County Council

Date: Tuesday, 13 October 2020
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Membership

Alan Cockburn (Chair), Peter Gilbert (Vice Chair), Helen Adkins, Jo Barker, Margaret Bell, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Mike Brain, Peter Butlin, Les Caborn, Mark Cargill, Jonathan Chilvers, Jeff Clarke, John Cooke, Andy Crump, Yousef Dahmash, Corinne Davies, Nicola Davies, Neil Dirveiks, Judy Falp, Jenny Fradgley, Bill Gifford, Daniel Gissane, Clare Golby, Seb Gran, Colin Hayfield, John Holland, John Horner, Andy Jenns, Kam Kaur, Keith Kondakor, Jeff Morgan, Maggie O'Rourke, Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Anne Parry, Dave Parsons, Caroline Phillips, Wallace Redford, David Reilly, Clive Rickhards, Howard Roberts, Kate Rolfe, Jerry Roodhouse, Andy Sargeant, Izzi Seccombe, Dave Shilton, Jill Simpson-Vince, Dominic Skinner, Heather Timms, Adrian Warwick, Alan Webb, Chris Williams, Pam Williams, Andrew Wright

Items on the agenda: -

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence from members of Council.

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

To receive any disclosure of interest from members of Council.

(3) Minutes of Previous Meetings 5 - 46

To agree the minutes of the meetings of Council held on 23 July 2020 and 22 September 2020.

(4) Chair's Announcements

For the Chair of Council to make any announcements.

(5) Petitions

To receive any petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme.

(6) Public Speaking

To note any requests to speak on any item on the agenda in accordance with the Council's Public Speaking Scheme (see note at end of the agenda).

2. Statement of Accounts 2019/2020 — 47 - 158

This report presents the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20.

3. Warwickshire Pension Fund Accounts 2019/20 — 159 - 210

A report that sets out the accounts for the Warwickshire pension Fund and seeks Council approval.

4. Annual Governance Statement 2019/20 — 211 - 232

With this report members are asked to consider and approve the Council's Annual Governance Statement.

5. Capital Investment Fund 2020/21 Quarter 2 — 233 - 244

On 10th September 2020 Cabinet supported the recommendations within this report and as these schemes exceed £2 million agreed to recommend that Full Council approve the schemes and add to the Capital Programme.

6. Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) CIF Bid — 245 - 262

This report to Council follows on from the 8 October meeting of Cabinet. It seeks Council approval for funding for highway mitigation schemes on the A444 in Nuneaton.

7. Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Proposed Revisions to Terms of Reference — 263 - 270

8. Local Pension Board: Terms of Reference — 271 - 282

Council is requested to approve revisions to the terms of reference to the Warwickshire Pension Board.

9. Appointment of Scheme Member Representative to LGPS Local Pension Board

283 - 284

A report that seeks Council approval of the appointment of a new member of the Local Pension Board.

10. Notices of Motion

To consider the following motion submitted by members in accordance with Standing Order 5:

Affordable Housing

Recent research has clearly established that the increasing costs of private rental is a very significant factor in causing in work poverty and an affordable decent home is a fundamental requirement of good physical and mental health. The LGA has recognised this and recommended that local authorities should be allowed to retain 100% of right to buy receipts and to set any discounts locally so that more homes to rent can be built or purchased.

In its role as a Public Health Authority and in support of its stated agenda to “level up” health inequalities and social inclusion across Warwickshire this Council urges the government to increase the supply of affordable housing and to urgently implement the LGA’s recommendations in the light of the developing recession associated with the covid pandemic and the expected health crises which will develop as a result of increasing levels of poverty and deprivation.

Proposer: Councillor Dave Parsons

Seconder: Councillor Caroline Phillips

11. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

A period of up to 40 minutes is allocated for questions to the Leader, Cabinet Portfolio Holders and Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

12. Any Other items of Urgent Business

To consider any other items that the Chair considers are urgent.

Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive
Warwickshire County Council

Shire Hall, Warwick

To download papers for this meeting scan here with your camera

Disclaimers

Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he has a dispensation):

• Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
• Not participate in any discussion or vote
• Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with
• Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting
The public reports referred to are available on the Warwickshire Web
https://democracy.warwickshire.gov.uk/uuCoverPage.aspx?bcr=1

Public Speaking

Any member of the public who is resident or working in Warwickshire, or who is in receipt of services from the Council, may speak at the meeting for up to three minutes on any matter within the remit of the Committee. This can be in the form of a statement or a question. If you wish to speak please notify Democratic Services in writing at least two working days before the meeting. You should give your name and address and the subject upon which you wish to speak. Full details of the public speaking scheme are set out in the Council's Standing Orders.

This page is intentionally left blank

County Council

Thursday, 23 July 2020

Minutes

Attendance

Members

Councillors Alan Cockburn (Chair), Pete Gilbert (Vice Chair), Helen Adkins, Jo Barker, Margaret Bell, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Mike Brain, Peter Butlin, Les Caborn, Mark Cargill, Jonathan Chilvers, John Cooke, Andy Crump, Yousef Dahmash, Corinne Davies, Nicola Davies, Neil Dirveiks, Judy Falp, Jenny Fradgley, Bill Gifford, Daniel Gissane, Clare Golby, Seb Gran, Colin Hayfield, John Holland, John Horner, Andy Jenns, Kam Kaur, Keith Kondakor, Jeff Morgan, Maggie O'Rourke, Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Dave Parsons, Caroline Phillips, Wallace Redford, Clive Rickhards, Howard Roberts, Kate Rolfe, Jerry Roodhouse, Andy Sargeant, Izzi Seccombe, Dave Shilton, Jill Simpson-Vince, Dominic Skinner, Bob Stevens, Heather Timms, Adrian Warwick, Alan Webb, Chris Williams, Pam Williams, Andrew Wright

Officers
Monica Fogarty, Chief Executive
Nigel Minns, Strategic Director for People
Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities
Rob Powell, Strategic Director for Resources
Paul Williams, Democratic Services Team Leader

1. Election of Chair of Council

The meeting was opened by Councillor Nicola Davies, the outgoing Chair of Council. Councillor Davies requested nominations for the Chair of Council for 2020/21.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Leader of the Council) nominated Councillor Alan Cockburn. Councillor Peter Butlin (Deputy Leader of the Council) seconded the nomination. No other nominations were proposed.

Vote

Monica Fogarty (Chief Executive) oversaw the vote. 48 Members voted for. There were 2 abstentions and none against.

Councillor Alan Cockburn took the Chair and proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Nicola Davies. This was seconded by Councillor Sarah Board who commended the work undertaken by Councillor Davies since May 2019.

Councillor Davies duly thanked Council for its support during her tenure and especially thanked those officers who had helped her in her role as Chair.

Resolved:
That Councillor Alan Cockburn be elected Chair of Council until the annual meeting of the Council in 2021.

2. Election of Vice Chair of Council

Councillor Seb Gran nominated Councillor Peter Gilbert to the position of Vice Chair of Council for the period to May 2021. The nomination was seconded by Councillor Yousef Dahmash. There were no further nominations.

Vote

Monica Fogarty oversaw the vote. 48 members voted for. There were two abstentions and no votes against.

Councillor Peter Gilbert thanked Council for its support.

Resolved:

That Councillor Pete Gilbert be elected Vice-Chair of Council until the annual meeting of the Council in 2021.

3. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jeff Clarke, John Cooke (Part of meeting only), Anne Parry and Dave Reilly.

(2) Dispensations for Absence

None required.

(3) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

None.

(4) Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 February 2020 were considered and agreed to be accurate.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18 February 2020 are approved as a correct record.

(5) Chair's announcements

Councillor Alan Cockburn announced the passing of four ex-Councillors and Councillors since the last meeting of Council.

1) Ex-Councillor Stanley Birch – Ex-Councillor Stanley Birch, having been elected to Leamington Borough Council in 1964, joined Warwickshire County Council in 1970. He served the Council for 23 years and was Chair in 1989/90. He was Chair of the Police Authority between 1973 and 1987. In addition, Stanley Birch was active in the area of health being at one point the Chair of South Warwickshire Health Authority. As well as supporting the voluntary and community sector, Stanley Birch was instrumental in the setting up of the first women's refuge in Warwickshire.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) acknowledged the life and work of Stanley Birch having met him when he was Chair of the Police Authority.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) had known Stanley Birch and acknowledged him as a good servant to the public.

2) Ex-Councillor Bernard Kirton – Ex-Councillor Bernard Kirton passed away on 7 April 2020.

Councillor Judy Falp opened the tributes stating that she had known Bernard Kirton for over 25 years. He was a mentor and a friend who was stubborn and hardworking and helped people quietly behind the scenes.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse remembered Bernard Kirton's negotiating skills; making sure that the people of Whitnash benefitted from any deals needing to be made.

Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi recounted how he had been persuaded by Bernard Kirton to stand as a councillor. He would always be remembered as the "King of Whitnash".

Councillor Sarah Boad stated that she had often sat next to Bernard Kirton at meetings and found him to be good company. He was also an early adopter of new technologies such as fax machines.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers (Leader of the Green Group) stated that Bernard Kirton had acted as a fine role model to him.

Councillor John Holland noted how helpful Bernard Kirton had always been. He always sought to find out what people really wanted to achieve.

Councillor Neil Dirveiks informed Council that despite living in the north of Warwickshire he had known of Bernard Kirton all of his life. He commended Bernard Kirton for always speaking up for the people in his community.

3. Councillor Bill Olner – Councillor Bill Olner passed away on 18 May 2020 whilst still in office.

Councillor Helen Adkins (Acting Leader of the Labour Group) mourned the loss of a "political giant". She stated that she had not previously known how appreciated he was by the community he served. He demonstrated tireless commitment to the most vulnerable and was a very kind person.

Councillor Jeff Morgan stated that Bill Olner and his wife Gill had been good friends to his parents. In 2003, on the occasion of Councillor Morgan's Father's 90th birthday Councillor Olner had arranged for a birthday card to be signed by Tony Blair. This reflected his generous personality.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse regarded Bill Olner as a good friend and observed what a good team Bill and Gill had been.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke (Acting Deputy Leader of the Labour Group) regretted not being able to say goodbye properly to Bill Olner. She had known him for 20 years and had worked with him to secure pay increases for local NHS staff. He always did the very best for his town.

Councillor Dave Parsons had grown to know Bill Olner very quickly and really appreciated his integrity and humour. Having worked for Rolls Royce, Bill Olner became an MP serving in Westminster for 18 years. Bill Olner would now be resting in a good place.

Councillor John Holland recognised Bill Olner's local and national reputation.

Councillor Judy Falp stated that Bill Olner was a true Labour man who worked hard for his community and the George Eliot Hospital and Mary Ann Evans Hospice.

Councillor Keith Kondakor recognised the political differences between himself and Bill Olner but always found him approachable. He could often be found chatting to people in the town centre on a Saturday morning.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe saw Bill Olner as a guiding light and a great friend to all.

Councillor Pete Gilbert had known Bill Olner all of his life. Bill, he said, was selfless and had secured him an internship at the Houses of Parliament.

4. Councillor Richard Chattaway – Councillor Richard Chattaway (Leader of the Labour Group) passed away on 19 June 2020 whilst still in office.

Councillor Helen Adkins stated that Richard Chattaway had led the Labour Group at the County Council with skill and dedication. He believed strongly in building consensus and also in picking the right battle. Warm and friendly he never complained when his health was failing, and he continued to work for the people of Warwickshire right up to the end.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe stated that Richard Chattaway had been a great friend to her. He was passionate about the community and about his Group on the Council. A staunch advocate of the forces community he always supported the Armed Forces Day and Armistice Day in Bedworth. He always sought ways in which the lives of people living in his community could be improved.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse got to know Richard Chattaway during a review of the Fire and Rescue Service. He had a fine eye for detail and would dedicate a great deal of time getting to understand the information presented to him. He was always ready to sit and discuss issues to find solutions and was a great friend to his community.

Councillor Jonathon Chilvers stated that he had always enjoyed spending time with Richard Chattaway who was always caring and professional.

Councillor Maggie O'Rourke stated that Richard Chattaway had always been a man of the people who had quietly raised a great deal of money for charities. His enthusiasm and commitment would never be forgotten.

Councillor Caroline Philips told the meeting that she felt blessed to have known Richard Chattaway. He had true Labour values, had served in the army, worked hard for the Armistice Day commemorations and was proud of his town of Bedworth. Following his retirement from full time employment he served night shifts at a residence for people with disabilities.

Councillor Andy Crump (Portfolio Holder for Fire & Rescue and Community Safety) expressed his thanks for the support that Richard Chattaway had given him concerning the Fire and Rescue Service.

Councillor Judy Falp recognised Richard Chattaway as strong Labour man who had displayed a high degree of thoroughness and dedication to his role.

Councillor Pete Gilbert had known Richard Chattaway for many years. He was passionate about his hometown and served his country and his community well.

Councillor John Holland stated that Richard Chattaway was always highly credible and cheerful. He would be sorely missed.

(6) Petitions

None

(7) Public Speaking

The Chair welcomed two public speakers to the meeting, Sally Duns and Susan Rasmussen.

1) Sally Duns, speaking on Agenda item 8, opened by stating that she had lived in Warwick for 25 years and in Hampton Magna for 18 years. She, along with family members, were

keen cyclists who enjoyed seeing other people using their bicycles during the lockdown period. Recognising the mental and physical benefits of cycling as well as those on the environment Sally Duns commended the proposals before Council but asked that more be done to provide a joined-up network of cycle routes.

2) Susan Rasmussen spoke to a motion being tabled by the Green Group. She called on Council to support green alternatives to motor transport noting that cycling and walking can bring about significant benefits. A network of segregated cycle routes should be constructed whilst school children should be encouraged to walk and cycle to school. Urban areas should have a standard 20mph speed limit with a "whole route" approach being adopted to transport planning. Consultation on the Local Plan had provided evidence that many people in Leamington Spa would support these measures.

The Chair thanked the speakers for their contributions.

4. Appointments to Committees

Councillor Izzi Seccombe moved the recommendations before Council and was seconded by Councillor Helen Adkins.

Following a brief introduction by Councillor Seccombe Council voted on the recommendations. They were agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

1. That the Council confirms the Committee structure and delegations to member bodies and officers as set out in the Constitution

2. That the number of places on Council Committees be as follows:

Cttees	**Con**	**Lab**	**LD**	**GR**	**WRA**	**Ind Con**	**Ind Con**	**Ind Lab**	**Vac**	**Vac**	**Total**
Audit & Standards Committee (6)	3	1	1							1	6
Regulatory Committee (12)	7	2	2						1		12
Staff & Pensions Committee (6)	4	1	1								6
Adult Social Care & Health (10)	6	1	2	1							10
Children and Young People (10)	6	1	1	1			1				10
Communities	6	1	1	1		1					10

(10)											
Resources and Fire & Rescue (10)	6	1	1		1			1			10
Entitlement Political Balance	**38**	**8**	**9**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**64**

3. That the Council appoints the committees and membership:

Committees	Con	Lab	LD	Green	WRA/Ind Vacancy	Total
Audit & Standards Committee (6 +2 co-optees) J Bridgeman * +Vacancy	Singh Birdi Horner Reilly	Dirveiks	Gifford		Vacancy	**6**
Regulatory Committee	Cargill Cooke Parry Reilly Simpson-Vince Warwick C.Williams	Phillips Dirveiks	Rolfe Rickhards		Vacancy	**12**
Staff and Pensions Committee	Horner Kaur Singh-Pandher Stevens	Dirveiks	Gifford			**6**
Adult Social Care & Health OSC	Barker Bell Brain Cooke Jenns Redford	Adkins (Sp)	Roodhouse (Sp) Kate Rolfe	Kondakor (Sp)		**10**
Children &Young People OSC	Bell Dahmash Gilbert Roberts CWilliams PWilliams	C.Davies (Sp)	Skinner (Sp)	Chilvers (Sp)	Gissane	**10**
Communities OSC	Golby Gran Jenns Singh-Pandher Shilton Wright	Holland (Sp)	Fradgley (Sp)	Kondakor (Sp)	Sargeant	**10**

Resources and Fire & Rescue OSC	Singh Birdi Cooke Gilbert Jenns Reilly Warwick	O'Rourke (sp)	Boad (Sp)		Falp Webb	**10**
Joint Staff Negotiating Body *Leader appointment	Kaur* Hayfield*	O'Rourke	Gifford			
Joint Teachers Negotiating Body *Leader appointment	Kaur* Hayfield*	Dirveiks	Gifford			
Pension Fund Sub-Committee *appointments are made by Staff and Pensions Committee	Stevens Horner Redford	Dirveiks	Gifford			
Pool of Members to sit on Appointments Sub-Committees and Staff Appeals Sub-Committees. *appointments are made by Staff and Pensions Committee	Butlin Caborn Cargill Clarke Cockburn Dahmash Hayfield Horner Kaur Morgan Redford Roberts Simpson-Vince Seccombe Singh Birdi Singh Pandher Stevens Timms Warwick P Williams	Adkins Vacancy O'Rourke Parsons	Boad N.Davies Rickhards Roodhouse	Kondakor		

4. (a) That John Bridgeman be confirmed as the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee.

5. (a) That the Council confirms/amends membership to the following bodies:

	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
Health and Wellbeing Board (4)	Caborn Morgan Seccombe	Parsons	
Joint Coventry & Warwickshire Health OSC (5)	Bell Golby Redford	Adkins	Roodhouse
Corporate Parenting Panel (6)	Gilbert Morgan C Williams P Williams	Phillips	Rickhards
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (5)	Golby P Williams Singh Birdi	Phillips	Boad
Warwickshire Waste Partnership (5)	Timms Horner Wright	Dirveiks	Fradgley

(b) That Cllr Caborn is appointed as the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board

(c) That the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services is appointed as the Chair of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

6. (a) That the following be appointed to the LGPS Local Pension Board and Fire & Rescue Local Pensions Board:

LGPS *Local Pension Board*	*End of term of office*
Mike Snow [Employers Rep]	July 2023
Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board	*End of term of office*
Councillor David Reilly [Employer Representative]	July 2023
Dawn Suckling [Employer Representative]	July 2023

(b) That the Council confirms that the Employer Representatives on the Fire & Rescue Local Pension Board be either members or officers of Warwickshire County Council.

7. That the following County Councillors be appointed to the Police and Crime Panel: [5 = 2 CON 1LAB 2 LD]

Councillors N.Davies, Gilbert, Wright, O'Rourke and Fradgley

8. That the Council confirms/appoints to the following external bodies

	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat
LEP (1)	Butlin		
LGA (4)	Seccombe Butlin	Adkins	Roodhouse
CCN (4)	Seccombe Butlin	Adkins	Roodhouse
LGA Fire Commission	Crump		

9. That Council confirms the delegations to officers as set out in the Constitution.

10. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director Resources to make such amendments to the Council's Constitution as may be required as a consequence of any changes agreed by the Council.

5. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20

Councillor Yousef Dahmash (Chair of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee) moved the recommendation and was seconded by Councillor Wallace Redford (Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) who reserved his right to speak.

Councillor Dahmash thanked members and officers for their contribution to the work of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC). In addition, he thanked the Portfolio Holders for their contributions at meetings. It was noted that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on the operation of his committee, but the re-establishment of meetings was welcomed. Prior to lockdown the opportunity had been taken by the committee to hear from frontline officers and service users to gauge their views. This had been welcomed by those who had been invited to the meetings and been very successful. In addition, pre-meeting briefings had been held for members. Again, the opportunity had been taken to meet front line staff. Overall, the committee had displayed very good cross-party working.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers echoed the previous remarks concerning the efficacy of hearing from service providers and users but did suggest that more should be done to develop focused recommendations stemming from those discussions.

Councillor Alan Cockburn (Outgoing Chair of the Communities OSC) noted the extent of public interest in scrutiny and commended the use of single item meetings for thoroughly exploring topics.

Councillor Adrian Warwick (Chair of the Resources and Fire & Rescue OSC) thanked officers and members for their support of the scrutiny process and commended all staff for their ongoing commitment and hard work during the current pandemic.

Councillor Keith Kondakor stated that scrutiny is effective at the County Council. In particular, he welcomed that members who are not on a particular committee are permitted to speak if they wish to share their knowledge or opinions. He also noted that single issue meetings are a good means of thoroughly exploring a topic.

Councillor Wallace Redford supported all that had been said previously. He noted that the agenda for the Adult Social Care and Health OSC will need to adapt to reflect the impact of Covid-19. The joint OSC with Coventry had worked well as had the pre-meeting briefings often provided by the Department of Public Health.

A vote was held and the recommendation agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

That Council notes the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/2020.

6. Annual Monitor of use of the Urgency and Call-in procedures 2019/20

Councillor Izzi Seccombe introduced the report, drawing a distinction between those decisions made prior to the Covid -19 pandemic and those made during it.

Councillor Peter Butlin seconded the recommendation and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers welcomed the opportunity to comment on Covid-19 related items adding that in some other local authorities it was the Chief Executive that was taking the decisions; a process that sometimes lacks transparency. He suggested that the County Council had been slow to introduce remote meetings but welcomed that they are now operational.

Councillor Keith Kondakor stated that in some instances urgency can deny an opportunity to contribute to discussions on an issue, The example he used concerned a bid to the DfT for an electric bus initiative where tight deadlines set by the DfT had meant that the report and subsequent decision had needed to be made very quickly.

Councillor Mark Cargill welcomed the briefings that are delivered by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive. He also noted that district and borough councils have responded well to the pandemic.

In summing up, the Leader commended the council for being agile in its decision-making. The time taken by the council to introduce virtual meetings was no greater than other councils and the speed with which remote working had been introduced was commendable.

A vote was held and the recommendation agreed unanimously.

Resolved:
That Council notes the report.

7. Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy

Councillor Peter Butlin explained that the report before Council had largely been written prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Key features of the strategy included a proposal to borrow over a longer period n order to secure better returns, the spreading of risks across the entire council and further consideration of ethical investments that will support the Council's climate emergency work.

Councillor Adrian Warwick seconded the recommendations and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Keith Kondakor suggested that the Covid-19 pandemic will have changed the risk profile for the council. For example, property investments that previously promised good returns may no longer do so. Some councils, he added, have over invested in projects such as inter-council loans with some councils being placed in a difficult position owing to falling income.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse welcomed the references to ethical investment adding that the evidence available suggested that interest in this area is likely to increase.

Councillor Adrian Warwick stated that the County Council is in a better position financially than many other local authorities.

Councillor Peter Butlin concluded by noting that ethical investments, like any other, must work for the benefit of the council.

A vote was held. The recommendations were agreed with one abstention and no votes against.

Resolved that:

1. The Treasury Management Strategy for 2020/21 (Appendix 1 to the report) be approved and that its provisions have effect from 1st April 2020.
2. The Investment Strategy for 2020/21 be approved (Appendix 2 to the report).
3. The Council require the Strategic Director for Resources to ensure that gross borrowing does not exceed the prudential level as specified in Appendix 1 Annex B to the report, taking into account current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in the budget report.
4. The Council delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Resources to undertake all the activities listed in Appendix 1 Annex H of the report.
5. The Council requires the Strategic Director for Resources to implement the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy as specified in Appendix 1 Annex I to the report.
6. The Council notes the decision of the Leader to enable an option to make an early payment of pension fund contributions subject to the conditions set out at Section 7.24 of the Treasury Management Strategy being met.

8. Capital Investment Fund 2019/20 Warwick Town Centre Transport Package

Councillor Peter Butlin introduced the published report and thanked Sally Duns for her earlier comments. He thanked the local members for Warwick along with officers for the efforts they had put into the scheme.

Councillor Parminder Singh Birdi seconded the proposal adding that he agreed with all of its objectives.

