather than for investment or other purposes.

Cash Flow Statement

This is a mandatory part of the Statement of Accounts and sets out movements in Cash and Cash Equivalents arising from various aspects of the Council's activities.

CIPFA - **The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy**

CIPFA is the main professional body for accountants working in the public service. It produces guidance in relation to various matters concerning the public sector including financial and governance issues.

Collection Fund

A separate fund administered by the Council that records the income and expenditure relating to Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates.

Community assets

Assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historical buildings. Community Assets exclude those assets which are classified as Heritage Assets.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (including Movement in Reserves Statement)

The revenue account of the Council that reports the net cost for the year of the functions for which it is responsible, and demonstrates how that cost has been financed from precepts, grants and other income.

Componentisation

The identification and depreciation of parts of an asset separately, where these have different useful lives and are individually significant relative to the total value of the asset.

Consistency

The concept that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next are the same.

Constructive obligation

An obligation that derives from the Council's actions where:

• by an established pattern of past practice, published policies or a sufficiently specific current statement, the Council has indicated to other parties that it will accept certain responsibilities; and

• as a result, the Council has created a valid expectation on the part of those other parties that it will discharge those responsibilities.

Contingent asset

A contingent asset is a possible asset arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control.

Contingent liability

A contingent liability is either:

• a possible obligation arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control; or

• a present obligation arising from past events where it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Council Tax

A local tax set by local authorities to finance the net budget requirement.

Creditor

Amount owed by the Council for works carried out, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been made by the end of that accounting period.

Current Assets

An asset held which will be used, or received, within twelve months of the Balance Sheet date.

Current Liabilities

An amount which becomes payable, or could be called in, within twelve months of the Balance Sheet date.

Current service cost

The increase in the present value of a defined benefit scheme's liabilities, expected to arise from the employee service in the current period.

Debtor

Amount owed to the Council for works carried out, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but payment for which has not been received by the end of that accounting period.

Deferred Liabilities

A Deferred Liability is a sum of money that is either not payable until some time after the financial year end, or is paid over a number of years. For the Council, this normally relates to phased payments in respect of Finance Leases.

Deferred receipts

Deferred receipts represent income still to be received, where the Council has agreed that amounts are payable beyond the next year, either at some point in the future, or by an annual sum over a period of time.

Defined benefit pension scheme

A pension scheme in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG)

The Central Government department responsible for local government affairs.

Depreciation

The measure of the cost of the wearing out, consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of the Council's non-current assets during the accounting period, whether from use, passage of time or obsolescence through technological or other changes.

Direct Revenue Contribution/Financing

Resources provided from the revenue budget to help finance the cost of capital projects.

Discretionary benefits

Retirement benefits which the employer has no legal, contractual or constructive obligation to award and are awarded under the Council's discretionary powers.

Earmarked Reserves

Those reserves which have been established to meet specific, known or estimated future expenditure.

Emoluments

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expense allowances and the money value of any other benefits received other than in cash. Pension contributions payable by either employer or employee are excluded.

Exceptional items

Material items which derive from events or transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the Council and which need to be disclosed separately by virtue of their size or incidence to give fair presentation of the accounts.

Expected return on pension assets

For a funded defined benefit scheme, the average rate of return, including both income and changes in fair value but net of scheme expenses, expected over the remaining life of the related obligation on the actual assets held by the scheme.

Fair value

Fair Value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fees and Charges

Councils are permitted to agree fees and charges to help cover the cost of a range of services. Amongst the most common examples are those for planning applications, building control, car parking and licences.

Finance lease

A lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership associated with a non-current asset to the lessee.

General Fund

The main revenue fund of a local council to which day-to-day income and expenditure on and from services are charged and credited. It also receives income in respect of Government financial support, Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax. A balance is maintained to provide assurance against future financial risk and to support, or receive a surplus from, net expenditure on services.

Going concern

The concept that the Statement of Accounts is prepared on the assumption that the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Government grants

Grants made by the Government towards either revenue or capital expenditure in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Council. These grants may be specific to a particular scheme or may support the revenue spend of the Council in general.

Heritage Assets

Tangible assets with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities, which are held principally for their contribution to knowledge or culture.

Housing Benefits

A system of financial assistance to eligible individuals towards certain housing costs administered by authorities and subsidised by Central Government.

Impairment Loss

A reduction in the value of a non-current asset, below its carrying amount on the Balance Sheet.

Income

Amounts that the Council receives or expects to receive from any source, including fees, charges, sales and grants.

Infrastructure assets

Non-current assets belonging to the Council that cannot be transferred or sold, expenditure on which is only recoverable by continued use of the asset created. Examples are highways, footpaths and bridges.

Intangible asset

An identifiable non-monetary asset which has no physical substance. It must be controlled by the Council and future economic benefits must be expected to flow from it to the Council. The most common form of Intangible Asset in local authorities is software licenses.

Interest

An amount received or paid for the use of a sum of money when it is invested or borrowed.

Interest cost (pensions)

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period in the present value of the scheme liabilities because the benefits are one period closer to settlement.

International Accounting Standards (IAS)

These are issued by the Accounting Standards Board to provide information on the required standards for the preparation of the Council's financial statements. As far as possible, the Council prepares its financial statements in accordance with IAS, where they apply to local authorities.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

IFRS is the prescribed format for all local councils' Statement of Accounts. The Code of Practice gives detailed guidance on how the council should account for its transactions in the statements and notes explaining the transactions.

Investments (Pension Fund)

The investments of the Pension Fund will be accounted for in the statements of that fund. However, authorities are also required to disclose, as part of the disclosures relating to retirement benefits, the attributable share of pension scheme assets associated with their underlying obligations.

Investment Property

A property held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation (or both).