Councillor John Holland welcomed the scheme and Councillor Keith Kondakor, as well as requesting that the model being used be copied elsewhere, requested that funds be set aside to assist with snagging and other contingencies.

Councillor Peter Butlin closed by saying that funds to cover contingencies had been identified.

A vote was held and the recommendations agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

1. That the Council approves an allocation of £4.046 million funding from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) to deliver a transport package for Warwick town centre (as set out in paragraph 2.1 and 3.1) and the addition of the project to the Capital Programme at a full cost of £4.418 million with the balance of funding coming from the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director for Communities to procure and enter any agreements to give effect to the proposals on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

9. Historic Bridge Maintenance Programme - Capital Programme Entry

Councillor Jo Barker moved the recommendation observing that Honnington Bridge in her division was often damaged by floating debris.

Councillor Mark Cargill seconded the recommendation and reserved the right to speak.

A number of members with historic bridges in their divisions commended the proposals. Councillor Cargill observed that in his division there are two historic bridges in his area and in summing up Councillor Barker congratulated the officers and the Executive for securing the funding.

A vote was held. The recommendation was agreed unanimously.

Resolved:
That the Council approve the addition of the Historic Bridge Maintenance Programme to the capital programme at an estimated cost of £6.30m, funded from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) and the Department for Transport (DfT) Challenge Fund.

10. Warwickshire Rail Strategy 2019 - 2034

Councillor Peter Butlin introduced the report noting that the rail strategy had been subject to extensive consultation reviewing access, ticketing, links, new stations and devolution. The results of the Williams Rail Review had been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Council was informed that Covid-19 had led to a downturn in rail travel to the extent that the rail franchises had effectively ceased to exist. Future rail service delivery may be through public service contracts rather than franchises.

Councillor Dave Shilton seconded the proposal and reserved the right to speak.

Councillor Dave Parsons accepted that the rail strategy was not contentious but suggested that it was not ambitious either. He noted that issues around track capacity were closely linked to HS2, a scheme to which the Council was opposed. There was reference to a new station at Polesworth in the strongly but the case for it was not made strongly.

Councillor John Horner noted that the strategy had been drafted pre-Covid-19. Given the decline in tourism in Stratford-upon-Avon he wondered whether more emphasis should be made to links between Stratford and London thus increasing the potential for attracting tourists.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse agreed that the effect of the pandemic should be reflected in a more ambitious strategy. Rugby Parkway station will be welcomed but for it to succeed there will be a need for cycle links, e-bikes, integrated travel and integrated ticketing.

Councillor Keith Kondakor noted that despite having a station with seven platforms, Nuneaton is not served by an adequate number of trains. The Manchester stopping service will not stop at Nuneaton and Leicester services bypass the station. A proposal for a new station adjacent to the A5 north of Nuneaton is not realistic. The focus should be on existing stations and on the construction of a new station at Stockingford where there is already a catchment of prospective passengers. Finally, Councillor Kondakor called for a new entrance to be provided on the Weddington side of Nuneaton station.

Councillor Clare Golby echoed the views regarding the need for a new station at Stockingford and for a Weddington side entrance to Nuneaton station.

Councillor Neil Dirveiks reminded Council that the strategy being considered was a high-level document. People, he said, require easy access to stations. He cited Atherstone where an access bridge had been removed at a time when patronage was on the rise.

Councillor Jill-Simpson Vince echoed her support for Rugby Parkway station stating that it will take pressure of the main station in Rugby. Councillor Yousef Dahmash observed that some minor improvements proposed for Rugby station had been a long time in coming. Regarding Rugby Parkway, whilst agreeing that it would be a welcome addition, he noted that it may have a negative impact on the A428 Crick

Road. Councillor Maggie O'Rourke hoped that increases in home working would lead to a reduction in air pollution.

Councillor Bob Stevens agreed that the strategy lacked ambition seemingly failing to take account of the impact of HS2. Warwickshire could become a dormitory zone. There is a need for an integrated transport policy and nowhere does the strategy seeks to improve services to London.

Councillor Alan Webb observed that the proposed Rugby Parkway station may not provide all the solutions in that area. It needs to be easy to access the station if customers are to be drawn away from the town station. Councillor Dave Shilton noted that it had taken many years to secure a new station in Kenilworth. Having met representatives of the rail industry he was hopeful of significant improvements to facilities and services.

In closing this item Councillor Peter Butlin observed that ambitions will be reinforced by discussions around devolution. He considered that the strategy did take account of the impact of HS2. Regarding Stockingford he considered that if franchises are replaced there may be a stronger case for building the new station. Finally, Councillor Butlin stated that a new Nuneaton Parkway station would not impact on service provision.

A vote was held. The recommendations were agreed with one vote against and one abstention.

Resolved

1. That the Council notes the results of the consultation and the resulting modifications made to the draft Warwickshire Rail Strategy.
2. That the Council endorses the Warwickshire Rail Strategy 2019-2034 and agree that the document is addended to the Warwickshire Local Transport Plan 2011- 2026.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 13.05.

11. Audit and Standards Committee Annual Report 2019/20

The meeting re-convened at 2.00pm.

Councillor Kam Kaur introduced the report, thanking the Chair of the Audit and Standards Committee and the Council's external auditors. She moved the recommendation and was seconded by Councillor Mark Cargill. Councillor Cargill stated that in his view the committee was very effectively run and did a good job. These views were echoed by Councillor Bill Gifford.

In closing, Councillor Kaur remembered Bob Meacham who had been an independent member of the committee but who had passed away in the last year.

A vote was held and the recommendation agreed unanimously.

Resolved:
That the Council notes the Annual Report of the Audit and Standards Committee.

12. Notices of Motion

Motion 1

Councillor Keith Kondakor moved the following motion.

"This Council is committed to producing a new Local Transport Plan where:

1) Public transport and active travel will be the natural first choice for our daily activities. We will encourage the reduction in car use by supporting a convenient, cost-effective and coherent public transport network.

2) We will support actively moving towards a position where all road vehicles from motorcycles to HGVs will be zero emission. We will support technological advances, including new modes of transport and mobility innovation, to drive modal shift and change the way vehicles are used.

3) Our goods will be delivered through an integrated, efficient and sustainable delivery system.

4) We will support clean, place-based solutions that meet the needs of local people and champion the climate agenda through local leadership. Changes and leadership at a local level will make an important contribution to reducing national GHG emissions.

5) Warwickshire will be an internationally recognised leader in environmentally sustainable, low carbon technology and innovation in transport".

The motion was seconded by Councillor Jonathan Chilvers who emphasised that most of its features were based on proposals put forward by Grant Schapps MP (Secretary of State for Transport).

Amendment 1

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse proposed an amendment adding a further bullet point to say, "We will accelerate and support stronger localised school green travel plans by working with such bodies as the “Living Streets “ campaign all aimed at creating healthier communities by improving the air quality around schools”.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) seconded the amendment and expressed her support for the motion as a whole. In doing so Councillor Boad noted that the Covid-19 pandemic had resulted in less traffic and improved air quality. Children, she suggested, should be encouraged to walk or cycle to school and bus operators should reinstate services they have withdrawn.

Acceptance of Amendment

Councillor Keith Kondakor accepted the amendment proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group as a friendly amendment.

Debate

Members of the Council made the following points.

Councillor Dave Parsons stated that improvements in air quality should commence in the home. Log burners and gas central heating add particulates and sulphur dioxide to the atmosphere.

Councillor Helen Adkins supported the motion stating that it captured the need of the moment.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe stated that whilst she would not support the motion, her objection was based on process proposed to be followed rather than the principle. Costings would be required before any commitments could be made. The motion appeared to bypass the work of the Covid-19 working groups which would in time be reporting to Cabinet.

Councillor Judy Falp commended the road safety team of the County Council.

Councillor Bill Gifford, having expressed his support for the amended motion suggested that it was concerned with the principles placing these over the process. Council was reminded that in July 2019 it had declared a climate emergency.

Councillor Clare Golby reminded Council that a new Local Transport Plan is in preparation. This, she said, should be allowed to evolve. She also stated that not all people can afford newer, greener forms of transport.

Councillor Keith Kondakor, who had proposed the motion, observed that traffic related air pollution can be very localised. He expressed his disappointment at the lack of support for the motion stressing that it was focused on developing a better system. At this stage budgetary issues were not part of the debate.

Vote

A vote was held.

There were 26 votes against the amended motion. 51 members were present therefore the amended motion was lost.

Motion 2

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers introduced and moved the following.

"This Council,

- Thanks the huge number of people and community groups who volunteered or offered to volunteer in their communities during the first phase of the pandemic.

- Recognises that is now a short-term one-off window to engage with individuals and groups and broker opportunities that could help address long term issues such as loneliness in our community.

- Supports the making of an urgent bid to the Sustaining Prevention Fund to provide additional short-term (6 months) resources, to enable further proactive outreach and work with new community groups to help keep volunteers engaged in their communities for the longer term.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Dan Gissane who reserved the right to speak.

Amendment 1

Councillor Heather Timms proposed the following amendment.

"This Council

- Thanks the huge number of people and community groups **(including town and parish councils)** who volunteered or offered to volunteer in their communities during the first phase of the pandemic.

- Recognises that there is ~~now a short term one off window~~ an opportunity to engage with individuals and **volunteer** groups ~~and broker opportunities~~ that could help address long term issues such as loneliness in our communities.

- ~~Supports the making of an urgent bid to the Sustaining Prevention Fund to provide additional short term (6 months) resources to enable further proactive outreach and work with~~ **Refers this motion to the cross party Covid 19 Recovery Working Group on Communities who are considering what is required for** new community groups to help keep volunteers engaged in their communities for the longer term, **in order to make recommendations to Cabinet in September 2020"**

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Izzi Seccombe who reserved her right to speak.

Councillor Chilvers declined to accept the amendment as a friendly amendment.

Amendment 2

Councillor Clive Rickhards, seconded by Councillor Sarah Boad proposed an amendment on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group. This proposed an addition to the second bullet point so that the end of it read,

"…...such as loneliness, Isolation and mental health especially anxiety in our community".

Acceptance of Amendment

The amendment proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group was accepted as a friendly amendment by Councillor Chilvers.

Debate

Councillor Helen Adkins expressed her support for the motion and friendly (Liberal Democrat) amendment. She rejected the Conservative amendment stating that it appeared to be a retrograde step.

Councillor Andy Crump reminded Council that the Covid-19 working groups had focused on the elements set out in the motion.

Councillor Dave Parsons considered that both motions before Council were sensible and well intentioned. He could not understand why there would be any reluctance to support them.

Councillor Clare Golby commended the working groups for moving quickly. She added that Warwickshire CAVA is already supporting community groups to bid for funding. There are plenty of opportunities for people to engage with community groups, but members need to be able to signpost to them.

Councillor Keith Kondakor suggested that the third sector will see a great deal of change during and after the pandemic. With uncertainty over a second wave it is important to boost third sector groups.

Councillor Dave Shilton observed that Nuneaton and Bedworth had not identified a County Council community champion. He thanked officers for their hard work during the pandemic and called for a letter of thanks to be sent to communities and local councils.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe emphasised that the issue of whether the motion should be supported or not was around the process. The Covid-19 working groups, she said, were already engaged in the work proposed by the motion. It would be preferable to champion the outcome of the working groups.

Councillor Gissane, who had seconded the motion observed that with people now returning to work it was important that the good work of community groups continues to be supported.

Councillor Timms concluded that there was already a good team working with community groups. Any bid to the investment fund would only serve to distract officers and delay matters.

Councillor Chilvers echoed the thanks of officers to the voluntary sector and the localities team. Aside from the differences around process it would be good to find a way forward to provide more support to communities.

Vote

A recorded vote was requested by Councillors Kondakor, Chilvers and Boad.

Vote 1 was on the amendment proposed by the Conservative Group.

Votes for the amendment – Councillors Barker, Bell, Singh Birdi, Brain, Butlin, Caborn, Cargill, Cockburn, Crump, Dahmash, Gilbert, Golby, Gran, Hayfield, Horner, Jenns, Kaur, Morgan, Pandher, Redford, Roberts, Seccombe, Shilton, Simpson-Vince, Stevens, Timms, Warwick, C Williams, P Williams, Wright (30)

Votes against the amendment – Councillors Adkins, Boad, Chilvers, C Davies, N Davies, Dirveiks, Falp, Gifford, Gissane, Holland, Kondakor, O'Rourke, Parsons, Phillips, Rickhards, Roodhouse, Sargeant, Skinner, Webb (19).

The amendment was won 30 votes to 19. This then became the substantive motion on which a (non-recorded) vote was taken. This was won 29 for, 14 against and 3 abstentions.

Resolved

That the following motion is agreed.

This Council

- Thanks the huge number of people and community groups (including town and parish councils) who volunteered or offered to volunteer in their communities during the first phase of the pandemic,

- Recognises that there is an opportunity to engage with individuals and volunteer groups that could help address long term issues such as loneliness in our communities,

- Refers this motion to the cross party Covid 19 Recovery Working Group on Communities who are considering what is required for new community groups to help keep volunteers engaged in their communities for the longer term, in order to make recommendations to Cabinet in September 2020.

13. Member Question Time (Standing Order 7)

A series of questions to Portfolio Holders were asked by members.

Question 1 – Scrapped Weddington GP Surgery – Asked by Councillor Keith Kondakor

Over the last 9 years the project to build a GP surgery in the Weddington division has obtained a site from the Church Field developer and over £900,000 in approved section 106 contributions. The site had outline permission for the surgery and is spade ready. There a GP keen to get a new surgery going if it was built.

There are no GP surgeries in my division and a very rapidly expanding population due to 7 approved housing developments. It is expected that next month the North Warwickshire CCG will formally scrap this project and instead expect residents to wait for a large PFI like funded health centre on a County Council owned site, which is unlikely to happen soon, if ever.
We need the County Council, a commercial firm or community organisation to own the building to get round the new NHS privatisation rules.
Can Warwickshire County Council intervene so that we can have new GPs before winter 2021/22?

Answer to question 1 given by Councillor Les Caborn

The site in question has a complicated history. There are two options being considered; a surgery at Church Field and a health and leisure hub at Top Farm. The funding of any scheme has yet to be agreed and it will be the CCG governing body that makes the final decision. The CCG has suggested that a temporary solution might be found in St Nicholas.

In response Councillor Kondakor observed that a five consulting room practice was required immediately. An overly large facility provided in ten years would not provide the solution.

Question 2 – Warwickshire Property Company – Asked by Councillor Clive Rickhards

Given that the proposed Warwickshire Property Company will be wholly owned by the Council and will set certain targets what assurances are there on the nature of democratic control and scrutiny of the company?

Answer to question 2 given by Councillor Izzi Seccombe.

Work on the property company has been on-going since the May 2020 meeting of Cabinet. No final decisions have been taken and all are subject to legal advice. Further reports will be submitted to Cabinet and Council in October. The intention is that whatever form the project takes it will be subject to close scrutiny.

Question 3 – Cambourne Way/Eastboro Way – Asked by Councillor Keith Kondakor

After just over 2 years the 30 MPH speed signs have finally been reinstalled at the junction of Camborne Drive and Eastboro Way. Would I be correct in thinking the County Council has a legal requirement to reinstall 30MPH signs after road schemes remove existing signs and how many speed signs have been reported to the council in Warwickshire over the last 2 years? Has there been more that have taken over a year to be reinstated?

Answer to Question 3 given by Councillor Izzi Seccombe

A full response could not be given at the meeting. This was however promised. In the meantime, evidence suggested that there had been no long-standing requests for a replacement sign. Only the one that had prompted the replacement.

Question 4 – Covid -19 and Inequalities – Asked by Councillor Helen Adkins

What is the County Council presently and actively doing to prevent the inequalities across Warwickshire further impacting upon such residents during the rest of the COVID crisis? And will the Council undertake a report focusing on the inequalities across the County and the impact such inequalities has had/will continue to have on the COVID pandemic?

Answer to Question 4 given by Councillor Les Caborn

A report on Covid-19 and black and minority ethnic communities by Cabinet. The County Council is aware of the issue and is working hard to address it.

In response Councillor Adkins observed that there are communities in Warwickshire other than black and minority ethnic.

Question 5 – Black Lives Matter – Asked by Councillor Corinne Davies

In light of the BLM movement, is the Council monitoring its policies to ensure they prioritise diversity and inclusion within the County's workplaces?

Answer to Question 5 given by Councillor Kam Kaur

The County Council works hard to restrict any discrimination. Black and minority ethic employees comprise a greater proportion of the workforce than is reflected by the national average. Strong messages regarding Black Lives Matter have been conveyed by the Council and work continues to encourage people from black and minority ethnic communities to join the workforce.

Question 6 – Care Homes and Covid-19 – Asked by Councillor Dave Parsons

What is the Council doing to ensure that further outbreaks of COVID are prevented in care homes? Furthermore, what is the Council doing to ensure there is adequate PPE and protection for staff in care homes, in the light of a possible second surge during the winter?

Answer to Question 6 given by Councillor Les Caborn

A care homes outbreak control plan has been developed and the Council is working with all care homes to manage the situation. The aim is to embed training and good practice in care homes so that they can manage themselves. This is all part of the Covid-19 resilience process.

A system of mutual aid calls has been established that enables parties to ask question of guest speakers**.**

Question 7 - Students Returning to Leamington – Asked by Councillor Helen Adkins

How is the Council preparing for the return of 6,000 students, many of whom will be international students, to Leamington in the coming months?

Answer to Question 7 given by Councillor Les Caborn

The County Council is working with landlords' associations and is in touch wit the welfare departments of the local universities. A more comprehensive answer was promised.

Question 8 – Full time Education Leavers – Asked by Councillor John Holland

This year many people leaving full time education will be unable to find employment. What is the County Council planning to support these young people?

Answer to Question 8 given by Councillor Colin Hayfield

Most young people when leaving school will move on to further education or training. Around 1000 may end up with no firm destination. This figure will be monitored throughout August. For those who are unable to find employment or training then the NEETs system will support them. The system applied this year will not be significantly different from that of previous years.

Question 9 – Funding for maintained Nursery Schools – Asked by Councillor Caroline Philips

Would the County Council be prepared to join a campaign for improvements for funding to maintained nursery schools?

Answer to Question 9 given by Councillor Colin Hayfield

The Council is proud of the six maintained nursery schools in Warwickshire. The government is unclear on what it plans to provide in the way of support. The County Council would engage with a campaign to see funding increased.

Question 10 – Coventry City FC's proposed new stadium – Asked by Councillor Keith Kondakor

Coventry City FC has announced that it is planning to construct a new stadium on land close to Warwick University. If this project proceeds will the County Council insist on the construction of a new railway station to serve it?

Answer to Question 10 given by Councillor Peter Butlin.

A new station would be sought as part of the project. There is much work to be done to secure funding and relevant permissions.

14. Any Other items of Urgent Business

(1) Meetings on Rising of Council

The meeting rose at 15:58

…………………………
Chair

County Council

Tuesday, 22 September 2020

Minutes

Attendance

Members
Councillors Alan Cockburn (Chair), Peter Gilbert (Vice Chair), Helen Adkins, Jo Barker, Margaret Bell, Parminder Singh Birdi, Sarah Boad, Mike Brain, Peter Butlin, Les Caborn, Mark Cargill, Jonathan Chilvers, Jeff Clarke, John Cooke, Andy Crump, Yousef Dahmash, Corinne Davies, Nicola Davies, Neil Dirveiks, Judy Falp, Jenny Fradgley, Bill Gifford, Daniel Gissane, Clare Golby, Seb Gran, Colin Hayfield, John Holland, John Horner, Andy Jenns, Kam Kaur, Keith Kondakor, Jeff Morgan, Maggie O'Rourke, Bhagwant Singh Pandher, Anne Parry, Dave Parsons, Caroline Phillips, Wallace Redford, David Reilly, Clive Rickhards, Howard Roberts, Kate Rolfe, Jerry Roodhouse, Andy Sargeant, Izzi Seccombe, Dave Shilton, Jill Simpson-Vince, Dominic Skinner, Heather Timms, Adrian Warwick, Alan Webb, Chris Williams, Pam Williams, Andrew Wright

Officers
Monica Fogarty, Chief Executive
Nigel Minns, Strategic Director for People
Mark Ryder, Strategic Director for Communities
Rob Powell, Strategic Director for Resources
Paul Williams, Democratic Services Team Leader

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

(2) Members’ Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary Interests

In view of the nature of the issue being considered under agenda item 2 and the recent meetings of the Dispensations Sub Committee Councillor Alan Cockburn (Chair of Council) read out the following statement.

“The Dispensations Sub-committee has granted dispensations to all Warwickshire County Councillors who are also District/Borough councillors or whose spouses or partners are District/Borough councillors to allow them to speak and vote on matters relating to devolution and local government reform. This enables them to play a full role in the debate on devolution and local government reform.

The Dispensations Sub-committee has also granted a dispensation to Cllr Brain who has a disclosable pecuniary interest by virtue of his wife's employment with Stratford on Avon District Council. The dispensation allows Cllr Brain to speak and vote on matters relating to devolution and local government reform.

As these interests have been registered and/or dispensations granted there is no need for the councillors to declare them individually.

If members have any other declarations of interest which are not included in their register of interests relating to matters on the agenda, then now is the time to declare them".

(3) Chair's announcements

1) Councillor Alan Cockburn informed Council of the passing of Councillor Bob Stevens on 31 July 2020. Councillor Stevens had been a member of the County Council since 1997 and the County Council's Deputy leader from 2005 to 2013. He also served as Chair of the Council in 2015/16. Latterly he had served as the Chair of the Pensions Fund Investment Sub Committee.

After a career in the Royal Navy Councillor Stevens had served on Stratford on Avon District Council. He was closely involved with the armed forces community and supported the work of Gallanos House in Southam, a care home for those with connections to the armed forces.

Members of Council joined in remembering Bob Stevens.

Councillor Andy Crump who knew Bob Stevens for over 40 years expressed his shock at the death of his friend. Both had regularly played cricket together. Councillor Crumps stated that Bob Stevens had been a fine servant to the residents of Warwickshire and to the armed forces community.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse (Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) stated that he had first met Bob Stevens at the old Gallanos House. He has spent many pleasant hours with Bob Stevens who was a true gentleman.

Councillor Dave Parsons (Deputy Leader of the Labour Group) had come to know Bob Stevens through their joint work on HS2. Bob Stevens, he stated, was a man of integrity who never accepted "spin" from anyone. He was always a delight to be with and had been remembered by another former member as the best boss he had ever had.

Councillor Judy Falp remembered Bob Stevens for his visits to Whitnash in connection with civic events and with the British Legion. He was always a gentleman who did what was right, she said.

Councillor John Horner remembered joining Stratford on Avon District Council and being welcomed by Bob Stevens. More recently he had witnessed Bob Stevens in his role as Chair of the Pension Fund Investment Sub Committee. In this he had developed a strong understanding of the technical aspects of pensions. He had also served as Vice Chair of the starting committee of Borders to Coast.

Councillor Yousef Dahmash quoted Oscar Wilde. "Some people cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go". Bob Stevens was very much the former. He would be sadly missed.

2) Councillor Cockburn informed the meeting that Council had recently been awarded the Gold Award for the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. This was a testament to the work undertaken by Bob Stevens.

(4) Public Speaking

1) The Chair welcomed Councillor Tricia Elliott, a member of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, who wished to speak in support of the motion concerning SEND.

Councillor Elliott focused principally on the plight of children with Autism. Expressing concern over the length of waiting lists for support she suggested that a better understanding of Autism in mainstream schools would help in the identification of Autism and improve how children were treated. Council was informed that some schools adopt an overly disciplined approach to children with Autism. This can lead to school refusal by the child. The case of one child was cited. This child, who had not flourished at their school had moved to another one outside of Warwickshire. In the new environment, their level of attainment had increased and they were now of university level. In another instance a visually impaired child with Autism was disciplined for attention seeking. Councillor Elliott concluding by stating that conveying Autistic children out of county for their education was negligent. If the needs of children could be met in the mainstream environment there would potentially be less demand for EHCPs.

2) The second speaker, Cass Leese, had given her apologies. Councillor Helen Adkins (Leader of the Labour Group) read out the essence of Ms Leese's statement. This focused on the need for greater funding for SEND services. Having cited a number of reports the statement ended,

"For those children with SEND, not accessing support is life-changing and life-altering. We are aware that Warwickshire is urging schools to be more inclusive, a wholly admirable aspiration. But regardless, many SEND children - such as those with autism, a background of trauma or neurodiversity and / or social emotional and mental health difficulties, being in a mainstream setting without an EHCP and the additional intensive support it brings, is impossible. These children are being set up to fail, not just at school, but in life. It leaves these children at risk of social isolation, academic failure, mental health problems and for some, on a collision course with exclusion from school.

The buck has to stop here. Cabinet (Council) has the authority and duty to lobby central government.

We urge Cabinet (Council) to support this motion to set up a Task & Finish Group plus petition to address the SEND funding gap - which we are aware is projected in Warwickshire to be a deficit of £150m in a decade.

Officers are working incredibly hard to make efficiencies and find solutions to minimise this outcome. But they are not magicians or miracle workers. And even with strict plans in place, which of themselves will have a huge impact on thousands of children, young people and their families, the plans only reduce the decade's deficit to £91m".

3) Councillor Helen Adkins read out a statement from Councillor Mini Mangat, Deputy Leader of the Labour Group, Warwick District Council.

"I support this motion on the pressing and urgent issues posed by racial discrimination and inequality. The world is shifting on its axis and just as WCC has supported the urgency of climate change with a real commitment, so must this growing societal emergency be responded to. It is shameful that inequality is so persistent in societies, here in Warwickshire and across the globe. I am in no doubt that WCC takes its obligations to equality and diversity seriously but that is not enough, council has a responsibility to take action that will contribute to the eradication of racial discrimination and reliance on reaching the requirements of legislation is not sufficient to counter the injustices and trauma that many people in my communities experience, WCC must move beyond compliance; it is not enough to be non-racist WCC must act on being systemically and overtly anti-racist. To champion this fight against racism WCC must listen and learn not only from colleagues but also from members of our communities and use those conversations and dialogue to catalyse action, this is an opportunity to take a fresh look with our communities about what more could be done and learning from them and others to innovate and make measurable progress. As proposer of the race equality motion to WDC and as the Chair of the Task & Finish Group looking at Warwick District Council's approach to race equality, I support the motions recommendation for the Communities OSC to establish a task and finish group to be charged with undertaking a review of the councils approach to race equality and its report to the committee to include an action plan with a view to the cabinet adopting the committee's recommendations in the report and its action plan, the progress and outcomes of the action plan to be monitored by the Communities OSC with the expectation that measurable improvements will be made within a given time period".

Councillor Alan Cockburn thanked speakers for their contributions.

2. Devolution and Local Government Reform

Councillor Isobel Seccombe moved the following motion:

1. That, having considered the Strategic Case for Change for Local Government Reform in Warwickshire, the Council supports its submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in order to elicit from Government an invitation to enter into conversation and consideration of the future local government structure for Warwickshire.
2. That the Council considers that in the next phase of work to shape a future model for local government in Warwickshire, conversations should take place at all levels, including with residents, based on the following principles

i. double devolution - moving influence and power closer to communities, levelling up health and wellbeing and tackling inequalities;
ii. ensuring that Climate Change and adaptation are built into a new model of local government;
iii. achieving better value for our taxpayers;
iv. simplified governance with clear, accountable leadership;
v. co-design of the model is undertaken; and

vi. a balance of local focus with a strategic approach when needed.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Peter Butlin.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse proposed an amendment which replaced the word “elicit” in point 1 with the word “seek” and added a point to say, “That a Citizens Panel be established, with an invitation extended to the District and Borough Councils to undertake/ establish this jointly with the county council, to seek the views of Warwickshire residents about proposals for future local government reform in/for Warwickshire”.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) seconded the amendment.

Acceptance of Amendment

Councillor Butlin proposed a further amendment to the substantive motion by adding a paragraph at point 3: “That immediately following this meeting, the Leader invites the Warwickshire District and Borough Councils to make their submission to MHCLG jointly with the County Council”.

Councillor Isobel Seccombe seconded the amendment and both Councillor Seccombe and Butlin accepted the amendment proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group as a friendly amendment.

Councillor Helen Adkins proposed an amendment to the substantive motion which replaced the word “supports” in the first point with the word “delays” and removed the words “elicit from Government an invitation to enter into conversation and consideration of the future local government structure for Warwickshire” replacing them with the words “consult its partners and residents on the future of local government in Warwickshire”. Additional paragraphs at points 2 and 3 were proposed as follows:

“2. This Council notes that as we move towards the publication of the government white paper this Council intends to undertake thorough and transparent conversations with its borough and district partners as well as consultation with the public, in a bid to move forward in transparency and open co-operation.
3. This Council also requests that a further report be brought back to Cabinet on the optins for consultation with partners and residents”.

Councillor Dave Parsons seconded the amendment.

During the course of the debate, which suggested that support for this amendment was limited as it was considered that the outcome would result in too lengthy a delay when consideration of unitary status had been a longstanding issue, a short adjournment took place and the Labour group amendment was withdrawn without objection.

During a robust debate, Members made the following points:

- Moving toward unitary presented the opportunity to make savings but there must also be quality of service and representation.

- Whilst the unitary system was not universally supported, it was generally recognised that the notion of unitary made financial sense in the unprecedented circumstances across the country.
- It was noted that the formation of a single unitary authority would potentially deal with issues of adult social services and fire and rescue services more easily than a model which saw the creation of two unitary councils. A single unitary would be better placed to cope with the challenge of social care, with representation at a local level and the economies of scale that could be delivered.
- Proposals for two unitary councils– one representing North Warwickshire and the other the South – were noted and it was suggested that this would be a preferred option for residents, citing economic and cultural differences alongside health inequalities. However, it was noted that there were cultural differences among the district and borough councils that did not follow the north/south divide.
- A view was expressed that there was still some merit to an enhanced status quo position being given some consideration although this viewpoint was generally dismissed, particularly in view of the savings that would be needed to be made to 2025.
- Support was given to a unitary system which gave increased powers to town and parish councils (‘double devolution’), which could provide greater impetus to the resolution of local issues, but it would be important for town and parish councils to be distributed throughout the county, with sufficient powers and finance to carry out their responsibilities. Wiltshire and Milton Keynes were cited as good models for town and parishes working well alongside a principle council.
- It was noted that the Secretary of State would make the decision on future structures and it was important for both reports to be presented so that public consultation could consider the full evidence. Some caution was raised about setting in motion a process that was not within the Council’s control and if it was subsequently decided by the Councils that unitary was not the best option, the final decision still lay with central government.
- Commenting on the perception of confusion among residents as to the operation of the two tier model, it was noted that residents simply wanted their issues addressed and did not generally have a view on who dealt with problems as long as they were dealt with. Reflection took place on whether residents wanted one councillor contact for all issues rather than the two or three that were in place in the current system. Some queries resulted in crossover between the tiers and it was difficult managing the interface between two Councils. Examples of parking permits, grass cutting and installation of bus shelters were given. Anecdotally, it appeared that problems generally occurred when residents had ‘fallen through the gap’ between County and District/Borough and whilst the proposal presented an opportunity to address this, a unitary solution was not necessarily required to see more joined up services. There were some examples of good practice between the tiers of government but the loss of a single telephone line and Shire Hall reception inquiry desk for district and county councils was lamented. It was suggested that joined up working between the county and district was key to the provision of improved services for residents.
- The consultative ethos of the substantive motion was welcomed as it sought to seek the involvement of residents and district and borough councils. The view was expressed that sufficient time be given to consultation to build knowledge and understanding so that communities were genuinely able to contribute from a grass roots position.
- More public involvement in the decision along the lines of a residents panel or citizen’s jury was promoted.

- Some disappointment was expressed in the process to date and it was felt that it should have concentrated on being open and transparent at the outset, consulting and listening to the boroughs and district councils. Instead borough and district council Leaders had suffered a high level of stress and anxiety and unpleasant meetings had taken place that could have been avoided with the approach that was now being seen.
- It was noted that funding from central government was decreasing and demand on services were rising. This, together with rising unemployment, was exposing financial difficulties around the country not just in Warwickshire. The situation needed to be addressed and a in light of this, the current governance model was unsustainable. Local government needed to be lean and efficient and professional in its delivery of services. In the current circumstances it was hard to disagree with the conservative manifesto commitment to deliver local government reform. Being in the vanguard of reform would lead to savings, improved services and more resilient communities.
- Some consideration was given to the look of democracy in a single unitary council and whether it would be possible to introduce a system of voting along the lines of that undertaken by the London assembly to introduce an element of proportional representation which would see greater cross-party involvement and smaller residents groups having representation.
- The need to maintain support for frontline workers with a less complicated management system was suggested.
- Delay to the government's white paper was noted and this gave rise to views that the report was premature since the content of the white paper was unknown in terms of the operation of democracy, population or the process of application. The view that it was not necessary to submit the reports to government at this stage was made, but rather that time should be taken to educate and engage with residents and allow them to contribute to the debate from an informed knowledge base. In contrast, the impact of Covid-19 was considered a factor in the need to press ahead with the submission which could be made under existing processes. However, the view that the need to concentrate on solutions to the impacts of Covid-19 was more pressing than reorganisation was also put.

A second Labour amendment was proposed by Councillor Dave Parsons and seconded by Councillor Helen Adkins which sought to amend point 1 of the substantive motion by adding words as follows:

"1. That, having considered the Strategic Case for Change for Local Government Reform in Warwickshire, and in light of the debate today, the Council considers that its submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in order to seek from Government an invitation to enter into conversation and consideration of the future local government structure for Warwickshire should await the publication of the white paper."

A number of Members expressed the view that the amendment was not dissimilar in effect to the earlier motion that had been withdrawn. Mixed views were expressed with some members believing that the content of the white paper would make little difference and others considering there would be merit in viewing its content before progressing. A level of concern was expressed about delay in a climate of uncertainty and that now was the time to show leadership and shape the future together.

Vote

A recorded vote was requested by the Chair

Vote 1 was on the amendment proposed by the Labour Group.

Votes for the amendment - Councillors H Adkins, C Davies, N Dirveiks, J Holland, M O'Rourke, D Parsons, C Phillips and A Webb

Votes against the amendment - Councillors J Barker, M Bell, P S Birdi, S Boad, M Brain, P Butlin, L Caborn, M Cargill, J Chilvers, J Clarke, A Cockburn, J Cooke, A Crump, Y Dahmash, N Davies, J Fradgley, B Gifford, P Gilbert, D Gissane, C Golby, S Gran, C Hayfield, J Horner, A Jenns, K Kaur, J Morgan, B S Pandher, A Parry, W Redford, D Reilly, C Rickhards, H Roberts, K Rolfe, J Roodhouse, A Sargeant, I Seccombe, D Shilton, J Simpson-Vince, D Skinner, H Timms, A Warwick, C Williams, P Williams, A Wright,

Abstentions - Councillors J Falp and K Kondakor

The amendment was lost 8 votes to 44 (2 absententions).

A further record vote took place on the substantive motion

Votes for -
Councillors P S Birdi, S Boad, M Brain, P Butlin, L Caborn, J Clarke, A Cockburn, A Crump, Y Dahmash, N Davies, J Fradgley, B Gifford, P Gilbert, D Gissane, C Golby, S Gran, C Hayfield, J Horner, K Kaur, J Morgan, B S Pandher, W Redford, C Rickhards, H Roberts, K Rolfe, J Roodhouse, A Sargeant, I Seccombe, J Simpson-Vince, D Skinner, H Timms, A Warwick, C Williams, and P Williams,

Votes against –
Councillors H Adkins, M Bell, C Davies, N Dirveiks, J Falp, J Holland, A Jenns, K Kondakor, M O'Rourke, D Parsons, C Phillips, D Reilly, A Webb, and A Wright

Abstentions –
Councillors J Barker, M Cargill, J Chilvers, J Cooke, A Parry and D Shilton

This was won 34 vote for to 14 against (6 abstentions).

Resolved;

1. That, having considered the Strategic Case for Change for Local Government Reform in Warwickshire, the Council supports its submission to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in order to seek from Government an invitation to enter into conversation and consideration of the future local government structure for Warwickshire.

2. That the Council considers that in the next phase of work to shape a future model for local government in Warwickshire, conversations should take place at all levels, including with residents, based on the following principles

i. double devolution - moving influence and power closer to communities, levelling up health and wellbeing and tackling inequalities;

ii. ensuring that Climate Change and adaptation are built into a new model of local government;

iii. achieving better value for our taxpayers;

iv. simplified governance with clear, accountable leadership;

v. co-design of the model is undertaken; and

vi. a balance of local focus with a strategic approach when needed.

3. That the Council considers that a Residents Panel should be established and that an invitation should be extended to the District and Borough Councils to do so jointly with the County Council, to seek the views of Warwickshire residents.

4. That the Council requests that the Leader , following this meeting, considers inviting the Warwickshire District and Borough Councils to make their submission to MHCLG along with and at the same time as any submission made by the County Council

3. Notices of Motion

Four motions were debated by the Council.

1) Black Lives Matter

Councillor Helen Adkins moved the following motion being seconded by Councillor Dave Parsons who reserved his right to speak.

"The recent conversations around racism and the Black Lives Matter movement have highlighted the systemic disadvantages suffered by Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities. Such disadvantages manifest in health, educational and employment outcomes and opportunities. The Covid-19 pandemic has further highlighted that the BAME community has been disproportionately affected with reported higher mortality and infection rates. In light of this, this Council considers it important to consider how well the needs of the BAME community are being met within the County. Therefore, this Council will:

Initiate a cross party Task and Finish group of the Communities OSC, to investigate and to report back on race inequalities across Warwickshire, both internally within the County Council and externally in relation to meeting the needs of BAME communities within Warwickshire".

In introducing the motion Councillor Adkins acknowledged that no body or individual has all the answers. She considered that more could be done to support the BAME community and that the County Council should lead by example. Positive acknowledgement of inequality was not enough. The Council should ask what more was needed to be done to eradicate discrimination.

Councillor Les Caborn (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health) submitted an amendment which he hoped would be accepted as friendly. It would not, he considered, in any way diminish the basis of the original motion. The reason behind it was to ensure that members were provided with the latest data on the issue before commencing any further work.

The amendment (made to the second section of the motion) stated,

“Therefore, this council:

Notes the work that has been initiated to progress the findings of the Public Health England Review of the impact of Covid 19 on BAME communities following the report to Cabinet in July, endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the inclusion of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programme in the Council’s Recovery Plan and asks that an interim report be brought to a joint meeting of the Communities and Adult Social Care and Health OSC’s by December 2020, so that members can consider the continuing work and the establishment of a task and finish group to investigate and to report back on race inequalities across Warwickshire, both internally within the County Council and externally in relation to meeting the needs of BAME communities within Warwickshire”.

Councillor Kam Kaur (Portfolio Holder for Customer and Transformation) seconded the amendment and reserved her right to speak.

Councillor Adkins accepted the amendment as friendly.

Councillor Caroline Phillips referenced the Macpherson report produced after the inquiry into the death of Stephen Lawrence. She stated that much of what was contained in the report continued to be relevant. Councillor Phillips also noted a recent OFSTED report which explored the relationship between ethnicity and educational attainment. It was noted that there were significant variations in the level of attainment in some groups across different parts of the country. In many areas the attainment level of children from black and minority ethnic communities was seen to decline as they progressed through school. In some areas they had entered the education system at or close to the top of the range emerged at the bottom.

Councillor Kaur thanked Councillor Adkins for reading Councillor Mangat’s statement. She noted that Lord Simon Woolley (founder of Operation Black Vote) had cautioned against relying heavily on the Black Lives Matter banner. The principal focus should be on equality, diversity and inclusion. The County Council has already undertaken much work in this field as reflected in its People Strategy.

Councillor Sarah Boad (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group) expressed her support for the motion. She stated that there is always a danger of being drawn into a false sense of security and that it is good to be prompted to check that all is as it should be.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe reminded Council that health within the BAME community had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting in July 2020. She agreed that the outcomes for peoples’ lives should be the same regardless of race. The population of Warwickshire was not as diverse as in some other parts of the country although Council was reminded of the Ghurkha community in Nuneaton. Diversity in communities was to be welcomed. The key, she concluded, will be to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had all the information it required to progress its work.

Councillor Les Caborn emphasised that within any community there are sub-groups. There are also intergenerational households that present their own characteristics. Thus, as much up to date data as possible is required.

Councillor Dave Parsons cited an incident from the 1950's when his Father and Uncle had misunderstood the political views of the singer Paul Robeson. Councillor Parsons used this example to illustrate the need to understand the issues behind the challenges being faced by black and minority ethnic communities.

Councillor Helen Adkins thanked Councillor Caborn for proposing the amendment and stressed the need to listen to the black and minority ethnic community.

A vote was held.

The amended motion was agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

The recent conversations around racism and the Black Lives Matter movement have highlighted the systemic disadvantages suffered by Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities. Such disadvantages manifest in health, educational and employment outcomes and opportunities. The Covid-19 pandemic has further highlighted that the BAME community has been disproportionately affected with reported higher mortality and infection rates. In light of this, this Council considers it important to consider how well the needs of the BAME community are being met within the County.

Therefore, this council:

Notes the work that has been initiated to progress the findings of the Public Health England Review of the impact of Covid 19 on BAME communities following the report to Cabinet in July, endorsed by the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the inclusion of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programme in the Council's Recovery Plan and asks that an interim report be brought to a joint meeting of the Communities and Adult Social Care and Health OSC's by December 2020, so that members can consider the continuing work and the establishment of a task and finish group to investigate and to report back on race inequalities across Warwickshire, both internally within the County Council and externally in relation to meeting the needs of BAME communities within Warwickshire.

2) SEND

Councillor Caroline Phillips seconded by Councillor Corinne Davies moved the following motion.

"Given the immense pressure that the Council faces in meeting the cost of SEND provision, this council will:

Initiate a cross party delegation to lobby Government in relation to the need for more funding for this key service and request the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee to set up a Task and Finish Group to monitor delivery of SEND provision".

Councillor Colin Hayfield stated that he supported the motion as did Councillor Sarah Boad who informed the meeting that as the Chair of a Board of School Governors she was constantly seeking additional funding in this area. It was crucial she said that the government provide for resources.

Councillor Jerry Roodhouse observed that any task and finish review into SEND should reflect on the demand for services post Covid-19.

Councillor Dan Gissane congratulated the Children and Families Team for winning team of the year. He emphasised the role of communication in ensuring that schools and SEND coordinators were aware of what services are available. It is important, he concluded, to speak to schools to develop an understanding of the challenges they are facing.

Councillor Yousef Dahmash recognised that some additional funding had been provided by government but considered that this was insufficient.

Councillor Pam Williams supported the motion adding that timescales for obtaining support are too long.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe agreed that SEND funding was a long running issue. The County Councils Network has lobbied on this issue but as costs increase so does the demand for services. She agreed that services should be delivered in-county adding that this was one rationale behind the establishment of the Pears facility in Bedworth.

Councillor Dave Shilton expressed his support.

Councillor Caroline Davies, who had seconded the motion thanks speakers for their support adding that it was hoped that any review would result in parents receiving more support.

Councillor Phillips, the mover of the motion thanked members for their support.

A vote was held.

The amended motion was agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

Given the immense pressure that the Council faces in meeting the cost of SEND provision, this council will:

Initiate a cross party delegation to lobby Government in relation to the need for more funding for this key service and request the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee to set up a Task and Finish Group to monitor delivery of SEND provision.

(**3) Tuberculosis in Cattle**

Councillor Keith Kondakor, seconded by Councillor Jonathan Chilvers tabled the following motion:

"This Council recognises that farming is a very important part of the Warwickshire economy and that the county council supports farming in many ways including through its own small holdings. The Council further recognises that Tuberculosis in cattle is a very serious problem for farmers which needs long term sustainable action, including the development of accurate testing and an effective bovine vaccine. Therefore, this Council agrees:

• To actively promote better bio security (including the vaccination of badgers) with tenants of its smallholdings with the aim to reduce cattle-to-cattle transmission; and

• To write to DEFRA stating that the Council is concerned with proposals for the culling of badgers on land in its ownership and wishes to explore with them alternatives that enable a sustainable approach to bovine TB control."

Councillor Kondakor spoke regarding the motion stating that a badger cull was due in Warwickshire despite it being shown that such culls do not limit the spread of TB in cattle. He stated that one hundred thousand badgers had been culled to date but the spread of TB is down to lax practice by farmers. The key, he suggested, is good bio security. A badger vaccine exists but a cattle vaccine is required too. In addition, more rigorous checks on cattle herds are required along with restrictions on the movement of slurry, controls on contractors' vehicles and increased fencing especially around drinking areas.

Councillor Peter Butlin tabled an amendment to the motion asking that it be treated as a friendly amendment. The amendment stated,

"This Council recognises that farming is a very important part of the Warwickshire economy and that the county council supports farming in many ways including through its own small holdings. The Council further recognises that Bovine Tuberculosis in cattle is a very serious problem for farmers which needs long term sustainable action, including the development of accurate testing and an effective bovine vaccine.

Therefore, this Council agrees:

~~• To actively promote better bio security (including the vaccination of badgers) with tenants of its smallholdings with the aim to reduce cattle-to-cattle transmission; and~~

• To write to DEFRA stating that the Council is concerned with proposals for the culling of badgers on land in its ownership and wishes them to explore ~~with them~~ alternatives that enable a sustainable approach to bovine TB control."

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Mark Cargill.

Councillor Butlin, himself an ex-farmer, explained the rigours of testing for TB in cattle. This had been introduced to reduce the incidence of TB in humans. Cattles, he said, carry TB. This is why cattle are rarely left outside at night. Antibiotics are becoming less effective and although biosecurity (of which much is being done) can be effective, it is difficult to apply.

Councillor John Horner supported the use of bio security adding that the amendment should be agreed as Defra is the only organisation that can progress the matter.

Councillor Dave Parsons called for another solution to be found that does not involve the killing of badgers.

Councillor Mark Cargill, the seconder of the amendment stated that farmers are aware of the value of bio security. The case for badger culling was unclear and it depended on which report was read. He agreed that Defra's officers are the experts and asserted that they will continue to seek a solution. The Council's tenant farmers earn very little off their land and are aware of the implications of TB.

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, the seconder of the original motion expressed his disappointment at the amendment adding that the County Council has a general power of competence that it could use to ensure bio security measures at its own smallholdings. He observed that tests for TB in cattle are not entirely reliable adding that the principal cause of increases in the incidence of TB is homelessness and chaotic living.

In response, Councillor Butlin observed that TB was introduced into the population from milk.

In closing, Councillor Keith Kondakor stated that badgers are not a major cause of Bovine TB. The bets solution was bio security. Citing the 2018 Godfray Report into TB Councillor Kondakor stated that it contained little to suggest that any wildlife played a major role in spreading the disease. Exemplar farms should be identified where bio security was practiced well.

Vote on Amendment

A recorded vote on the amendment was requested.

Votes for the amendment.