Liquid resources

Current asset investments that are readily disposable by the Council without disrupting its business and are either:

- readily convertible to known amounts of cash at or close to the carrying amount; or
- traded in an active market.

Long-term contract

A contract entered into for the design, manufacture or construction of a single substantial asset or the provision of a service (or a combination of assets or services which together constitute a single project), where the time taken to substantially complete the contract is such that the contract activity falls into more than one accounting period.

Materiality

The concept that the Statement of Accounts should include all amounts which, if omitted or misstated, could be expected to lead to a distortion of the financial statements and ultimately mislead a user of the accounts.

Members' Allowances

A scheme of payments to elected Council members in recognition of their duties and responsibilities.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

The minimum amount which must be charged to the revenue account each year in order to provide for the repayment of loans or other credit arrangements entered into by the Council.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

The Non-Domestic Rate is a levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by the Government and multiplied by the assessed rateable value of the premises they occupy. It is collected by the Council in its role as billing authority and is apportioned between the Council itself, Central Government and Cumbria County Council

Net book value

The amount at which assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical costs or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

Net debt

The Council's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

Net worth

This is the overall value of the Balance Sheet at the end of the financial period.

Non-current Assets

Assets that have physical substance and are held for the provision of services, or for administration purposes, on a continuing basis.

Non-distributed costs

These are overheads for which no user now benefits and as such are not apportioned to services.

Operating lease

A lease where the ownership of the fixed asset remains with the lessor.

Operating (or Service) Segment

A service, or group of services, based on the Council's internal management structure, which is used in the reporting of expenditure and income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The objective of reporting in this way is to enable users for the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the activities in which the Council engages and the economic environments in which it operates.

Outturn

The final financial position for the year.

Past service costs

For a defined benefit scheme, the change to the present value of the scheme liabilities related to employee service in prior periods arising in the current period as a result of the introduction of, or improvement to, retirement benefits.

Pension scheme liabilities

The liabilities of a defined benefit scheme for outgoings due after the valuation date. Scheme liabilities measured by the projected unit method reflect the benefits that the employer is committed to provide for service up to the valuation date.

Private finance initiative (PFI)

A Central Government initiative whereby local authorities do not buy assets used to provide public services but rather pay for the use of assets held by a private sector provider, who is responsible for making the asset available to the Council, for maintaining it and for managing the risks associated with it.

Post Balance Sheet events

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, of such materiality that their disclosure is required for the fair presentation of the Council's statements, which occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date on which the Statement of Accounts is signed by the responsible financial officer.

Precept

The demand made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from Council Tax payers on their behalf.

Prior period adjustment

Material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. This does not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

Projected unit method

An accrued benefits valuation method in which the pension scheme liabilities make allowance for projected earnings. The accrued benefits are the benefits for service up to a given point in time, whether vested rights or not.

Provision

An amount put aside in the accounts for future liabilities or losses but the amounts or dates of when they will arise are uncertain.

Prudence

Prudence is the accounting concept that seeks to ensure that estimates of income are conservative and not overstated and that estimates of liabilities and costs are not understated.

Prudential Indicators

The CIPFA Prudential Code For Capital Finance In Local Authorities requires authorities to agree and monitor a defined suite of indicators to help inform whether capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)

A Central Government agency, which provides loans for one year and above to authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the Government itself can borrow.

Rateable value

The annual assumed rental value of a hereditament, which is used for NNDR purposes.

Related parties

A detailed definition of related parties can be found in IFRS 8. For the Council's purposes, related parties are deemed to include the Council's Members, the Managing Director, its Directors, and close family and household members of those persons.

Related party transactions

Material transactions between the Council and related parties to ensure that stakeholders are aware when these transactions occur and the amount and implications of such.

Reserves

The accumulation of surpluses, deficits and appropriations over past years. Reserves of a revenue nature are available and can be spent or earmarked at the discretion of the Council. Some capital reserves such as the revaluation reserve cannot be used to meet current expenditure.

Residual value

The net realisable value of an asset at the end of its useful life.

Retirement benefits

All forms of consideration given by an employer in exchange for services rendered by employees that are payable after the completion of employment.

Revaluation Reserve

An account representing the balance of net surpluses arising on the revaluation of non-current assets (excluding investments).

Revenue expenditure

The day-to-day expenses of providing services.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Capital expenditure, which may be properly capitalised but which does not result in or remain matched with tangible non-current assets owned by the Council. This expenditure typically relates to Disabled Facilities Grants and other grants made to individuals or organisations to fund works to their properties, but can also include other items specified by the Secretary of State under the relevant legislation.

Revenue Support Grant

A grant paid by Central Government to authorities, contributing towards the general cost of their services.

Risk Management

The proactive adoption of a planned and systematic approach to the identification, evaluation and management of risk.

Section 151 Officer (S.151)

Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires the Council to appoint an officer responsible for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. The Director of Commercial and Corporate Resources is the Council's Section 151 Officer.

Service Reporting Code of Practice (SeRCOP)

A CIPFA Code of Practice designed to facilitate consistency in accounting for and reporting costs and income across local authorities, thereby allowing more meaningful comparisons of financial information between them.

Inventory

Items of raw materials and stores a council has procured and holds in expectation of future use. Examples are consumable stores, raw materials and products and services in intermediate stages of completion.

Temporary borrowing

Money borrowed for a period of less than one year.

Useful economic life

The period over which the Council will derive benefits from the use of a non-current asset.

Treasury Management

The management of the Council's borrowing, investments and cash flow, the associated risks and the pursuit of appropriate returns, consistent with those risks. Treasury Management also encompasses setting and monitoring compliance with a defined suite of Prudential Indicators.

Work in progress

The cost of work performed on an uncompleted project at the Balance Sheet date, which should be accounted for.