Councillors Bell, Singh Birdi, Butlin, Caborn, Cargill, Clarke, Cockburn, Cooke, Crump, Dahmash, Golby, Gran, Hayfield, Horner, Jenns, Kaur, Morgan, Pandher, Parry, Redford, Reilly, Roberts, Sargeant, Seccombe, Shilton, Simpson-Vince, Timms, Warwick, C. Williams, P.Williams (30)

Votes against the amendment.

Councillors Adkins, Boad, Chilvers, C.Davies, N.Davies, Falp, Fradgley, Gifford, Gissane, Holland, Kondakor, Phillips, Roodhouse, Webb (14)

Abstentions

Councillors Dirveiks and Parsons (2)

The amendment became the substantive motion. This was carried.

Resolved:

This Council recognises that farming is a very important part of
the Warwickshire economy and that the county council
supports farming in many ways including through its own small

holdings. The Council further recognises that Bovine Tuberculosis in cattle is a very serious problem for farmers which needs long term sustainable action, including the development of accurate testing and an effective bovine vaccine.

Therefore, this Council agrees:

• To write to DEFRA stating that the Council is concerned with proposals for the culling of badgers on land in its ownership and wishes them to explore alternatives that enable a sustainable approach to bovine TB control."

4) Promoting the Warwickshire Canal Network

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers, seconded by Councillor Keith Kondakor proposed the following motion.

"The canal network in Warwickshire passes through all five districts and boroughs and is a massive asset for tourism, wellbeing and ecology. In developing recovery plans for Warwickshire and mindful of the need to increase UK based tourism, the County Council will:

1) Actively promote our local canal network and its opportunities for leisure, wellbeing and employment throughout 2021/22 City of Culture and beyond.

2) Work with the Canal and River Trust to identify, prioritise and cost key stretches of towpath for improvement in order to better attract S106 and CIL funding.

In supporting the motion Councillor Chilvers emphasised the need to enhance the profile of the canal network and its role in transport, tourism, wellbeing and ecology. The upcoming Coventry City of Culture event could see arts and the canal network brough together.

Councillor Keith Kondakor stated that some parts of the canal network are often overlooked. As a result, their towpaths are neglected and muddy.

Councillor Heather Timms proposed a friendly amendment. This was seconded by Councillor Chilvers. This stated,

The canal network in Warwickshire passes through all five districts and boroughs and is a massive asset for tourism, wellbeing and ecology. In developing recovery plans for Warwickshire and mindful of the need to increase UK based tourism, the County Council:

1. Acknowledges the work being undertaken to develop a Waterways strategy for Warwickshire as part of the Heritage and Culture Strategy action plan;

2. Will actively promote our local canal network and its opportunities for leisure, wellbeing and employment <u>(including 2021/22 City of Culture, Birmingham 2022 and beyond);</u>

3. Will work with the Canal and River Trust and other partners to identify, prioritise and cost key stretches of towpath <u>to improve accessibility and connectivity in order to better attract funding.</u>

Vote to continue meeting.

At this point the Council meeting had been running for six hours. In accordance with standing orders a vote was held as to whether the meeting should continue. The proposal was made by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Chilvers. A vote was held and it was agreed that the meeting should continue.

Resumption of Meeting

Councillor Timms expressed her support for the canal network and explained that much work had already been undertaken to enhance it.

Members including Councillors parsons, Boad, Cooke, Holland, Cargill, Parry, Dirveiks and Fradgley all spoke regarding the value of the canal network.

Councillor Chilvers thanked members for their support. In response to a point made by Councillor Cargill regarding the Canal and Rivers Trust Councillor Chilvers recognised that as an organisation they are stretched and can be difficult to engage with. This made supporting them all the more important.

Councillor Timms closed by thanking heritage and culture officers for helping to develop the Waterways Strategy.

A vote was held and the amended motion was agreed unanimously.

Resolved:

The canal network in Warwickshire passes through all five districts and boroughs and is a massive asset for tourism, wellbeing and ecology. In developing recovery plans for Warwickshire and mindful of the need to increase UK based tourism, the County Council:

1. Acknowledges the work being undertaken to develop a Waterways strategy for Warwickshire as part of the Heritage and Culture Strategy action plan;

2. Will actively promote our local canal network and its opportunities for leisure, wellbeing and employment (including 2021/22 City of Culture, Birmingham 2022 and beyond);

3. Will work with the Canal and River Trust and other partners to identify, prioritise and cost key stretches of towpath to improve accessibility and connectivity in order to better attract funding.

4. Any Other Business

none

The meeting rose at xxx

....
Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 2

Council

13 October 2020

Statement of Accounts 2019/20

Recommendation

Council approves the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts.

1. Key Issues

1.1. This report presents the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20.

1.2. The Statement of Accounts for Warwickshire County Council comprises of:

- The statement of responsibilities for the accounts
- A narrative statement by the Strategic Director of Resources
- The core financial statements, comprising:
  - The movement in reserves statement
  - The comprehensive income and expenditure statement
  - The balance sheet as at 31 March 2020
  - The cash flow statement
- The statement of accounting policies
- The notes to the core financial statements
- The Firefighters' Pension Fund statement

1.3. Recommendations to Council for approval of the Annual Governance Statement and the accounts of Warwickshire Pension Fund, which will form part of the County Council's 2019/20 Statement of Accounts when they are published, are sought within separate reports on today's agenda.

1.4. Elected members are not expected to be financial experts, but they are responsible for approving and issuing the Council's financial statements. In doing this they are playing a key role in ensuring accountability and value for money are demonstrated to the public. However, local authority financial statements are complex and can be difficult to understand: they must comply with CIPFA's Local Authority Code of Practice, which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards and also the accounting and financing regulations of central government.

1.5. This covering report explains the key features of the primary statements and notes that make up the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts. The narrative statement provides further information on the key issues for the benefit of readers of the statements.

1.6. Council are asked to approve the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts attached at the **Appendix**. Following their approval by Council the Statement of Accounts will be published, in accordance with regulations, by the end of November. This is a deferred date for the 2019/20 accounts, from the 'usual' end of July date, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Narrative Statement

2.1. The purpose of the narrative statement is to provide commentary on the financial statements. It includes an explanation of key events and their effect on the financial statements. The information in the narrative statement is consistent with budget information provided during the year and reconciles to the year-end financial position reported to Cabinet on 11 June 2020.

3. Core Financial Statements

3.1. Movement in reserves statement

Reserves represent the Council's net worth and show its spending power. Reserves are analysed into two categories: usable and unusable. The level of usable reserves, the Council's spending plans and other sources of funding determine how much council tax needs to be raised. Unusable reserves derive from technical accounting adjustments and cannot be used to support spending. The movement in reserves statement analyses the changes in each of the Authority's reserves between 2018/19 and 2019/20.

3.2. Comprehensive income and expenditure statement

The comprehensive income and expenditure statement reports on how the Authority performed during the year and whether its operations resulted in a surplus or deficit. It is produced in a standard format and is made up of five broad sections:

- Cost of services: Presented in the management structure of the Council. It includes service specific income and expenditure.
- Other operating income and expenditure: Includes the surplus or deficit from the sale of property, plant and equipment.

- Financing and investment income and expenditure: Includes interest payable and receivable and trading account income and expenditure.
- Taxation and general grant income and expenditure: Includes revenue from council tax, business rates and government revenue and capital grants.
- Other comprehensive income and expenditure: Includes items which are not allowed to be accounted for elsewhere, such as increases in the value of land and buildings and changes in the actuarial assessment of pension assets/liabilities.

3.3. Balance Sheet

The balance sheet is a ‘snapshot’ of the authority’s financial position at a point in time, showing what it owns and owes at 31 March 2020. It is divided into two halves that, as the name suggests, balance. These are assets less liabilities (the top half) and reserves (the bottom half).

3.4. Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement sets out our cash receipts and payments during the year, analysing them into operating, investing and financing activities. Cash-flows are related to income and expenditure but are not equivalent to them. The difference arises from the accruals concept, whereby income and expenditure are recognised in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement when the transactions occurred, not when the cash was paid or received.

4. Accounting Policies and Notes to the Core Financial Statements

4.1. The accounting policies set out the accounting rules the authority has followed in compiling the financial statements. They are largely specified by International Financial Reporting Standards and the Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice. We have limited discretion to amend them.

4.2. The Notes to the accounts provide further detail for the figures within the core statements as well as other information we are required to include in the Statement of Accounts.

5. Firefighters' Pension Fund Statement

5.1. It is unusual for an unfunded pension scheme (such as the firefighters' scheme) to have a fund as it holds no assets that need to be ringfenced. We collect in the Fund contributions receivable from Warwickshire County Council (as the employer) and firefighters' (employee) contributions and pay out any benefits due. The Fund is then balanced to nil at the end of each financial year by either paying over or receiving pension fund top-up grant from the government.

6. Audit Status

6.1. The attached 2019/20 Statement of Accounts has been audited and the Audit Findings Report from the external auditors, Grant Thornton, was considered by the Audit and Standards Committee on 28 September 2020. There were no issues that the Committee wished to bring to the attention of Council. The Committee did ask for the risk relating to the potential impacts of trade and EU matters, our performance in meeting customer complaints response standards and rewording of the performance indicator relating to employment to be adjusted in the Narrative Statement to aid the understanding of the reader. These changes have been incorporated into the accounts before Council today.

6.2. The audit opinion will be signed by Grant Thornton's Engagement Partner on receipt of our letter of representation signed by the Chair of the Council and the Strategic Director for Resources following approval of the accounts by Council. A letter of representation is provided in connection with the audit of the 2019/20 financial statements for the purpose of expressing our opinion to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made appropriate enquiries, that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

6.3. The approved accounts will be published alongside the authority's Annual Governance Statement and the Accounts of Warwickshire Pension Fund (elsewhere on the Agenda) together with the signed audit opinions by 30 November 2020 in line with statutory regulations.

7. Financial Implications

7.1. None.

8. Environmental Implications

8.1. None

9. Background Papers

9.1. None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Virginia Rennie	vrennie@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Andrew Felton	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Rob Powell	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Peter Butlin	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

This report was not circulated to members prior to publication.

This page is intentionally left blank

Warwickshire County Council

Statement of Accounts

2019/20

Warwickshire County Council

Introduction

I am pleased to introduce our Financial Accounts for 2019/20. The purpose of these accounts is to present a true and fair view of the financial results of our activities for the year and the value of our assets and liabilities at the end of the year. They represent the financial results of the delivery of the third and final year of our 2017-2020 One Organisational Plan. This narrative report is set out in five parts. The first provides some key information on what the Council does, how it does it and its plans for the future. The second part provides further detail on how we plan to resource the Council's activities. This section also considers the factors in the external environment that influence our decisions and highlights some of the key risks that we have identified to our priorities. The third part summarises our financial and other performance in 2019/20 and our effectiveness in the use of our resources, while the fourth part describes our outlook moving forward into the new financial year. It includes some of the key pressures facing the Council over the next few years and the changes taking place in the Council to respond to those challenges. Finally, this report explains how the Financial Accounts for 2019/20 are prepared and set out.

Rob Powell
Strategic Director for Resources

Organisational Overview and Operational Model

In February 2020 our 2020-2025 Council Plan was approved. It is a single, policy-led plan that sets out a clear and compelling vision for Warwickshire, clearly defining where we need to get to by 2025 and how we are going to get there. The Council Plan provides the necessary framework to deliver change management and transformation and to ensure clear line of sight delivery of the Council's core purpose and outcomes.

To make Warwickshire the best it can be, sustainable now and for future generations

PRIORITY OUTCOME

Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent

- Support our most vulnerable and disadvantaged children, providing early support, before situations become complex
- Support Warwickshire residents to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing and reduce the need for hospital or long term health care
- Support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged adults in Warwickshire to enjoy life; achieve and live independently
- Work with communities to promote safety, prevent harm and reduce crime and disorder across Warwickshire

PRIORITY OUTCOME

Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure

- Support communities and businesses to develop the digital skills and tools they need in an increasingly digital economy
- Increase reuse, recycling and composting rates and reduce waste across Warwickshire
- Support and enable children and young people to access a place in a high quality education setting and achieve their full potential
- Attract economic investment and maximise the rate of employment, business growth and skill levels in Warwickshire
- Manage and maintain Warwickshire's transport network in a safe, sustainable and integrated way

SUPPORTED BY

Making the best use of resources

- Put our resources in the right place to support the organisation's priorities and balance the books
- Develop our workforce so that it has the right skills and capabilities to get the job done
- Pursue leadership excellence and high performance at all levels
- Reduce demand and reduce cost through innovative service design and focussed prevention interventions
- Make it easy for customers to access our information and services so they have a positive experience of our services

As part of our response to climate change, we make sure our work is in-line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Council Plan is supported by a rolling five-year medium-term financial strategy. This helps us to plan ahead, so we are able to meet our spending requirements, taking into account Government grants, Business Rates and Council Tax income. The financial strategy helps us do this in a planned and careful way, so we are able to provide good quality services for our residents.

There are a number of key themes to the financial strategy:

- the organisation will invest in areas of focus, those being tackling climate change internally and in the local community;
- implementation of the commercialism agenda
- Furthering the preventative strategy to help more people avoid the need to use our services;
- scoping innovation and development ideas and progressing internal change;
- where appropriate, we will invest in physical assets to benefit those who live, work and visit the county.

We are becoming more commercially minded in the delivery of our services. This is a key driver of our change programme and will help us make better use of our resources to deliver the outcomes our residents have helped prioritise.

We use reserves to manage financial risk and promote financial sustainability. Any reserves not needed to manage financial risk are used for time-limited investment to support the delivery of the Council's objectives or to deliver savings to reduce demand in future years.

The medium-term financial strategy will require regular reviews in order to remain dynamic, robust, ambitious and deliverable, and will be updated at least annually.

Politically, Warwickshire County Council has 57 Councillors, who are elected every four years. The last elections were held on 4 May 2017. The current political composition of the Council is 35 Conservative members, 10 Labour members, eight Liberal Democrat members, two Green Party members and two Independent. The Council makes its decisions via a Cabinet of nine members including the Leader of the Council, Cllr Izzi Seccombe. Warwickshire's Councillors are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Council and for scrutinising performance. Further details of the governance arrangements in the Council are included in the Annual Governance Statement, included within this document.

Organisationally, Warwickshire operates through three Directorates: Communities (including Fire and Rescue and Education), People (including Public Health) and Resources. Each Directorate is headed by a Strategic Director who sits on the Council's Corporate Board along with the Chief Executive. Services within each Directorate have plans in place which correspond to the budget set for them by Council and the key outcomes within the Council Plan. Each service has Key Performance Indicators which are monitored and included in quarterly performance reports to Directorate Leadership Teams and Members.

At the end of the year we had the equivalent of 3,806 full-time employees and just under half our spending each year is on staffing. This is an increase of 32 full-time employees from last year. Warwickshire's employees are responsible for translating Councillors' strategic decisions into actions. Our Workforce Strategy sets out the key principles to ensure we have a workforce that is fit for purpose to deliver the Council Plan.

The Council collaborates with a number of external partner organisations to plan and deliver its intended outcomes. These include the neighbouring councils of Coventry City Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, and the five Warwickshire District and Borough Councils. We are a non-constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority and a member of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership. We work closely with local NHS organisations and a number of other bodies, including:

- central government departments and ministries;
- national and local charities;
- academy schools and academy trusts in Warwickshire;
- local universities and other academic organisations;
- local industry and businesses;
- town and parish councils in Warwickshire.

Further details of the Council's key priorities, plans and outcomes are available in the Council Plan.

Resourcing our activities

The medium-term financial plan underpins the delivery of the Council Plan and is agreed as part of the budget-setting process which concludes in February each year. Taking a medium-term approach allows for a more coordinated and planned approach to prioritisation, and allows services to focus on delivery knowing the financial limits and constraints within which they are required to operate. Within the budget resolutions, the Council confirms and applies a number of fundamental financial strategies and policies.

Revenue and capital spending

We use our resources in two ways, through revenue and capital spending. Broadly, our revenue spending relates to income received in year and spending on items used in the year. Most of our salary costs are included in revenue expenditure. Our capital spending relates to items we have bought, created or improved and which will be used for more than one year. An annualised amount is charged to our revenue accounts to reflect the economic use of assets each year to provide services or reduce cost in line with strategic objectives. This accounting charge does not reduce our revenue resources, but borrowing to fund our capital expenditure does.

Revenue allocations are made to services through a process which balances demand forecasts, inflation and other price increases, commitment to our statutory duties and the investment choices which the Council wishes to make to improve services or reduce costs. By law, we must set a balanced budget which ensures that the Council meets not only its existing commitments but also remains on a firm footing for the future.

Revenue resources Original budget at start of year	2019/20 £m	2020/21£m
Business Rates	67.4	71.2
Council Tax	275.7	286.4
Total Unconditional Revenue Resources	343.5	357.6
Specific Government Grants	71.9	79.7
Adult Social Care Levy	21.2	27.2
Receipts for Services	92.7	115.4
Dedicated Schools Grant	226.1	238.0
Total Revenue Resources	755.4	817.9

Adult Social Care is our second largest area of revenue spending after Schools. Each year since 2016-17 the Government has permitted local authorities to levy an additional 2% on top of their normal council tax increase each year, with this additional funding to be ring-fenced for use in adult social care. We have taken the additional levy (2% for each year in that period) and have increased the resources available to deliver adult social care by at least the amount raised this way.

The figures shown above for specific Government grants include a number of grants which come with conditions that limit our discretion in how they can be used. The largest of these is the Dedicated Schools Grant which we receive from government to meet the cost of funding schools and relevant pupil-related services; this is forecast to reduce year-on-year as more of our schools transfer to academy status. We are currently reviewing how we deploy these resources for maximum strategic effectiveness.

Capital resources Original budget at start of each year	**2019/20 £m** *(actual)*	**2020/21 £m** *(forecast)*	**2021/22and later £m** *(forecast)*
Capital Grants and Contributions	109.2	109.5	95.4
Receipts from the Sale of Assets	39.1	35	11.1
Direct Application of Revenue Resources	1.7	1.6	0.1
Borrowing (to be repaid from revenue resources)	5.1	1.7	2.7
Total Capital Resources	**155.1**	**147.8**	**109.3**

Our capital allocations are made in line with our Capital Strategy, which includes two key elements: capital maintenance works to ensure our assets continue to be fit for purpose and able to support the provision of services; and capital investment to create and develop new assets. Each element has a number of strands that ensure a clear focus on the purpose of capital spending and the prioritisation of proposals, underpinned by specific service asset management strategies.

Allocations included in the maintenance programme meet one of the following three criteria:

- maintaining our assets to ensure services can continue to be delivered;
- statutory health and safety and other regulatory requirements;
- annual equipment and/or vehicle replacement programmes.

Our capital spending power is the combination of external income which must be spent on capital (such as specific grants or contributions and the receipts from the sale of our assets) and the extent to which the Council is willing to meet the costs associated with borrowing money from its revenue resources.

Our annual maintenance programme includes allocations from the Government grants received for schools and highways maintenance plus revenue funding used for the replacement of vehicles, where this is more cost effective than leasing the vehicle. We also finance some maintenance from borrowing.

Investment schemes are, by their nature, not routine and so are only considered if they move the organisation towards the delivery of our outcomes. Where we have discretion in how to apply capital financing, we use a structured evaluation process that assesses:

- what we are trying to achieve for the Warwickshire residents, businesses and visitors by investing in particular assets;
- the contribution of the new assets to the delivery of the corporate outcomes;
- the financial costs and benefits over the short, medium and long-term; and
- the risks inherent in the delivery of the scheme itself and the expected benefits, with a focus on better up-front planning and timetabling.

Investment schemes may be funded by any of the sources in the above table, and often a combination of these.

Savings and efficiencies

The resource estimates shown above reflect the impact of both continuing austerity and the broader economic outlook. The Council has successfully delivered savings through the previous three year One Organisation Plan to build reserves and therefore financial resilience against any negative impacts. The Council Plan aims to further this success, maintaining strategies of investment for longer term savings and finding new ways of working rather than upfront cuts to decrease input. The two key themes are internal improvement through digital and commercial approaches and external demand management through prevention and joint working with partners and communities. The Council Plan tasks the authority over the next 5 years with finding £33.3m of savings (after growth and inflation) this figure is be reviewed annually, especially in light of pressures caused by Covid-19 and recovery (see separate section).

Reserves

Reserves are resources we have accumulated over time and set aside for a particular purpose as part of an integrated approach to the successful financial management of the authority over the short, medium and long term. We hold reserves to:

- ensure future events outside of our control do not undermine the authority's overall financial position or impact on service delivery;
- plan for the effective use of resources over time for a specific purpose;
- ensure we meet funding conditions (set either by an external funding body or a specific decision of Members) in our use of any available resources;
- retain any other accumulated underspends prior to decisions on their use.

Our budget is set to include anticipated levels of reserves added or drawn down in the year; these plans may change as the year progresses to react to emerging pressures or other events and are approved in our quarterly monitoring process. Some reserves are held at a corporate level to support overarching risks and strategies. The level of general reserves is consistent with the overall financial environment and the key financial risks faced by the Council. These risks are assessed at least annually and take account of circumstances at the time of assessment as well as trends into the future."

Revenue resources Original budget at start of year	**2019/20 £m**	**2020/21£m**
Business Rates	67.4	71.2
Council Tax	275.7	286.4
Total Unconditional Revenue Resources	343.5	357.6
Specific Government Grants	71.9	79.7
Adult Social Care Levy	21.2	27.2
Receipts for Services	92.7	115.4

Borrowing and investments

We undertake treasury management activities in a prudent and flexible manner so as to ensure we retain sufficient liquid funds to provide for day-to-day cashflow requirements whilst funding our capital spend at the lowest cost. These activities are managed within an overall framework determined by the Treasury Management and Investment strategies which are updated and approved by Members annually. Interest income and expenditure as a result of investments or borrowing is reflected in our revenue budgets. Our budget does not rely on significant income streams from commercial or service investment activities.

Pensions

The majority of the Council's employees are members of the Warwickshire Local Government Pension Scheme, and the Council administers the fund that supports the Scheme. As a defined benefit scheme, the Scheme is shown as a long-term liability in our accounts. However, statutory arrangements for funding this deficit are in place, including increased contributions over the working life of employees, and means that our financial position remains healthy.

Both the accounts for the County Council and the Pension Fund are included in this document, though they are operated as independent entities. The County Council's accounts reflect the pension disclosures relating only to its own employees. This includes disclosures for those staff with alternative pension schemes, such as Teachers and Firefighters.

Management of Risk

The successful delivery of the Council Plan and our sustainability into the future are dependent on our ability to manage and respond to the risks we face. Many potential issues will remain on the risk register and be regularly monitored , while others are actively managed to reduce the risk or its impact. Further information can be found in the Annual Governance Statement section within this document.

Our performance in 2019/20

Registration service took

2,583 marriages

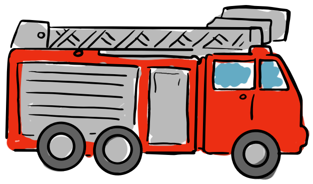
and 22 Civil Partnerships

The percentage of early years providers that are judged by Ofsted as good/outstanding in Warwickshire continues to exceed the national figures

51% of household waste was reused, recycled or composted

Primary admissions 2020/21 over-subscription criteria now includes disadvantaged children to increase their chances of getting a place at their preferred school

Warwickshire County Council recruited **21 apprentices**

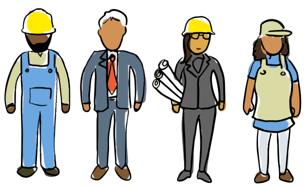


3,843 incidents attended by Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service

Customer Service Centre answered **246,910 calls**

and answered 3,775 Live Chats

The unemployment rate in the county was **1.9%**



Delivery of 55 cybercrime awareness sessions and events, to over 4,800 residents across the county.

1.5 million visits to our libraries, loaning 1.5 million items

There were also 9,396,650 virtual visits and 90,298 eBooks issued on loan

70% of Education Health Care Plans issued within 20 weeks including exceptions improved from 60% last year to 86% this year.

56 Prevent-related awareness and training sessions were delivered to over 1,570 residents and professionals in Warwickshire.

We gained **37,495** followers and likes across our social media accounts

Across our active WCC social accounts.

7 Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, Judicial Review cases or Information Commissioner's Office adverse decisions for WCC, compared to 16 last year.

Warwickshire's communities and individuals are supported to be safe, healthy and independent

Delivering against our aims for this outcome remains challenging as demand continues to rise; nevertheless, key outcomes have been achieved throughout the year.

We have introduced a new integrated model for safeguarding children and adults in the county. This allows for a family-focused approach to working across the safeguarding area, bringing together information and guidance for adults, children, young people and their families and the professionals who work with them to help keep everyone in Warwickshire safe.

As part of our commitment to give people better access to Assistive Technology and to help them focus on their strengths, we launched a new website, AskSARA. The easy-to-use website helps improve access to a range of self-help smart technology and associated services to help make daily activities easier, help people to stay well for longer.

Adult Social Care reviewed its practices and systems to launch a 'Start with strengths' approach in September 2019. The service works with people from a strengths perspective, by listening and understanding them, to build a picture of their qualities, skills, interests and networks to explore how they can best support their needs.

Our Children and Families services are embedding a new way of working with children and families by creating and maintaining respectful and trusting relationships.

Relationships are child centered - the service works with the whole family to provide practical support and recognises that families are the experts in their lives and their strengths and goals will be central to our approach.

Our redesigned Children and Family Centres launched in September 2019, offering a mix of services for families with children aged from 0-19 (25 for those with additional needs). Information and advice is provided on a range of issues affecting families such as parenting, finance and relationships as well as health.

We continue to support the care experience of young people, developing a range of activities for young people, to increase their confidence, improve social interaction, reduce loneliness and improve life chances. Examples include care leaver football team; breakfast club and the Chill & Grill, at the Young People's Quirky Café; parent and baby group, NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) group; food hygiene course and care leaver (free)shop and two new care leaver drop-in centres.

Positively the number of Child Protection Plans in place has reduced from 345 in March 2019 to 298 in March 2020 with, the rate reducing from 29.8 per 10,000 in March 2019 to 25.7 in March 2020. However, the challenge is the number of children in care, where including Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC), the number increased from 722 in March 2019 to 753 in March 2020 with a rate of 62.3 per 10,000 in March 2019 to 65 in March 2020. Excluding UASC,

there was an increase from 654 in March 2019 to 679 in March 2020 and a rate of 56.4 per 10,000 in March 2019 to 58.6 in March 2020.
To improve outcomes for children and families, over the next two years the Council is investing in children's services to strengthen our early help services, and provide additional support to children in need and in care and care leavers.

Working in partnership with the South Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group we have commissioned a Hospital Social Prescribing Service run by Age UK. The service helps patients at the Warwick, George Eliot and St. Cross hospitals to access non-medical services that can enable them to manage their own physical and mental health better and can encourage them to make lasting changes to their lifestyles, so they stay well. The hospital-based service will play an important role in making sure that patients are discharged in a safe and timely way, with access to available help in their communities.

2019 was the Coventry and Warwickshire Year of Wellbeing which encouraged people to be part of a strong community which was inspired and empowered to take action to improve health and wellbeing for themselves and others in 2019 and beyond. There were many activities throughout the year including GoodGym where a community of volunteers came together to be active while doing good deeds such as painting community spaces, planting trees in the local park or sorting contributions to local food banks.

Our Fire and Rescue Service has continued to develop the Hospital to Home Service over the year and has supported Warwick and the George Eliot hospitals by taking over 1,000 patients back to their homes and settling them in following their discharge. And from this year the service will be extended for use in the University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire.

Improved data sharing and referrals from social care has helped the Fire and Rescue Service target the most vulnerable in our communities so they can visit them and deliver enhanced Safe and Well Checks in the home thus reducing the risk of slips, trips and falls as well as fires.

The number of fire related deaths and injuries has remained low across the county throughout the year. However, achieving the agreed response standards to life and property risk incidents has remained a challenge for the Service. Constant monitoring to understand reasons and identify remedial action is underway.

Looking at data awaiting validation, the number of killed and seriously injured on our roads has reduced from 359 to 310 across the year. Our Road Safety Team has been chosen by Road Safety GB to test an augmented reality road safety app which brings road safety lessons to life for school children in the region.

A comprehensive package of prevention and awareness raising Community Safety campaigns have been delivered this year including business, cyber and hate crime. Notably the number of hate crime / incidents reported through the Hate Crime Partnership's Report Hate Now website almost doubled from 77 in 2018/19 to 140 in 2019/20.

An area of concern for Warwickshire is the rise in reported violence offences and all Community Safety Partnerships have identified violence as a continued key priority including county lines, exploitation and its connection with knife crime which will be addressed through the development of a countywide violence prevention strategy and board.

Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure

Warwickshire remains an attractive part of the country for businesses to locate and over this year there have been numerous key achievements for us to be proud of.

Our new five-year Economic Growth Strategy sets out how the Council will deliver one of three priority outcomes as outlined in the Council Plan. The ambition is for the strong economic growth that Warwickshire has experienced over the past decade to continue into the future, and that our levels of productivity both soon exceed the national average and also achieve parity with the best performing local economic areas in the South East of England. The Council has responded pro-actively to the Covid-19 pandemic and is supporting businesses and the local economy through the current economic crisis. We are also working with partners to develop an economic recovery plan for the medium-term.

Warwickshire's GVA (Gross Value Added) data has recently been revised and updated by the Office of National Statistics, and it now indicates that our position is below the national average, whereas previously it was above. However, we have still seen strong growth since the end of the recession in 2009, growing at a faster rate than the national average, 29.7% growth between 2009-2017, compared to 19.1% nationally, and faster than our surrounding areas. Indeed, Warwickshire has the seventh fastest growth rate out of all local authority areas in the country and the fourth fastest when London is excluded. Further research is being undertaken to understand the GVA position in more detail and to identify any interventions and activities needed as part of the new economic strategy.

Across this year we have supported over 500 businesses across our various business support programmes, helping create 70 new jobs in the Warwickshire economy and 50 people to start a business. Our business support programme funded through the European Regional Development Fund was featured in a national Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government publication as an example of good practice.

Invest in Coventry and Warwickshire had another successful year of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by being the leading Local Enterprise Partnership area for FDI, with more than 50 new investments and securing over 2,500 new jobs. We also successfully completed the Games and Interactive Software High Performing Opportunities project with the Department for International Trade which focused on Leamington's gaming sector.

Our Business Centre initiative continues to support businesses. In addition to providing accommodation to 200 individual businesses, across a wide variety of sectors throughout Warwickshire, we have also:

- developed and launched a number of fully serviced and furnished start up offices at Eliot Park Innovation Centre which has an occupancy rate of 75%;
- introduced a delegate day rate conferencing and meeting room offer to service and capitalise on an identified gap in both the local and national markets;
- developed an affordable monthly subscription Business Club offer to respond to and support the changing workplace and market demand from enterprises and start ups; and
- seen occupancy levels across the 250 offices and light industrial units that comprise the business centre portfolio, remain at over 90%.

Warwickshire's employment rate is 4.7% above the national average, continuing to widen the gap between the local and national employment rates seeing positive growth over the last quarter with an increase of 1.1%.

The percentage of 16-17 year-olds on apprenticeships is rising in Warwickshire to 7.6% whilst nationally numbers are falling to 5.5%. We are a strong advocate of apprenticeships with 201 county council employees undertaking apprenticeship training.

The European Social Fund funded Active Inclusion programme supports people who are without work into employment or education destinations. Last year it helped 129 people including 38 people with starting a job and 15 starting education.

The Skills for Employment programme continued to equip young people with the skills needed to enter the workplace. The programme has now supported over 10,000 young people through a combination of grants to schools and colleges, skills campaigns and other careers activities.

At the end of March we have 209 good or outstanding schools, as rated by Ofsted, out of a total of 242. School attainment for Key Stage 1 reading, writing and maths is encouraging and is above national levels and comparable to statistical neighbours. For Key Stage 2 we have seen a decline of 2% on the previous year but are still in line with the national picture, and 1% behind statistical neighbours. The area for concern is reading which has seen a 4% decrease. Key Stage 2 performance is an identified area for improvement. There has been a 2% improvement in Key Stage 4 and we are 6% higher than the national figure. However, Nuneaton has the lowest educational performance within Warwickshire with 44% of secondary school aged young people attending a school in the town which is judged by Ofsted to require improvement. The Nuneaton Education Strategy is focused on Raising Aspiration, Working Together with a multi-agency approach to improve education and prospects for the young people of Nuneaton.

Within education the new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Strategy 2019-2023 was launched in April 2019 followed in October by a new approach to Early Help. In addition, a new Careers Strategy was launched in November which aims to raise awareness of local career opportunities, improve careers advice at schools and colleges, help vulnerable learners, connect the supply and demand of skills, and encourage businesses to recruit from a wider talent pool.

Of our school age population with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan, 6.1% were placed in independent specialist provision including independent and non-maintained special schools. This is a decrease compared to last year's figure of 6.6%, continuing the downward trend over the past 4 years. This has led to reduced costs, however significant budget pressures remain in this area as the number of EHC plans increases.

Investment in the infrastructure has continued and we have delivered a large programme of WCC and developer highway and traffic signal schemes plus works on bridges and structures and made substantial progress towards the delivery of the A46 Stoneleigh Junction and Stanks Island schemes.

Recycling initiatives across the county including the Slim Your Bin, In to Win and Home Compost workshops have continued to progress well. Encouragingly, latest available information for 2018-19 period ranked, warwickshire tenth nationally against other disposal authorities with a recycling rate of 51.4%.

For 2019/20 51% of household waste has been reused, recycled and composted against a target of 50% and 61% at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) compared to a target of 60%. This year there has been some policy changes in one of the District and Borough Councils where green waste collection is being charged for which has already had an downward impact on recycling rates, it remains to be seen whether any others follow suit and what the overall impact will be.

Making Warwickshire the best it can be

To make best use of our resources there is a range of activity provided across the organisation to support delivery of our outcomes.

This year has seen a period of ambitious transformation for us as we undertook a comprehensive review of the way we deliver our services and subsequently a new commissioning and delivery model has been adopted to ensure we are working effectively and efficiently. Alongside, we have been focussed on developing our refreshed leadership team to help drive our organisation forward.

As we continue to transform, we have developed a new Council Plan which outlines our priorities for the next 5 years. Our Council Plan 2020–25 sets out our priority areas for action and how we will achieve them. In short, we want people to stay safe, and be healthy, independent and engaged with their communities. And we want a vibrant economy: an environment where businesses can thrive and everyone has access to jobs and training, and where there is a transport infrastructure that allows everyone to access these opportunities. Underpinning all this we want to address the long-term challenge of climate change.

To underpin the Council Plan a Commissioning Intentions Performance Framework has been developed and introduced which includes new performance measures providing a sharpened focus on performance linked to our priorities.

Another innovation in performance reporting is visualisation utilising the functionality of the newly implemented Microsoft Power BI enabling improved consistency, transparency and access to timely, consistent performance data facilitating scrutiny, challenge and decision making.

Our How We Will Work programme launched this year and is focused on changing the way we work so that we can meet the needs of the business in the most effective way. We want to develop an approach where flexible working should become a core document of how we work. With the right technology and workspaces we will be able to fulfill our roles from a variety of locations, with the level of flexibility determined by the needs of our service, team requirements and individual roles.

A key achievement for us this year was our move to Microsoft 365. We invested in the technology, which included new Surface Pro devices for all staff, to enable them to make best use of the Microsoft suite of products and support our flexible working approach. The cloud based Microsoft 365 offers improved security, better information governance, offline capability, an integrated telephony solution and team-based collaboration on top of all of the applications we use on a daily basis.

This investment has proved particularly beneficial during the COVID-19 period enabling our workforce to transition to working from home almost overnight and to support them to work effectively.

Services and achievements have been recognised formally this year, including:

- **Young Peoples Legal Services** won the excellence in-house at the Law Society's 2019 Excellence Awards;
- the **Ecology Team** won the 2019 Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management Award for Local Planning Authority of the Year;
- the **new rail station at Kenilworth** which was opened in April 2018 has been 'highly commended' in a regional award highlighting major transport projects in the West Midlands while the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation also commended the project for bringing a station back to the town after the closure of the last one in 1965;
- we won the prestigious **Planning Authority of the Year** title at the national Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) awards 2019; and,
- the council holds the continued accreditation of the **Customer Service Excellence Standard**.

Complaints

Warwickshire County Council takes complaints very seriously, and has robust complaints response and reporting procedures, managed by the Customer Relations Team. This allows managers to investigate and respond to or escalate complaints individually, with consideration to case specific situations, while also allowing sight of any recurring themes which require wider review of policy, process or operations. The Council has timescales for initial response to complaints made and subsequent resolution, which vary depending on the topic of the complaint. 78% of complaints were responded to within these targeted timescales. Some complaints are escalated to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) following the response from Warwickshire County Council. In 2019/20 there were 47 such complaints. Of these, 6 were upheld, 4 resulting in financial remedy and 2 in staff training and policy review. This represents a small number of complaints and complaints upheld, but the authority continues to focus on improving the complaints handling procedure and the learning from previous complaints in order to reduce the proportion of LGSCO complaints upheld.

Ongoing challenges

An ongoing challenge that we have experienced is with the recruitment and retention of social workers and through a focused effort we have successfully increased our number of social workers by 29% this year while decreasing turnover by 3% and a 79% reduction in the use of agency social workers.

A challenge for us this year has been our rate of sickness absence which is now 10.9 days per full time equivalent compared to a target of 9.04, and last year's outturn which was 9.51. This increase is set against the backdrop of significant organisation change and the global Covid-19 pandemic. Our strong focus on employee well-being and supporting and equipping line managers to effectively manage our people and their attendance will continue in the coming year and beyond.

Financial Performance

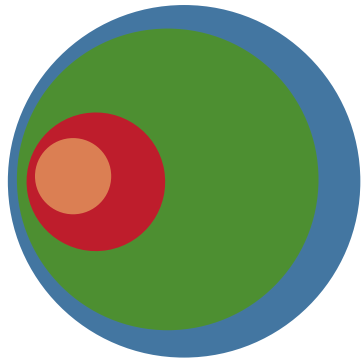
Revenue income and expenditure

Total revenue income from all sources in **2019/20** was £837.8m. Adding technical adustments and capital grants make up the gross income shown on the CIES

£837.8 million

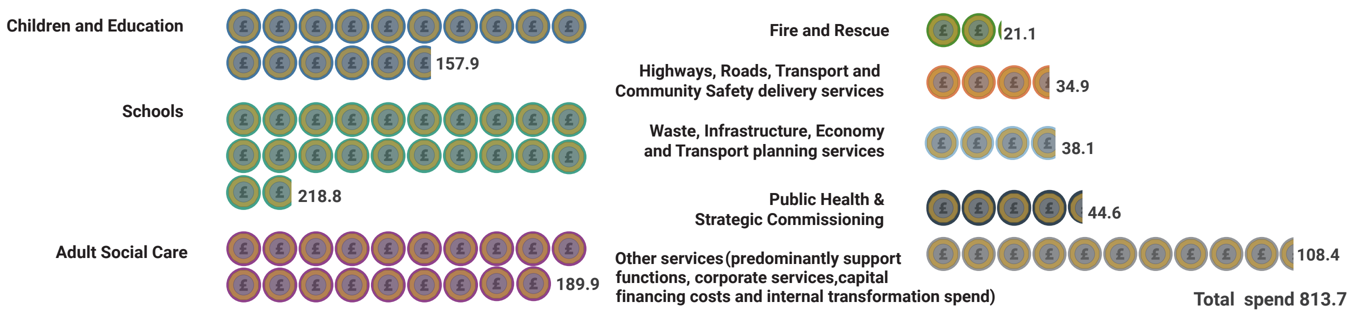
We have spent **£594.8 million** of this revenue income to finance the various services we provide (excluding schools). Adding on schools spending (**£218.8 million**) and technical adjustments, make up the gross expenditure shown in our Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Revenue Income



	£m
Customer and client receipts	**125.1**
Grants	**345.9**
Council tax (inc. Adult Social Care levy)	**298.4**
Business rates	**68.4**

Revenue Spend by Service

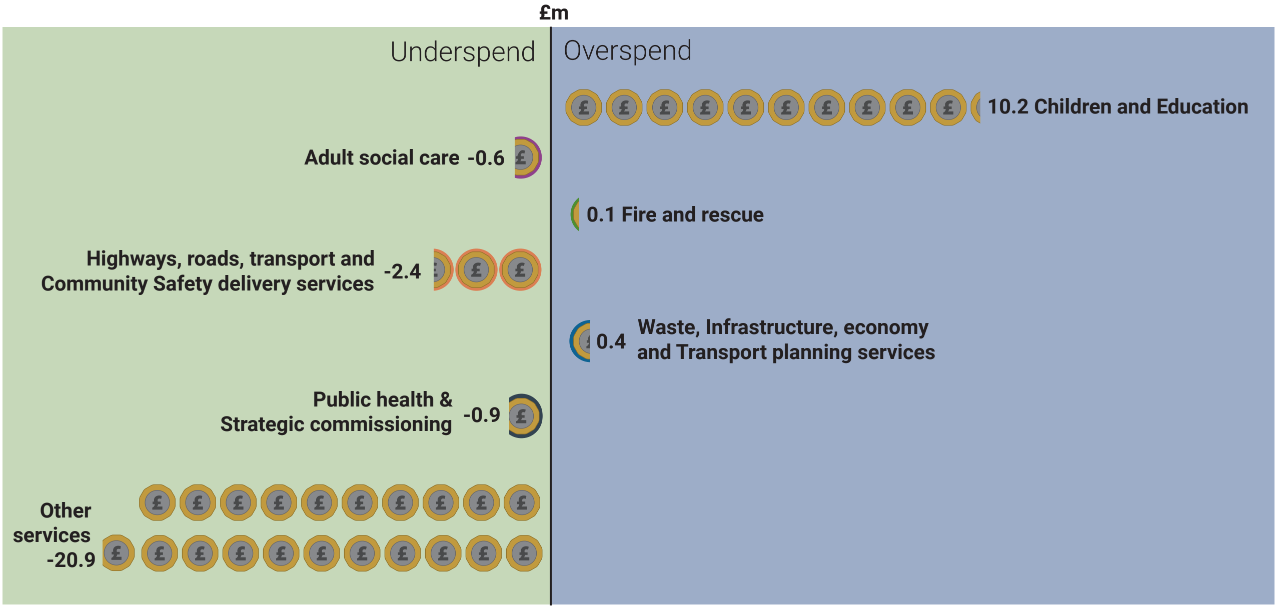


Revenue Spend by Type

Revenue underspends/overspends

The net value of the funding and expenditure is a **£24.1 million** balance. **£9.9 million** of this was planned at the start of the year to contribute to reserves, and **£14.2 million** has been added to reserves following service underspends against budget at the end of the financial year.

These underspends are as below:



Capital spending and the value of our assets

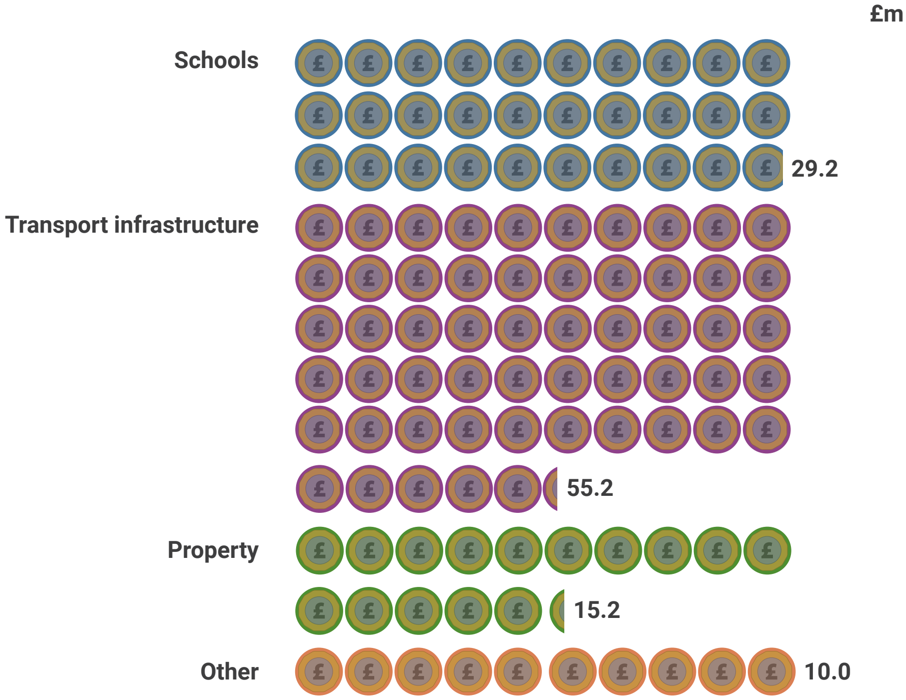
We spent **£109.6 million** on the purchase and creation of assets in 2019/20, including **£19.2 million** on assets owned by other parties. Our initial estimate was **£155.1 million** but in-year adjustments for additions (for example, to spend newly awarded grants), reductions or rescheduling brought our approved budget for 2019/20 down to **£144.0 million** as at January 2020. Our capital spending was therefore **£45.5 million** less than our original budget, and **£34.4 million** less than the latest approved budget. This underspend was due to delays on individual projects. Most of this spending now is expected to be incurred in 2020/21, for which the budget is **£147.8 million**.

The value of our assets has increased from **£1,127.6 million** to **£1,162 million** in 2019/20.

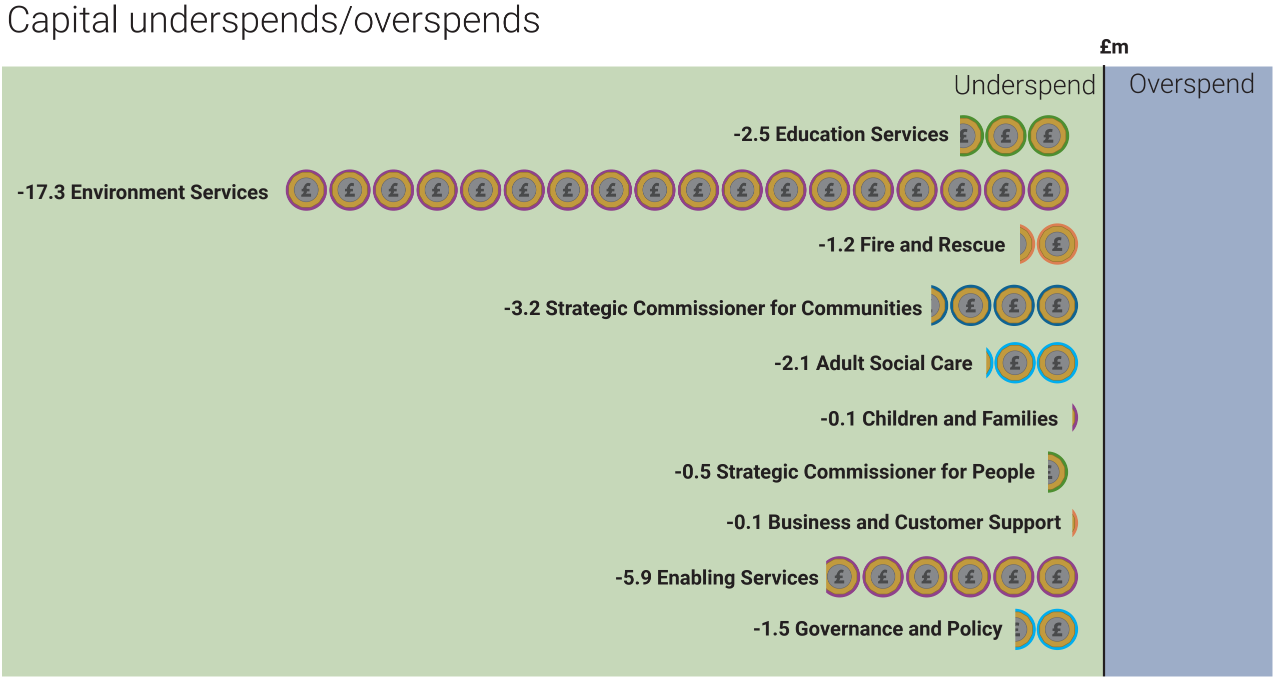
The main reasons for this decrease are:

- **£24.1 million** of assets disposed of or through schools transferring to Academy status;
- a spend of **£90.4 million** increasing the value of our assets;
- a write-down of **£38.8 million** to reflect our assets' usage by services; and
- a net increase in the value of our assets of **£6.9 million** as a result of updated valuations to reflect market movements and usage changes.

Capital Spend



Capital underspends/overspends



Savings and efficiencies

2019/20 was the third and final year of the One Organisational Plan. Implementation of this plan has resulted in **savings of £10.5m in 2019/20**, with a total savings delivered across the three years of £48.3 million. These savings were spread across a number of areas. Some of the larger items were:

- **£3.3 million** reduced capital financing costs as a result of the review of our prudent Minimum Revenue Provision approach;
- **£4.1 million** reduction in demand for adult and children's social care through early intervention, prevention and local, community-based care provision;
- **£2.9 million** savings through contract and provider management approaches across social care and Public Health;
- **£2.3 million** saving from a review of contracts in the Supporting People programme;
- **£2.2 million** decreased borrowing costs as a result of the Property Rationalisation Programme;
- **£1.7 million** net reduction in costs for adults needing 24 hour social care through developing supported living and extra care provision in the county as an alternative to residential care;
- **£0.8 million** saving arising from the school-led improvement approach; and
- **£0.6 million** reduction in waste management costs.

The original three year target of saving **£56.5 million** was reviewed each quarter for the three years and as the council received more income or where pressures did not materialise to the extent budgeted, those savings with a risk of a negative impact on service provision were removed.

Reserves

We planned to use **£9.3 million** of our reserves to support the delivery of services in 2019/20. However services spent **£12.5 million** more than their cash-limited budget; when combined with the **£27.8 million** additional resources received during the year and **£18.1 million** of 2020/21 grants received in advance, the outcome was that our usable revenue reserves increased overall by **£24.1 million**.

At 31 March 2020 our revenue reserves are therefore **£193.0 million**, of which £14.2 million is held by schools. We consider this to be a robust figure and allows us some flexibility to balance the challenges of meeting current and unknown future economic uncertainty alongside investment to improve our efficiency and the wider community economic recovery. We will continue to apply our Reserves Strategy which describes how and when these reserves should be used or added to.

Borrowing and Investments

Whilst the average short-term rate that financial institutions lend money to each other was **0.53%** during 2019/20, our treasury management activity generated a higher average interest on investments of **0.99%**. have managed the Council's money prudently, with investments made to the UK Debt Management Office and to other local authorities in line with our Treasury Management Strategy. Our long-term debt outstanding is **£321.4 million** at 31 March 2020; a year previously the figure was **£341.4 million**, and at 31 March 2020 we are holding **£201.7 million** of cash or cash equivalents.

Pensions

At 31 March 2020 our total pensions liability was **£812.6 million**, a decrease of **£112.2 million** over the year. This remains within the expected range and we are confident that this liability is well managed within the statutory arrangements.

Outlook

Pre-Existing Financial Challenges

In 2019/20 the Council designed and implemented a new Council Plan, including a 5 year medium-term financial strategy and reserves strategy. This gives greater alignment of the financial position and plans of the Council to the strategic objectives of healthy communities and a vibrant local economy, as well as managing the risk inherent in providing a diverse range of services to a diverse community funded by numerous income streams.

The financial strategy recognised a number of risks to be monitored, managed and where uncontrollable to be financially underwritten:

- prolonged uncertainty around Central Government's future decisions about local government financing, including a new funding model for adult social care to replace the social care Council Tax precept and the Better Care Fund grants;
- dependency on locally collected Business Rates, placing greater importance on the need to maintain reserves to manage any volatility;
- designing and delivering sustainable delivery of Special Educational Needs services within the level of DSG funding;
- the broader economic environment, such as the impacts of movement in inflation, council tax base and interest rates on our day-to-day costs, income and debt repayments;
- pension cost increases arising from revaluations and any Central Government decisions about the Local Goverment Pension scheme's funding mechanisms.
- we are actively working to mitigate any risks to the authority and our communities from the future relationships with the European Union. Our key areas of focus are the impact of immigration and workers schemes on Council services and the local economy, the impact of changed trading arrangements and the evolution of post-transition legislation and regulation

Covid-19

In March 2020, with the outbreak of the Coronavirus Pandemic across the World, the Council's staff and services changed overnight. The flexibility of the workforce, IT infrastructure and delivery routes meant that core services continued to be delivered alongside new requirements such as provision of Personal Protective Equipment, Shielding Hubs for vulnerable citizens and shared use of contract provision with NHS partners to enhance discharge pathways from hospitals.

Some front line functions, such as libraries, had to severely restrict their services due to social distancing rules, and a small number of internal support services were paused to free up resources to the Covid response efforts. Alongside this a number of income generating schemes and investments were stopped, such as parking charges and much construction and development work.

Over the longer-term there are anticipated risks which are still being investigated and quantified around:

- tax bases for business rates and Council Tax;
- increased costs for services we purchase, especially in the care sector;
- requirements around road spacing for social distancing;
- the impacts of the delays to delivery of internal efficiency and development savings.

The costs of these increased pressures, reduced income and reduced ability to benefit in the future from investments made now is currently estimated to exceed government Covid-19 funding, but with caveats due to the uncertainty of the amount of time the pandemic will continue, the longer term impact on the economy and on our community's requirements for service delivery and the level of central funding made available.

Mitigation

These risks are common to all local authorities, and we continue to combat these through a mix of active management and financial planning. In response to the Coronavirus Pandemic specific risks, the Council is carrying out four measures:

1. Highlighting and management of risks at an executive level through the risk register

2. A refresh of the medium-term financial strategy will be carried out once we move from the "response" phase of the pandemic to the "recovery" phase, to quantify the financial impact of the longer-term implications of new risks and develop plans to rebuild reserves or operate at lower cost.

3. Engaging nationally, regionally, sub-regionally and locally with partners, businesses and the voluntary sector to influence recovery and jointly manage any emerging risks and funding gaps.

Basis of Preparation and Presentation

In considering this report, you should note that the comparison of spend against service budgets which we use internally to assess our financial performance is not directly comparable to the cost of services disclosed in the Statement of Accounts. This is mainly due to the accounting adjustments required to comply with reporting requirements, which do not impact on the amount of our spending to be met by local taxpayers, which is central to our in-year monitoring of our financial performance. The key differences relate to the way in which we account for items such as depreciation, impairment, reserves, provisions and carry-forwards. Each of these items is explained further in our accounting policies or the glossary.

Core Financial Statements

These comprise the four key pieces of information in the Statement of Accounts

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	Balance Sheet
An accounting deficit of £4.4 million for 2019/20 has been reported; the outturn position is a £24.1 million surplus after budget movements approved by Members during the year.	**An increase of £170.5 million in County Council's net assets as at 31 March 2020.**
This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The main factors in the move from surplus to deficit are capital depreciation, revaluation and pensions charges.	The balance sheet shows the value of the assets and liabilities recognised by the County Council. At 31 March 2020 the County Council's net worth was £270.9 million

Cash Flow Statement	Movement in Reserves Statement
A net cash outflow of £3.0 million in 2019/20 in cash or cash equivalents.	**An increase of £11.9 million in the County Council's usable reserves, made up of an increase of £24.1 million in revenue reserves and a decrease of £12.2 million in capital reserves.**
This statement summarises the cash that has been paid to us and which we have paid to other organisations and individuals.	This statement shows the movement in year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into usable reserves (i.e. those that can be used to fund spending or reduce taxation) and other reserves.

Statement of accounting policies

This summarises the accounting rules and conventions we have used in preparing these financial statements. Our accounting policies have remained unchanged from 2018-19.

Notes to the core financial statements

The notes include more detail to support the information contained in the core financial statements as well as information on critical judgements and assumptions applied in the production of the accounts.

Other sections of this Document

As well as the Statement of Accounts for the County Council, this document includes separate sections for the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts for the Warwickshire Pension Fund.

The Annual Governance Statement describes the Council's Governance Framework and system of internal control. It includes a review of the effectiveness of this system in the past year and identifies key risks for the Council to manage in the future. The Annual Governance Statement also covers the Warwickshire Pension Fund.

The Warwickshire Pension Fund's Statement of Accounts describes the Fund's financial position and performance in 2019/20. While the County Council administers the Fund, the Fund's accounts represent its activities on behalf of all its member organisations. Further information about the Fund can be found in Note 1 of that section.

Rob Powell
Strategic Director for Resources

Warwickshire County Council

Statement of Accounts

2019/20

Working for Warwickshire

We would welcome any comments or suggestions you have about this publication. Please contact Virginia Rennie, Strategic Finance, Resources Directorate, Warwickshire County Council.

- Phone: 01926 412239
- E-mail: vrennie@warwickshire.gov.uk

You can also leave your comments on our website at www.warwickshire.gov.uk

If this information is difficult to understand, we can provide it in another format, for example, in Braille, in large print, on audiotape, in another language or by talking with you. Please contact Hayley Green on 01926 412232.

This document forms part of the Warwickshire County Council's 2019/20 Statement of Accounts which also includes the Annual Governance Statement and the accounts for Warwickshire Pension Fund. The accounts for the Pension Fund are available at www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Contents

Independent Auditor's Report	Page 5
Statement of responsibilities	Page 10
Core financial statements	
• Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	Page 11
• Movement in Reserves Statement	Page 12
• Balance Sheet	Page 13
• Cash Flow Statement	Page 14
Statement of accounting policies	
• Accruals of income and expenditure	Page 15
• Assets held for sale	Page 15
• Apprenticeship Levy	Page 15
• Cash and cash equivalents	Page 15
• Contingent assets	Page 15
• Contingent liabilities	Page 16
• Employee benefits	Page 16
• Events after the Balance Sheet date	Page 16
• Exceptional items, prior period adjustments and changes to accounting policies	Page 16
• Fair value	Page 17
• Financial assets	Page 17
• Financial liabilities	Page 18
• Going Concern	Page18
• Grants	Page 18
• Group Accounts	Page 18
• Heritage assets	Page 18
• Income from selling non-current assets	Page 19
• Intangible assets	Page 19
• Inventories	Page 19
• Investment property	Page 19
• Leases	Page 19
• Minimum Revenue Provision	Page 20
• Overheads and support service costs	Page 20
• Pooled Budgets	Page 20
• Property, plant and equipment	Page 20
• Provisions	Page 22
• Reserves	Page 22

• Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	Page 23
• Schools and School Assets	Page 23
• VAT	Page 23
Notes to the core financial statements	
Notes relating to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	
• Note 1: Expenditure & Funding Analysis and the notes to the statement including income and expenditure by nature	Page 24
• Note 2: Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	Page 28
• Note 3: Significant items of income and expenditure and restatements of prior year figures	Page 30
• Note 4: Other operating expenditure	Page 30
• Note 5: Financing and investment income and expenditure	Page 30
• Note 6: Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure	Page 31
Notes relating to the Movement in Reserves Statement	
• Note 7: Transfer to/from earmarked reserves	Page 31
Notes Relating to the Balance Sheet	
• Note 8: Property, plant and equipment	Page 32
• Note 9: School property, plant and equipment	Page 34
• Note 10: Heritage assets	Page 35
• Note 11: Investment properties	Page 35
• Note 12: Intangible assets	Page 36
• Note 13: Financial instruments	Page 37
• Note 14: Debtors	Page 41
• Note 15: Cash and cash equivalents	Page 41
• Note 16: Creditors	Page 41
• Note 17: Provisions	Page 42
• Note 18: Usable reserves	Page 42
• Note 19: Unusable reserves	Page 42
Notes relating to the Cash Flow Statement	
• Note 20: Cash Flow Statement – operating activities	Page 46
• Note 21: Cash Flow Statement – investing activities	Page 47
• Note 22: Cash Flow Statement – financing activities	Page 47
Other Notes to the Accounts	
• Note 23: Grant income	Page 48
• Note 24: Accounting standards issued that have not yet been adopted	Page 50
• Note 25: Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty	Page 50
• Note 26: Capital expenditure and capital financing	Page 52
• Note 27: Critical judgements in applying accounting policies	Page 53

• Note 28: Dedicated Schools' Grant • Note 29: Events after the Balance Sheet date • Note 30: External audit costs • Note 31: Leases • Note 32: Contingent assets • Note 33: Contingent liabilities • Note 34: Members' allowances • Note 35: Nature and extent of risk arising from financial instruments • Note 36: Officers' remuneration and termination benefits • Note 37: Pension schemes • Note 38: Pooled budgets with health • Note 39: Coventry and Warwickshire Business Rates Pool • Note 40: Related parties and associated parties • Note 41: Trading accounts	Page 53 Page 56 Page 56 Page 56 Page 57 Page 57 Page 57 Page 57 Page 60 Page 63 Page 70 Page 71 Page 71 Page 74
The Firefighters' Pension Fund	Page 76
Glossary	Page 78

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(to be completed)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(to be completed)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(to be completed)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(to be completed)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(to be completed)

Statement of responsibilities for the statement of accounts

This section explains our responsibilities for our financial affairs and how we make sure we carry out these responsibilities properly, in line with the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 and the Account and Audit Regulations 2015.

Responsibilities of the Council

We do the following:

- Make sure that one of our officers is responsible for managing our financial affairs. In this council, the Strategic Director for Resources is responsible for this;
- Manage our affairs to make sure we use our resources efficiently and effectively and protect our assets; and
- Approve the statement of accounts.

Responsibilities of the Strategic Director for Resources

As the Strategic Director for Resources, I am responsible for preparing our statement of accounts. These accounts must present a true and fair view of our financial position, including our income and spending for the year.

In preparing our statement of accounts, I have:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- Made reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates; and
- Followed the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

I have also:

- Kept proper accounting records which are up to date; and
- Taken steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Warwickshire County Council at 31 March 2020 and the income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2020. The unaudited draft accounts were authorised for issue on 26 June 2020. These were audited and were considered and approved at a meeting of the Council on 13 October 2020. The approved accounts were authorised for issue on that date.

Rob Powell
Strategic Director for Resources **Date: 13 October 2020**

Councillor Alan Cockburn
Chair of the Council **Date: 13 October 2020**

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2018/19 (Restated)				2019/20		
Gross expenditure £m	Gross income £m	Net expenditure £m	Summary of revenue spending	Gross expenditure £m	Gross income £m	Net expenditure £m
			Money spent on services			
300.6	-33.7	266.9	~ Communities Directorate	279.3	-38.1	241.2
296.0	-62.1	233.9	~ People Directorate	314.7	-67.7	247.0
72.3	-8.1	64.2	~ Resources Directorate	80.7	-8.8	71.9
183.3	-266.1	-82.8	~ Schools	182.9	-260.7	-77.8
5.3	-38.5	-33.2	~ Corporate Services and Resourcing	8.2	-36.4	-28.2
8.6	0.0	8.6	~ Non-distributed costs	0.8	0.0	0.8
866.1	**-408.5**	**457.6**	**Net cost of services**	**866.6**	**-411.7**	**454.9**
74.8	0.0	74.8	~ Other operating expenditure (note 4)	9.8	0.0	9.8
53.1	-17.7	35.4	~ Financing and investment income and expenditure (note 5)	53.0	-18.2	34.8
0.0	-454.8	-454.8	~ Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure (note 6)	0.0	-495.1	-495.1
994.0	**-881.0**	**113.0**	**Surplus (-) or deficit on the provision of services**	**929.4**	**(925.0)**	**4.4**
			Items that will not be reclassified to the surplus (-) /deficit on the provision of services			
		-58.2	~ Surplus (-) or deficit on revaluation of property, plant and equipment			-14.1
		0.0	~ Surplus or deficit from investments in equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income.			-0.1
		88.9	~ Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)			-160.7
		30.7	**Other comprehensive income and expenditure**		**0.0**	**-174.9**
		143.7	**Total comprehensive income and expenditure**			**-170.5**

To arrive at the figures for each directorate in the table above we adjust the income and expenditure figures used internally to report our financial performance as required by the Code and regulations. A reconciliation of these adjustments and more details as to what each adjustment relates to are shown in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (Note 1) and the Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 2) in conjunction with the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The restatement of the 2018/19 figures is described in Note 3.

Movement in Reserves Statement

Movement in Reserves Statement - 2019/20	General Fund (Unearmarked Funds) £ m	General Fund Earmarked Reserves £ m	General Fund Capital Fund £ m	Total General Fund Reserves £ m	Capital Receipts Reserve £ m	Capital Grants Unapplied £ m	Total Usable Reserves £ m	Unusable Reserves £ m	Total Authority Reserves £ m
Balance at 31 March 2019	**32.3**	**135.2**	**1.4**	**168.9**	**9.6**	**15.1**	**193.6**	**-93.2**	**100.4**
Movement in Reserves during 2019/20									
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	-4.4	0.0	0.0	-4.4	0.0	0.0	-4.4	174.9	170.5
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (note 2)	28.5	0.0	0.0	28.5	-0.7	-11.5	16.3	-16.3	0.0
Net Increase / Decrease (-) before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	**24.1**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**24.1**	**-0.7**	**-11.5**	**11.9**	**158.6**	**170.5**
Transfers to / from (-) Earmarked Reserves (note 7)	-35.2	34.9	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase / Decrease (-) in Year	**-11.1**	**34.9**	**0.3**	**24.1**	**-0.7**	**-11.5**	**11.9**	**158.6**	**170.5**
Balance at 31 March 2020	**21.2**	**170.1**	**1.7**	**193.0**	**8.9**	**3.6**	**205.5**	**65.4**	**270.9**

Movement in Reserves Statement - 2018/19	General Fund (Unearmarked Funds) £ m	General Fund Earmarked Reserves £ m	General Fund Capital Fund £ m	Total General Fund Reserves £ m	Capital Receipts Reserve £ m	Capital Grants Unapplied £ m	Total Usable Reserves £ m	Unusable Reserves £ m	Total Authority Reserves £ m
Balance at 31 March 2018	**29.2**	**116.4**	**1.2**	**146.8**	**0.0**	**1.4**	**148.2**	**95.0**	**243.2**
Opening Balance adjustment for financial instrument reclassification (Note 3)	**0.0**	**3.1**	**0.0**	**3.1**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**3.1**	**-2.2**	**0.9**
Balance as at 1 April 2018	**29.2**	**119.5**	**1.2**	**149.9**	**0.0**	**1.4**	**151.3**	**92.8**	**244.1**
Movement in Reserves during 2018/19									
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	-113.0	0.0	0.0	-113.0	0.0	0.0	-113.0	-30.7	-143.7
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (note 2)	131.9	0.0	0.1	132.0	9.6	13.7	155.3	-155.3	0.0
Net Increase / Decrease (-) before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	**18.9**	**0.0**	**0.1**	**19.0**	**9.6**	**13.7**	**42.3**	**-186.0**	**-143.7**
Transfers to / from (-) Earmarked Reserves (note 7)	-15.8	15.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Increase / Decrease (-) in Year	**3.1**	**15.7**	**0.2**	**19.0**	**9.6**	**13.7**	**42.3**	**-186.0**	**-143.7**
Balance at 31 March 2019	**32.3**	**135.2**	**1.4**	**168.9**	**9.6**	**15.1**	**193.6**	**-93.2**	**100.4**

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2020

31 March 2019 £ m		31 March 2020 £ m	Notes
1,093.9	Property, plant and equipment	1,130.9	**8**
25.6	Investment property	23.6	**11**
4.4	Heritage assets	4.5	**10**
3.7	Intangible assets	3.0	**12**
1,127.6	**Total fixed assets**	1,162.0	
2.0	Long-term investments	12.3	**13**
0.8	Long-term debtors	0.0	**13**
1,130.4	**Total long-term assets**	**1,174.3**	
	Current assets		
154.3	Short-term investments	162.3	**13**
0.6	Inventories	0.5	
82.1	Short-term debtors	84.7	**14**
204.7	Cash and cash equivalents	201.7	**15**
441.7	Total current assets	449.2	
	Current liabilities		
-5.3	Short-term provisions	-5.9	**17**
-18.5	Short-term borrowing	-20.0	**13**
-120.1	Short-term creditors	-122.9	**16**
-0.7	Short-term grants received in advance	-0.9	**23**
-144.6	Total current liabilities	-149.7	
297.1	**Current assets less current liabilities**	**299.5**	
-2.3	Long-term provisions - new	-2.3	**17**
-341.4	Long-term borrowing	-321.4	**13**
-58.6	Long-term grants received in advance	-66.6	**23**
-924.8	Liability related to defined benefit pension scheme	-812.6	**19**
-1,327.1	**Long-term liabilities**	**-1,202.9**	
100.4	**Net assets**	**270.9**	
193.6	Usable reserves	205.5	**18**
-93.2	Unusable reserves	65.4	**19**
100.4	**Total reserves**	**270.9**	

Rob Powell
Strategic Director for Resources
13 October 2020

Cash Flow Statement

2018/19 £ m		Note	2019/20 £ m
-113.0	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services		-4.4
248.0	Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for noncash movements	20	110.2
-101.2	Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	20	-100.1
33.8	Net Cash flows from operating activities		5.7
-18.2	Net Cash flows from Investing Activities	21	1.3
-1.2	Net Cash flows from Financing Activities	22	-10.0
14.4	**Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents**		**-3.0**

31 March 2019 £ m		Note	31 March 2020 £ m
190.3	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	15	204.7
204.7	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	15	201.7
14.4	**Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents**		**-3.0**

Statement of accounting policies

This section summarises the accounting rules and conventions we have used in preparing these financial statements.

General

The content, layout and general rules we used to prepare these accounts comply with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2019/20 (‘the Code’) issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Accruals of income and expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place. This means that income from the sale of goods or the provision of services is recorded in our accounts when the goods or services are transferred to the recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract. Expenditure is recorded in our accounts when services are received, rather than when we actually make a payment, and supplies are recorded as expenditure when we use them or as inventories on the Balance Sheet until that point. Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract. Where income and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received/paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet, subject to a de minimis level for non-system generated accruals of £50,000. We do not expect the effect to be material to the overall position.

Assets held for sale

Where we have decided to sell an asset and the asset is being actively marketed with a sale expected within 12 months of making that decision, it is categorised as a current asset held for sale. We value these at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less disposal costs. Those assets that we do not expect to sell within 12 months are not classed as assets held for sale and instead are valued at their previous use.

Apprenticeship Levy

The cost of the Levy is recognised as a direct cost of employment in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) when it is paid to Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC). When funds are transferred from the Government's Digital Apprenticeship Account to an approved training provider a training expense up to the value of the training provided, with a corresponding entry for a government grant, will be recognised in the CIES against the service benefiting from the training.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is money held in current bank accounts and overdrafts that are repayable on demand and are integral to daily cash flow management. Money held in call accounts and short-term funds invested for a term of three months or less are classified as cash equivalents because they are readily available to be converted into cash.

Contingent assets

We identify contingent assets where an event has taken place that gives the authority a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of some uncertain future event not wholly within our control. Our contingent assets disclosure is shown in note 32. These are not included in our Balance Sheet.

Contingent liabilities

We identify contingent liabilities where either:

- A possible obligation has arisen from past events and whose existence will be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of some uncertain future event not wholly within our control; or
- A present obligation may arise from past event but is not recognised because either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Our contingent liabilities disclosure is shown in note 33. These are not included in our Balance Sheet.

Employee benefits

Benefits payable during employment

The accounts reflect entitlements that have been earned by employees, such as salaries and wages, as a consequence of the service completed by them as at 31 March each year even if we would never normally make payments for them, such as annual leave and time-off in lieu not yet taken. These are accrued for in the cost of services in the CIES.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision to terminate an officer's employment before normal retirement age or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense to the service in the CIES at the earlier of when the authority can no longer withdraw the offer or when we recognise costs of a restructuring.

Post-employment benefits

As part of the terms and conditions of employment we offer retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until the employee retires, we account for post-employment benefits in the CIES at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

Our employees are members of four different pension schemes, and we participate in one compensation scheme:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme;
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme;
- The Firefighters' Pension Scheme and the Firefighters' Injury Awards Scheme; and
- The National Health Service Pension Scheme.

All four pension schemes provide members with pensions and other benefits related to their pay and length of service. Details of these schemes, our accounting policies in relation to them and their impact on the financial statements are shown in note 37.

Events after the Balance Sheet date

We consider any material events that occur between the date of the Balance Sheet and the date the accounts are authorised for issue by the Strategic Director for Resources.

Exceptional items, prior period adjustments and changes to accounting policies

Exceptional items are material items of income or expenditure that are disclosed separately in the CIES to aid understanding of our financial performance.

Prior period adjustments are made where there are material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Where a change to accounting policies is made it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for earlier years as if the policy had always applied.

Fair value

We value several classes of our assets at fair value. We define this as 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. In 2019/20 fair value applies to non-operational property, plant and equipment classified as surplus assets, investment properties, assets held for sale and financial instruments.

We use appropriate valuation techniques, maximising the use of relevant known data and thereby minimising the use of estimates or subjective valuations. We assess the level of uncertainty in our valuations by assigning our assets into three categories:

- Level 1 – quoted prices of identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 – inputs other than quoted prices that are observable, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 – unobservable inputs.

Further detail is shown in notes 11 and 13.

Financial assets

Financial assets are classified based on our business model for holding them and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes:

- Amortised cost;
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL); and
- Fair value through other comprehensive income and expenditure (FVOCI) – designated equity instruments.

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when we become 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 CIES for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. 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.

The fair value measurements of FVPL assets are based on the following techniques:

- Instruments with quoted market prices – the market price; and
- Other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis.

FVPL assets are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. A financial instrument revaluation reserve exists to hold qualifying gains and losses on FVPL assets (see note 19). Those that do not qualify impact the general fund and are held in an earmarked volatility reserve (see note 7).

Equity instruments designated as FVOCI are those which are not held in order to give rise to contractual cashflows and are not held for trading. They are valued at fair value using the earnings multiple valuation method or at cost if suitable information is not available or appropriate. Movements in fair value are recognised in the CIES in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure and reflected in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve. These gains or losses are only realised in the General Fund when the assets are sold. Interest is recognised in the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

We recognise expected credit losses on assets held at amortised cost or FVOCI either on a 12-month or lifetime basis as appropriate. Impairment losses are calculated to reflect our expectation that future cash flows might not take place because the debtor defaults on their obligations. Where risk has significantly increased since an instrument was recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not significantly increased or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expectations. For further details on the impairment of current debtors (allowances for bad debts) see note 35. These are shown in service expenditure in the CIES.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when we become party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the CIES for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument in the year it was due. For our borrowings, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest) and interest charged to the CIES is the amount payable for the year in the loan agreement.

Trade creditors are due within one year and carrying value is deemed to equate to fair value.

Going Concern

Local authorities cannot be created or dissolved without statutory prescription. The provisions of the Code on going concern reflect the economic and statutory environment in which local authorities operate and hence these accounts are prepared on the basis that the functions of the authority will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Grants

Grants are shown in the accounts in the year that they relate to rather than when we actually receive them. They are only shown in the accounts if we are certain that we will receive them. General grants we receive are shown as Taxation and non-specific grant income in the CIES. Revenue grants we receive to pay for spending on specific service activities are shown as income for the relevant service area when we are confident that any grant conditions have been met. Where revenue grants have conditions outstanding the grant is held as a receipt in advance; if the conditions are met but the grant remains unspent it is held in an earmarked reserve.

Capital grants are also credited to the CIES when any relevant conditions governing their use have been met. This income is then reversed out and charged to the Capital Adjustment Account upon use, so the level of council tax is not affected. Unused non-conditional capital grants are held in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Before the conditions are met, capital grants are also held on the Balance Sheet as a receipt in advance.

Group Accounts

We have assessed a number of entities, including our wholly owned subsidiaries, in line with the Code and accounting standards. Having due regard to materiality of effects on the financial statements and other qualitative considerations that may affect the understanding by the readers of the accounts, we have not established a requirement to produce group accounts. Further details of all our associated companies, subsidiary company holdings and other related party details are outlined in Note 40. In addition, we have accounted for schools' income and expenditure, assets and liabilities in the single entity financial statements rather than produce group accounts, in accordance with the Code.

Heritage assets

Our heritage assets are held for their cultural, environmental or historic associations, making their preservation for future generations important. We value our museum collections and valuables at the Courts, Judges House and Shire Hall at their insurance valuations. The Golden Tower of Leaves and our Waller of Woodcote archive collection of family and estate letters and deeds at County Records are valued at cost. It would not be cost effective to undertake revaluations for all other County Record documents and any valuations would not have a material impact on the accounts. Operational heritage assets used in the provision of services or for other activities are accounted for under other asset classes elsewhere in the Balance Sheet. Heritage assets classified as community or other assets are valued at insurance cost unless our valuer believes conventional methods relevant to their classification are more appropriate. Any gains on reclassification are taken to the Revaluation Reserve. More detailed information on the heritage assets we hold is available on our website https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

Income from selling non-current assets

We use the income from selling non-current assets (buildings, vehicles and land) to meet part of the cost of new capital spending or to repay borrowing. We show the gain or loss on the sale of assets in the CIES. This is the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of an asset after allowing for costs relating to the sale of the asset. We take all costs of disposal incurred in a year to the CIES, regardless of whether all the proceeds of the related sale have been received. We use up to 4% of a capital receipt to meet these disposal costs.

The carrying value of the asset (the net book value after depreciation) and the sale proceeds are also reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement (MIRS) and transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account, so the level of council tax is not affected.

Where we have the right to capital receipts but have not yet received the cash payment, the transactions in the CIES are unaffected. However, instead of recognising the sales proceeds we instead recognise a Deferred Capital Receipt, which cannot be used to pay for our capital expenditure until the cash is received.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are non-financial non-current assets that do not have physical substance and are controlled by the authority through custody or legal rights (such as software licences). We treat intangible assets in the same way as other non-current assets. We gradually reduce the value of intangible assets on a straight-line basis over their useful life (up to 10 years) to reflect the consumption of the economic or service benefit and charge this to the CIES. Intangible assets are valued at amortised historic cost.

Inventories

Inventories are materials or supplies that will be consumed in producing goods or providing services. The highways, roads and transport services stocks are valued at the cost of replacing them. Other stocks are valued at the cost we paid for them. These methods of valuing stocks are different from the methods set out by the Code. This does not have a material effect on the financial statements.

Investment property

Investment property assets are those held for rental purposes or capital value appreciation or both. They are not used for the delivery of services. Such assets are initially measured at cost. Investment property is not depreciated but is revalued at fair value every year. Gains and losses on revaluation, as well as disposal and/or rental income, are shown in the Financing and investment income and expenditure line in the CIES. Our valuation techniques in relation to investment properties are as outlined in Note 25.

Leases

Leases can be designated as either finance leases or operating leases. Finance leases are those where substantially all the risks and rewards relating to the leased asset transfer to the lessee. All other leases are operating leases.

Finance leases

We deal with finance leases where we are the lessee in the same way as other capital spending. We include these as assets in the Balance Sheet and charge depreciation on them. Rentals are apportioned between a charge for the acquisition of the asset (recognised as a liability in the Balance Sheet at the start of the lease and written down annually as rent becomes payable) and a finance charge made each year to the CIES.

We do not have material finance leases where we are the lessor.

Operating leases

The vast majority of our lease rental payments (as lessee) are assessed to be operating leases and are charged evenly to the CIES over the life of the lease.

Where we grant an operating lease over a property or item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained on the Balance Sheet and the rental income is credited to the CIES as it is due.

We do not disclose contingent rents as they are not material to the financial statements.

Minimum Revenue Provision

We are required to make an annual contribution from revenue for the repayment of our debt as approved in our Treasury Management Strategy. This is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). We calculate MRP on a straight-line basis using the average remaining useful life of our asset portfolio over the two asset categories of:

- Land, buildings and infrastructure; and
- Vehicles, plant and equipment.

Overheads and support service costs

All support service costs are held within the directorate within which they are managed. In accordance with the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2019/20 support service costs are only apportioned to services on a relevant basis for the purposes of unit costs reporting on services when required for Government statistical comparability.

Pooled Budgets

We are the host authority to a number of pooled budget arrangements. These are joint arrangements solely for the purposes of working together with other public sector bodies and which do not create separate entities. We have reported on those arrangements showing the total pooled resources and expenditure including the nature of those arrangements in the notes to the accounts. We have accounted for in our income, expenditure, assets and liabilities in our financial statements, only that where we are the commissioning body. This will include amounts owed to or owed by the other parties in the pooled budget arrangement to the authority where it is the commissioning body.

Property, plant and equipment

Assets that have a physical substance, are held for use in the production or supply of services and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as property, plant and equipment (PPE).

Recognition

Our spending on buying, creating or improving PPE is classed as capital spending provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service associated with the item will flow to us and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Spending that does not provide a significant benefit in terms of value, asset life, or service performance or which falls below our de minimis level of £6,000 is charged to our revenue account in full in the year it occurs.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising the purchase price and any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended. Assets are valued on the basis set out by CIPFA and in line with the Statements of Asset Valuation Practice and Guidance Notes issued by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. Our valuation process is led by the Council's Property Management team, who commission external valuers as needed.

The closing balances on 31 March 2020 were determined in the following ways:

- Operational land and buildings are included in the Balance Sheet at their current value based on their existing use less an annual charge for depreciation. However, where there is insufficient market valuation evidence, for example schools, assets are included in the Balance Sheet at a depreciated replacement cost;
- Surplus assets are those which we do not use in our day-to-day work and which are not likely to be disposed of in the next twelve months. We include these assets in the Balance Sheet at fair value, based on highest and best use. These assets are revalued every year and so are not subject to depreciation;
- We include infrastructure assets, such as roads and bridges and community assets, vehicles and equipment in the Balance Sheet at the amount they cost when brought into use less an annual charge for depreciation. These assets are valued in this way because there is no meaningful market data available to calculate an existing use value; and
- Assets under construction are held in the Balance Sheet at the cost incurred on their production to date. When the asset is deemed operationally complete the balance is transferred to the appropriate asset class shown above and depreciation begins.

We revalue operational PPE assets held at a value other than depreciated historic cost annually to ensure their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at year end. In particular, we review the need to revalue any asset where there has been more than £0.250 million spend each year.

When asset values rise above the amount, we paid for them we add the difference to the Revaluation Reserve. When asset values go down, the reduction is charged to any available Revaluation Reserve balance held for that asset, with the remainder being charged to the relevant service line in the CIES. This charge is then reversed out in the MIRS so that there is no impact on council tax.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end to identify 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. The accounting treatment of impairment losses is the same as that for revaluation losses shown above.

Depreciation

Depreciation is an accounting estimate used to spread the cost of an asset over its useful economic life. We charge depreciation on buildings over our valuer's estimate of their useful economic life (between 5 and 58 years), on roads and bridges over 30 years, and on vehicles and equipment over their own useful lives (between 3 and 20 years for vehicles and between 3 and 30 years for equipment).

The cost of depreciation is calculated by the following methodology:

- Our new assets are depreciated from the start of the financial year after they become operationally complete;
- Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis meaning that an asset's value falls equally each year throughout its life. If the gross value or remaining life of the asset changes due to expenditure, impairment or revaluation, the depreciation charge will change in the following year; and

- We generally charge depreciation on buildings as a single asset. However, if we determine that the value of major components within an asset are material with respect to the overall value of that asset, and that the lifetime of these components is significantly shorter than the remaining useful economic life of the asset, the major component is depreciated separately.

We do not charge depreciation on land we own, as it does not have a limited useful life, nor on investment properties or assets held for sale. Similarly, heritage assets are generally assessed to have infinite lives and so are not depreciated.

The estimated useful economic lives of our land and buildings are assessed by our valuers as part of the revaluation of these assets.

Provisions

We put amounts of money aside to meet future specific service payments. For future events to be reflected in provisions, they need to meet three tests:

- They must be the result of a past event;
- A reliable estimate can be made; and
- There must be a clear responsibility for the Council to make a future payment because of the past event.

Provisions are charged to the appropriate service line in the CIES when we become aware that it is probable a payment will be required. The provision is based on the best estimate of the likely settlement. When payments are made, they are charged to the provision already set up in the Balance Sheet.

Reserves

We keep reserves to pay for spending on projects we will carry out in future years, to protect us against unexpected events and to manage the financial risk of the uncertainty we face. Reserves include 'earmarked reserves' which we set aside for certain policy purposes and other 'general reserves' which represent resources set aside for purposes such as general events and managing our cash flow. By law, schools are entitled to keep any of their budgets they have not spent. These amounts are shown separately from other reserves.

Reserves are created by appropriating amounts from the council's General Fund in the MIRS. When expenditure is financed from a reserve, the expenditure itself is charged to the appropriate service line in the CIES. The reserve is then appropriated back via the MIRS so that there is no net charge against council tax. Some reserves hold unspent funding which can only be applied in specific ways, such as the Capital Grants Unapplied and Capital Receipts Reserve.

Other 'unusable reserves' are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, and retirement and employee benefits:

- The capital accounting system requires us to maintain a Revaluation Reserve to reflect unrealised gains on non-current assets, and a Capital Adjustment Account to manage timing differences between their usage and financing;
- We maintain a Collection Fund Adjustment Account which holds the difference between the amounts required to be shown in the CIES for council tax and business rates and that required by legislation to be taken against the General Fund;
- We maintain an Accumulated Absences Account to hold the amount we have to accrue for post-employment benefits such as annual leave earned but untaken at the year-end so as not to affect the level of Council Tax; and
- We maintain a Pensions Reserve to hold the difference between any increase in the accounting cost of pensions in the year and the statutory figure chargeable in any year, which is the contribution made by the authority.

Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute

We undertake some capital spending during the year that does not result in the creation of an asset we own. Any money we spend this way must be charged to the CIES but be funded from capital resources, and so, we make an adjustment in the MIRS equal to the expenditure to reverse this to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Schools and schools' assets

The balance of control for local authority maintained schools, foundation, voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools are all deemed to lie with the local authority. We therefore recognise schools' assets, liabilities, reserves and cash flows in our financial statements as if they were transactions, cash flow and balances of the authority. Any asset provided by a third party and consumed in the provision of an education service with schools or donated to the school will be treated as a donated asset. School assets are derecognised in full on the date that a school transfers to academy status. These are disposals for nil consideration. These losses on disposal/transfer are shown in the Other operating income and expenditure line in the CIES.

VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from HMRC. VAT receivable is excluded from income. We are subject to Partial Exemption: as long as the VAT we claim on purchases used to generate exempt income is less than 5% of all VAT claimed on purchases in the year, we can claim all our VAT back in full.

Note on Roundings

Individual tables presented within disclosures may not sum due to roundings. This does not reflect any inaccuracy or error.

Notes to the Core Financial Statements

Note 1: Expenditure and Funding Analysis and associated notes

The purpose of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate to council tax payers how the funding available to the authority (i.e. grants, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed and earned by the authority in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2018/19 (Restated)				2019/20		
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund £m	**Adjustments Between the Funding and Accounting Basis £m**	**Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £m**	**Summary of revenue spending**	**Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund £m**	**Adjustments Between the Funding and Accounting Basis £m**	**Net expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £m**
			Money spent on services			
178.5	88.4	266.9	~ Communities Directorate	186.2	55.0	241.2
224.9	9.0	233.9	~ People Directorate	236.3	10.7	247.0
45.4	18.8	64.2	~ Resources Directorate	58.0	13.9	71.9
-83.4	0.6	-82.8	~ Schools	-82.9	5.1	-77.8
-106.9	73.7	-33.2	~ Corporate Services and Resourcing	-123.4	95.2	-28.2
0.0	8.6	8.6	~ Non-distributed costs	0.0	0.8	0.8
258.5	**199.1**	**457.6**	**Net cost of services**	**274.2**	**180.7**	**454.9**
-277.5	-67.1	-344.6	~ Other income and expenditure	-298.3	-152.2	-450.5
-19.0	**132.0**	**113.0**	**Surplus (-) or deficit on the provision of services**	**-24.1**	**28.5**	**4.4**
146.8			Opening General Fund Balances	168.9		
3.1			Opening Balance Adjustment - Financial instrument reclassification	0.0		
19.0			Less/Plus Surplus or (Deficit) on General Fund Balance in Year	24.1		
168.9			**Closing General Fund Balance**	**193.0**		

The General Fund balances above include a significant proportion of earmarked reserves including those held by schools. For more details and information see the Movement in Reserves Statement and Note 2 to the accounts.

The analysis of the money spent on services used in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis are those reported to the Cabinet Committee for quarterly budget monitoring and year end reporting. The restatement of 2018/19 figures is described in Note 3.

In 2018/19 the introduction of IFRS9 (Financial instruments) led to a restatement of opening balances of £3.1 million as above).

Notes to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The table below provides a reconciliation of the main adjustments to the net expenditure chargeable to the General Fund Balances to arrive at amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The relevant transfers between reserves are explained in the Movement in Reserves Statements.

Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Amounts	2019/20			
	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (a) £m	Net change for Pensions Adjustments (b) £m	Other Statutory Differences (c) £m	Total Adjustments £m
~ Communities Directorate	45.8	7.7	1.5	55.0
~ People Directorate	0.8	7.8	2.1	10.7
~ Resources Directorate	4.5	6.2	3.2	13.9
~ Schools	-0.3	4.8	0.6	5.1
~ Corporate Services and Resourcing	-11.9	1.9	105.2	95.2
~ Non-distributed costs	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8
Net cost of services	**38.9**	**29.2**	**112.6**	**180.7**
~ Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	-64.2	19.3	-107.3	-152.2
Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services	**-25.3**	**48.5**	**5.3**	**28.5**

Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Amounts	2018/19 (Restated)			
	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (a) £m	Net change for Pensions Adjustments (b) £m	Other Differences (c) £m	Total Adjustments £m
~ Communities Directorate	79.8	7.9	0.7	88.4
~ People Directorate	-1.3	6.8	3.5	9.0
~ Resources Directorate	12.3	4.6	1.9	18.8
~ Schools	-0.4	3.0	-2.0	0.6
~ Corporate Services and Resourcing	-12.3	0.4	85.6	73.7
~ Non-distributed costs	0.0	8.6	0.0	8.6
Net cost of services	**78.1**	**31.3**	**89.7**	**199.1**
~ Other income and expenditure from the Expenditure and Funding Analysis	5.8	17.7	-90.6	-67.1
Difference between General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services	**83.9**	**49.0**	**-0.9**	**132.0**

a) **Adjustments for capital purposes –** this column adds in depreciation, impairment and revaluation gains and losses as well as revenue expenditure funded by capital under statute and capital grants used to fund that expenditure to the service lines within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account. It also includes:

- **Other operating expenditure** – income received on disposal of assets and the amounts written off on those assets are added;
- **Financing and investment income and expenditure** – statutory charges for capital financing i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and other revenue contributions are deducted; and
- **Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure** – credits for capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year are added.

b) **Net change for the Pensions adjustments –** this column adds the net change for the removal of pensions contributions and the addition of employee pension-related expenditure and income.

- **For services** – this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the authority as allowed by statute and the replacement of current service costs and past service costs as a result of employee service; and
- **For financing and investment income and expenditure –** the net interest on the defined benefit liability is added as a cost.

c) **Other differences** – this column adds other differences between the amounts debited/credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable/receivable to be recognised under statute. These include:

- Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure – the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for Council Tax and Business Rates and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future Surpluses or Deficits on the Collection Fund. Revenue grants that are receivable without conditions or service-specific stipulation are required to be shown within this line rather than within the Net Cost of Services.

Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

Expenditure/Income	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Expenditure:		
~ Employee expenses	356.6	361.4
~ Other services expenses	456.7	495.2
~ Support service recharges	0.0	0.0
~ Depreciation and amortisation	43.0	38.8
~ Impairment and revaluation losses (including reductions in fair value of investment property)	45.5	7.3
~ Interest payments	17.1	16.9
~ Precepts and Levies	0.2	0.2
~ Loss on the disposal of assets	74.9	9.6
Total Expenditure	**994.0**	**929.4**
Income:		
~ Fees, charges and other service income fromcontracts with customers	-82.1	-84.9
~ Other contributions, reimbursements and statutory income	-34.9	-36.9
~ Interest and investment income (including increases in fair value of investment property)	-3.5	-4.4
~ Income from council tax	-276.4	-295.9
~ Grants	-484.1	-502.8
Total Income	**-881.0**	**-925.0**
Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	**113.0**	**4.4**

Total income received can be analysed on a segmental basis as follows:

Segmental Income Received	2018/19 (Restated) £m	2019/20 £m
~ Communities Directorate	-40.4	-44.2
~ People Directorate	-65.7	-69.8
~ Resources Directorate	-15.8	-16.6
~ Schools	-266.4	-261.1
~ Corporate Services and Resourcing	-423.4	-459.6
	-811.7	-851.3
~ Capital Grants Credited to the CIES (Note 23)	-69.3	-73.1
~ Revaluation Gains and profit on sale of investment property credited to the CIES (Notes 11 & 5)	0.0	-0.6
Total Income Analysed on a segmental basis	**-881.0**	**-925.0**

We lease some of our properties on long term contracts with customers, but these are not material. Any amounts outstanding at year end are shown amongst the debtors in Note 14 as appropriate.

Note 2: Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations

Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations 2019/20	General Fund Balance £ m	Capital Fund £ m	Capital Receipts Reserve £ m	Capital Grants Unapplied £ m	Movement in Unusable Reserves net spending £ m
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account					
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES):					
~ Charges for depreciation of non-current assets	37.8				-37.8
~ Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment assets	7.6				-7.6
~ Movements in the market value of investment properties	-0.2				0.2
~ Amortisation of intangible assets	1.0				-1.0
~ Capital grants and contributions applied	-96.6				96.6
~ Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	19.2				-19.2
~ Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal to the CIES	24.1				-24.1
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES					
~ Minimum Revenue Provision	-11.9				11.9
~ Capital expenditure charged to the General Fund Balance	-2.7				2.7
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account					
~ Application of Capital Grants to the Capital Adjustment Account	11.5			-11.5	0.0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve & the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve					
~ Cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	-3.6		3.6		0.0
~ Deferred capital receipts realised in year			6.0		-6.0
~ Deferred capital receipts credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	-11.4				11.4
~ Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0.0		-10.3		10.3
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve					
~ unrealised gains and losses of financial instruments which are shown in the CIES but are not charged/credited to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	0.4				-0.4
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve					
~ Grant funding of fire fighters' pension liabilities	-5.1				5.1
~ Reversal of net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS19	98.8				-98.8
~ Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners	-45.2				45.2
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account					
~ Amount by which council tax income credited to the CIES is different from council tax income calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	2.4				-2.4
~ Amount by which business rates income credited to the CIES is different from business rates income calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	1.2				-1.2
Adjustment primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account					
~ Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	1.3				-1.3
Total adjustments	**28.5**	**0.0**	**-0.7**	**-11.5**	**-16.3**

Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations 2018/19	General Fund Balance £ m	Capital Fund £ m	Capital Receipts Reserve £ m	Capital Grants Unapplied £ m	Movement in Unusable Reserves net spending £ m
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account					
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES):					
~ Charges for depreciation of non-current assets	41.9				-41.9
~ Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment assets	45.2				-45.2
~ Movements in the market value of investment properties	0.3				-0.3
~ Amortisation of intangible assets	1.1				-1.1
~ Capital grants and contributions applied	-63.0				63.0
~ Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	13.1				-13.1
~ Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal to the CIES	105.3				-105.3
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES					
~ Minimum Revenue Provision	-12.4				12.4
~ Capital expenditure charged to the General Fund Balance	-3.5				3.5
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account					
~ Capital Grants and contributions unapplied credited to the CIES	-13.7			13.7	0.0
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve & the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve					
~ Cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	-24.6		24.6	0.0	0.0
~ Deferred capital receipts realised in year			2.7		-2.7
~ Deferred capital receipts credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	-6.0				6.0
~ Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0.0		-17.6		17.6
~ Contribution from Capital Receipts Reserve to fund administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	0.0	0.1	-0.1		0.0
Adjustments primarily involving the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve					
~ unrealised gains and losses of financial instruments which are shown in the CIES but are not charged/credited to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	-0.2				0.2
Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve					
~ Grant funding of fire fighters' pension liabilities	-5.4				5.4
~ Reversal of net charges made for retirement benefits in accordance with IAS19	94.7				-94.7
~ Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners	-40.4				40.4
Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account					
~ Amount by which council tax income credited to the CIES is different from council tax income calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	1.0				-1.0
~ Amount by which business rates income credited to the CIES is different from business rates income calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	0.2				-0.2
Adjustment primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account					
~ Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	-2.0				2.0
Total adjustments	**131.9**	**0.1**	**9.6**	**13.7**	**-155.3**

Note 3: Significant items of income and expenditure and restatements of prior year figures

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and related notes have been restated for 2018/19 for comparative purposes to reflect changes in the organisations structure on 1 April 2019. None of these changes have had a material effect on the restated income and expenditure. This does not change the overall reported position on the statement or the notes.

Note 4: Other operating expenditure

2018/19 (Restated) £ m	Other operating expenditure	2019/20 £ m
0.2	Environment Agency Levy	0.3
74.6	Losses on disposal/transfer of non-current assets	9.6
74.8		**9.8**

Note 5: Financing and investment income and expenditure

2018/19 (Restated) £ m	Financing and investment income and expenditure	2019/20 £ m
17.1	Interest payable and similar charges	16.9
21.6	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability	22.5
-3.5	Interest receivable and similar income	-3.8
0.0	Unrealised gains or losses on financial assets held at fair value through profit and loss transferred to usable reserves	0.7
-0.2	Unrealised gains or losses on financial assets held at fair value through profit and loss transferred to unusable reserves	0.4
-13.4	Trading account income	-12.8
13.4	Trading account expenditure	12.0
0.7	Income and expenditure on investment properties and changes in their fair value	-0.6
0.5	Other investment expenditure	0.4
-0.8	Other investment income	-1.0
35.4		**34.8**

Note 6: Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure

2018/19 £ m	Taxation and non specific grant income and expenditure	2019/20 £ m
-276.4	Council tax income	-295.9
	Business rates income and expenditure	
-39.0	~ Retained business rates	-39.9
-26.1	~ Business rates top up	-24.7
-1.8	Business rates pool growth (WCC share)	-1.5
-1.5	Business rates pool surplus	-1.2
-9.7	Revenue Support Grant	0.0
	Other non-ringfenced Government grants	
-5.4	~ Fire Pensions Fund Grant	-5.1
-25.7	~ Revenue grants	-53.7
-69.3	~ Capital grants and contributions	-73.1
-454.8		**-495.1**

Note 7: Transfers to/from earmarked reserves

Movement in earmarked reserves (including 2018/19 Restatement)	Balance at 31 March 2018 £ m	Opening Balance adjustment £ m	Transfers Out £ m	Transfers In £ m	Balance at 31 March 2019 £ m	Transfers Out £ m	Transfers In £ m	Balance at 31 March 2020 £ m
Schools Balances (under a scheme of delegation)	12.5		0.0	2.3	14.8	-0.6	0.0	14.2
DSG Reserve	1.0		-1.0	0.0	0.0	-5.2	2.3	-2.9
External Commitments Reserves	9.2		-2.0	3.0	10.2	-1.4	3.0	11.8
Redundancy Fund	11.9		-1.3	0.0	10.6	-2.2	0.0	8.4
Insurance Fund	8.9		0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.2	9.1
DSG Offset Fund	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.3	12.3
Investment Funds	12.8		-2.4	10.3	20.7	-19.8	54.1	55.0
Projects and Policies Reserves	7.7		-1.6	1.6	7.7	-1.6	0.4	6.5
Volatility Reserves	10.2	3.1	0.0	4.3	17.6	-0.8	4.6	21.4
Management of Service Risk Reserves	27.0		-2.4	13.3	37.9	-42.2	26.8	22.5
Medium Term Financial Strategy	15.2		-8.4	0.0	6.8	0.0	5.0	11.8
Total	**116.4**	**3.1**	**-19.1**	**34.8**	**135.2**	**-73.8**	**108.7**	**170.1**

The money that services set aside is held to make sure that they can meet future known budget commitments, and that services will have the resources to react to any unexpected events. Details of reserves allocated to and held by the Council's services can be found in the 2019-20 Financial Outturn Report, available at https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

During 2019/20 we reclassified our earmarked reserves to reflect the reason for holding the reserve. We have not included details of the amounts of the adjustments for each different line affected as we do not consider that including this detail has a material impact on the understanding of the users of the accounts. The total amount of earmarked reserves remains unchanged. Movements during 2018/19 have been restated for comparative purposes.

In 2018/19 the introduction of IFRS9 (Financial instruments) led to a restatement of opening balances of £3.1 million as above).

Note 8: Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment	Land and buildings £ m	Surplus assets £ m	Vehicles, machinery, furniture and equipment £ m	Roads and bridges £ m	Country parks and open spaces £ m	Assets under construction £ m	Total £ m
Gross book value at 1 April 2019	615.8	1.3	54.8	631.7	2.4	36.2	1,342.2
Depreciation balance at 1 April 2019	0.0	0.0	-44.8	-203.5	0.0	0.0	-248.3
Net book value at 1 April 2019	**615.8**	**1.3**	**10.0**	**428.2**	**2.4**	**36.2**	**1,093.9**
Changes in the year							
~ spending on assets	11.6	0.0	3.1	32.5	0.2	42.6	90.0
~ transfer of assets under construction to operational assets on project completion	6.2	0.0	0.1	9.1	0.0	-15.4	0.0
~ value of assets we have sold/transferred	-21.3	0.0	-1.8	0.0	0.0	-0.6	-23.7
~ changes in the value of assets: revaluation	-11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-11.9
~ reversal of prior year impairments and revaluation losses	4.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8
Depreciation							
~ depreciation written off on revaluation	13.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7
~ depreciation written off on disposal	0.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
~ depreciation	-14.1	0.0	-2.6	-21.1	0.0	0.0	-37.8
Net book value at 31 March 2020	**605.3**	**1.4**	**10.2**	**448.7**	**2.5**	**62.8**	**1,130.9**
Gross book value at 31 March 2020	605.3	1.4	56.1	673.2	2.5	62.8	1,401.3
Depreciation balance at 31 March 2020	0.0	0.0	-45.9	-224.5	0.0	0.0	-270.4
Net book value at 31 March 2020	**605.3**	**1.4**	**10.2**	**448.7**	**2.5**	**62.8**	**1,130.9**

Property, plant and equipment	Land and buildings £ m	Surplus assets £ m	Vehicles, machinery, furniture and equipment £ m	Roads and bridges £ m	Country parks and open spaces £ m	Assets under construction £ m	Total £ m
Gross book value at 1 April 2018	697.1	0.2	56.6	588.7	2.8	34.8	1,380.1
Depreciation balance at 1 April 2018	-25.5	0.0	-45.9	-183.8	-0.1	0.0	-255.3
Net book value at 1 April 2018	**671.6**	**0.2**	**10.8**	**404.8**	**2.8**	**34.7**	**1,124.8**
Changes in the year							
~ reclassifications	2.2	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	3.6
~ spending on assets	11.6	0.0	2.3	32.2	0.1	24.1	70.3
~ transfer of assets under construction to	11.8	0.0	0.1	10.8	0.0	-22.7	0.0
~ value of assets we have sold/transferred	-78.8	0.0	-4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-83.0
~ changes in the value of assets: revaluation	-50.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-50.9
~ reversal of prior year impairments and	22.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.2
Depreciation							
~ depreciation written off on revaluation	41.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	41.5
~ depreciation written off on disposal	3.3	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.3
~ depreciation	-19.3	0.0	-2.9	-19.6	-0.1	0.0	-41.9
Net book value at 31 March 2019	**615.8**	**1.3**	**10.0**	**428.2**	**2.4**	**36.2**	**1,093.9**
Gross book value at 31 March 2019	615.8	1.3	54.8	631.7	2.4	36.2	1,342.2
Depreciation balance at 31 March 2019	0.0	0.0	-44.8	-203.5	0.0	0.0	-248.3
Net book value at 31 March 2019	**615.8**	**1.3**	**10.0**	**428.2**	**2.4**	**36.2**	**1,093.9**

Our land and building assets include schools, fire stations, libraries, waste disposal sites and other buildings. Assets we have disposed of mainly relate to two schools that have transferred to Academy status during the year and one investment property.

Depreciation

We charge depreciation on buildings over our valuer's estimate of their useful economic life (between 5 and 58 years), on roads and bridges over 30 years, and on vehicles and equipment over their own useful lives (between 3 and 20 years for vehicles and between 3 and 30 years for equipment).

Capital commitments

At 31 March 2020, the authority had entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment in 2019/20 and future years. The total of those payments we were still due to make on capital schemes that were not yet finished, or which we had not finished paying for is £18.9 million. Similar commitments at 31 March 2019 were £27.5 million.

The three largest outstanding commitments are as follows:

1. Rural Broadband project - BDUK Contract 3 £7.8m;
2. WCC Highway Maintenance – Balfour Beatty Contract £7.2m; and
3. Campion School - School expansion - £2.8m

Effects of changes in estimates

There have been no material changes to our accounting estimates for property, plant and equipment in 2019/20.

Revaluations

We carry out a programme of revaluations that ensures all property, plant and equipment required to be measured at fair value for the asset type is revalued annually. The table below shows the date at which our property, plant and equipment assets were last valued.

Revaluations	Land and buildings £ m	Surplus Assets £ m	Vehicles, machinery, furniture and equipment £ m	Roads and bridges £ m	Country parks and open spaces £ m	Assets under construction £ m	Total £ m
Carried at Historical Cost	**0.0**	**0.0**	**10.2**	**448.7**	**2.5**	**62.8**	**524.2**
Valued at current value as at:							
31st March 2020	605.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	606.7
Total cost or valuation	**605.3**	**1.4**	**10.2**	**448.7**	**2.5**	**62.8**	**1,130.9**

All our revalued assets carried at current value were valued in 2019/20. Valuation of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and basis for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

All our Surplus Assets fall within the Level 2 - Fair value category, valued using observable inputs. There has been no change in categorisation during the year.

At this stage it is too early to be able to assess the impact on property values at 31 March 2020 as a result of Covid-19. The valuation of our property assets is therefore reported on the basis of 'material valuation uncertainty' as per VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Red Book Global. Consequently, less certainty – and a higher degree of caution – should be attached to the valuations than would normally be the case.

Note 9: School property, plant and equipment

The value of our school property, plant and equipment is £432.8 million (2018/19 - £451.0 million). The table below shows a breakdown across the various types of school.

School Property, plant and equipment At 31 March 2020	Land £ m	Buildings £ m	Other Assets £ m	Total £ m	Number of Schools
Community Schools	132.3	101.1	1.7	235.1	75
Voluntary Aided Schools	51.5	27.5	0.0	79.0	29
Voluntary Controlled Schools	60.4	32.5	0.0	92.9	37
Foundation Schools	9.6	16.2	0.0	25.8	6
Net book value at 31 March 2020	**253.8**	**177.3**	**1.7**	**432.8**	**147**

School Property, plant and equipment At 31 March 2019	Land £ m	Buildings £ m	Other Assets £ m	Total £ m	Number of Schools
Community Schools	142.0	107.6	2.0	251.6	78
Voluntary Aided Schools	51.5	28.6	0.0	80.1	29
Voluntary Controlled Schools	60.4	32.8	0.0	93.2	37
Foundation Schools	9.6	16.5	0.0	26.1	6
Net book value at 31 March 2019	**263.5**	**185.5**	**2.0**	**451.0**	**150**

The number of schools has reduced by 2 (3 sites) which chose to take up academy status in 2019/20.

Whilst we recognise the assets of voluntary aided, voluntary controlled and foundation schools in our accounts we do not have the right to access or dispose of these assets to settle any liabilities. We have no donated school assets.

Note 10: Heritage assets

The net book value of the heritage assets we hold is £4.5 million (£4.4million in 2018/19). There have been no material acquisitions during 2019/20 and there have not been any significant disposals of heritage assets. More detailed information about the specific heritage assets we hold is on our website https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

Note 11: Investment properties

We classify a number of properties as investment properties, most of which are leased out to third parties under operating leases.

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:

31 March 2019 £ m	Investment properties	31 March 2020 £ m
0.1	Direct net operating expense arising from investment property	0.1
0.0	Rental Income from Investment Property	0.0
0.0	**Net gain/loss (-)**	**0.1**

The table below summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

31 March 2019 £ m	Investment properties	31 March 2020 £ m
58.9	Balance at the start of the year	25.6
0.0	Opening balance adjustment	0.0
-3.5	Reclassifications	0.0
0.1	Additions	0.1
-29.6	Disposals	-2.3
0.0	Net gains from fair value adjustments	0.2
-0.3	Net losses from fair value adjustments	0.0
25.6	**Balance at the end of the year**	**23.6**

The table below shows the fair value of these assets.

Investment Properties - Fair value	Quoted Market Price - Level 1 £ m	Using Observable Inputs - Level 2 £ m	Unobservable Inputs - Level 3 £ m	Total £ m
31st March 2019	0.0	25.6	0.0	25.6
31st March 2020	0.0	23.6	0.0	23.6

There have no changes in the year between levels.

Note 12: Intangible Assets

We account for our software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system accounted for as a hardware item of property, plant and equipment. Our intangible assets include both purchased licences and internally generated software.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £1.0 million (£1.1 million in 2018/19) was charged to revenue in 2019/20.

The movement on intangible asset balances during the year is as follows:

2018/19 £ m	Intangible assets	2019/20 £ m
7.8	Gross book Value at 1 April	7.3
-3.5	Amortisation balance at 1 April	-3.6
4.3	**Net book value at 1 April**	**3.7**
	Changes in the year	
0.0	~ Opening Balance Adjustment	0.0
0.0	~ Reclassifications	0.0
0.5	~ Spending on assets	0.3
0.0	~ Transfer from work in progress to complete	0.0
-1.0	~ Value of assets we have sold	0.0
	Amortisation	
0.0	~ Opening balance adjustment	0.0
1.0	~ Amortisation written off on disposal	0.0
-1.1	~ Amortisation	-1.0
3.7	**Net book value at 31 March**	**3.0**
7.3	Gross book Value at 31 March	7.6
-3.6	Amortisation balance at 31 March	-4.6
3.7	**Net book value at 31 March**	**3.0**

All software is valued at historic cost. We own a number of software licences across the authority which are written off to revenue over their expected useful lives:

Remaining Useful Life	2018/19		2019/20	
	Internally Generated	Other Assets	Internally Generated	Other Assets
1 year	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
2 years	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
3 years	0.0	0.2	2.3	0.2
4 years	2.9	0.3	0.1	0.0
5 years	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0
Total	**3.1**	**0.6**	**2.6**	**0.4**

Note 13: Financial instruments

The borrowings and investments disclosed in the Balance Sheet are made up of the following categories of financial instruments:

Financial Assets and liabilities	31 March 2019			31 March 2020		
	Current £m	Long-term £m	Total £m	Current £m	Long-term £m	Total £m
Financial Assets						
Investments:						
~ Loans and receivables						
~ Fair Value through Profit and Loss	43.5	0.0	43.5	32.1	10.3	42.4
~ Loans and Receivables/Amortised Cost	110.8	0.0	110.8	130.2	0.0	130.2
~ Fair value through other comprehensive income - designated equity instruments	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
Total investments	**154.3**	**2.0**	**156.3**	**162.3**	**12.3**	**174.6**
Debtors - at amortised cost						
~ Amortised cost	0.0	0.8	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.5
~ Financial assets carried at contract amounts	59.4	0.0	59.4	56.3	0.0	56.3
Total Debtors	**59.4**	**0.8**	**60.2**	**57.8**	**0.0**	**57.8**
Cash:						
~ Cash and cash equivalents	204.7	0.0	204.7	201.7	0.0	201.7
Total Cash	**204.7**	**0.0**	**204.7**	**201.7**	**0.0**	**201.7**
Total Financial assets	**418.4**	**2.8**	**421.2**	**421.8**	**12.3**	**434.1**

Financial Assets and liabilities	31 March 2019			31 March 2020		
	Current £m	Long-term £m	Total £m	Current £m	Long-term £m	Total £m
Financial Liabilities						
Borrowings:						
~ Financial liabilities at amortised cost	18.5	341.4	359.9	20.0	321.4	341.4
Total Borrowings	**18.5**	**341.4**	**359.9**	**20.0**	**321.4**	**341.4**
Creditors - amortised cost						
~ Financial liabilities at contractual amounts	75.9	0.0	75.9	67.9	0.0	67.9
Total	**75.9**	**0.0**	**75.9**	**67.9**	**0.0**	**67.9**
Total Financial Liabilities	**94.4**	**341.4**	**435.8**	**87.9**	**321.4**	**409.3**

Reconciliation to Balance Sheet carrying amounts	2018/19 £m	2019/20 £m
Debtors that are financial instruments	59.4	57.8
Debtors that are not financial instruments	22.7	26.9
Total Debtors	**82.1**	**84.7**
Creditors that are financial instruments	75.9	67.9
Creditors that are not financial instruments	44.2	55.0
Total Creditors	**120.1**	**122.9**

The valuation of financial instruments has been classified into the three levels of fair value hierarchy required in the Code according to the quality and reliability of the information and techniques used to value them at fair value.

The fair values of financial liabilities and financial assets carried in the balance sheet at contractual amounts have been assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments. (Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy).

The difference between the long term borrowing nominal amounts carried in the Balance Sheet and their fair value is based on a calculation that uses new loan rates to estimate what it would cost to borrow a similar portfolio of loans at the Balance Sheet date. These loans are with the Public Works Loan Board with interest rates fixed on the date of the initial lending. For more details see note 35.

We use an external expert to provide the fair values for our borrowings, which along with our other financial assets held in the amortised cost and fair value through profit and loss categories are Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

Equity instruments assets are valued internally using the earnings multiple valuation method based on the latest available accounts for the companies in which we hold shares. Details are shown in note 40. Where that data is not available, they are valued at cost. (Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy).

Investments held at amortised cost of £130.2 million (£110.8 million in 2018/19) consist of bank, building society and local authority investments which are held solely for payment of principal and interest and a business model to collect contractual cash flows. The carrying amount and fair value consist of the principal amount and accrued interest to 31 March.

Assets held at fair value through profit and loss of £42.4 million (£43.5 million in 2018/19) are made up of two funds: Threadneedle Social Bond Fund and CCLA Property Fund. At 31 March 2020 the CCLA Property Fund has been gated by the Fund manager, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and its effects on the accurate valuation of the property portfolios it holds, which means that we are unable to request for these funds to be cashed in for the foreseeable future until more certainty around prices can be measured. We have prudently treated this as held as long-term investments since it is uncertain whether we could liquidate them before 31 March 2021 if we so wished. The carrying amount and fair value are based on unit prices provided through fund manager statements. See also note 3 and accounting policies for FVPL assets.

In assessing fair value, we have made the following assumptions:

- No early repayment or impairment is recognised;
- Where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months, carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value; and
- The fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

There have been no transfers between input levels in 2019/20 and no changes in the valuation techniques for financial instruments during the year.

The fair value hierarchy of assets and liabilities is shown in the table below:

Financial Instruments - Fair value 31 March 2020	Quoted Market Price - Level 1 £ m	Using Observable Inputs - Level 2 £ m	Unobservable Inputs - Level 3 £ m	Total £ m
Financial Assets:-				
~ Amortised cost	0.0	130.2	0.0	130.2
- Fair Value through Profit and Loss	0.0	42.4	0.0	42.4
- Fair value through other comprehensive income - designated equity instruments	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
Debtors:-				
- Amortised cost	1.5			1.5
- Financial assets carried at contractual amounts (deemed to be fair value)	56.3	0.0	0.0	56.3
Cash:-				
- Cash and cash equivalents (deemed to be fair value)	201.7	0.0	0.0	201.7
Total Financial Assets	**259.5**	**172.6**	**2.0**	**434.1**
Financial Liabilities:-				
Borrowings:-				
- Financial liabilities carried at amortised cost	0.0	507.5	0.0	507.5
Creditors:-				
- Financial liabilities carried at contractual amounts (deemed to be fair value)	67.9	0.0	0.0	67.9
Total Financial Liabilities	**67.9**	**507.5**	**0.0**	**575.4**

Financial Instruments - Fair value 31 March 2019 (Restated)	Quoted Market Price - Level 1 £ m	Using Observable Inputs - Level 2 £ m	Unobservable Inputs - Level 3 £ m	Total £ m
Financial Assets:-				
~ Amortised cost	0.0	110.8	0.0	110.8
- Fair Value through Profit and Loss	0.0	43.5	0.0	43.5
- Fair value through other comprehensive income - designated equity instruments	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
Debtors:-				
- Amortised cost	0.8			0.8
- Financial assets carried at contractual amounts (deemed to be fair value)	59.4	0.0	0.0	59.4
Cash:-				
- Cash and cash equivalents (deemed to be fair value)	204.7	0.0	0.0	204.7
Total Financial Assets	**264.9**	**154.3**	**2.0**	**421.2**
Financial Liabilities:-				
Borrowings:-				
- Financial liabilities carried at amortised cost	0.0	550.2	0.0	550.2
Creditors:-				
- Financial liabilities carried at contractual amounts (deemed to be fair value)	75.9	0.0	0.0	75.9
Other short term liabilities:-				
- other liabilities including finance leases	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Financial Liabilities	**75.9**	**550.2**	**0.0**	**626.1**

Interest paid and investment income received	(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services 2018/19 (Restated) £m	(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services 2019/20 £m	Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure 2018/19 £m	Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure 2019/20 £m
Net gains and Losses				
~ Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss	-0.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
~ Investment in equity instrument designated at fair value through other comprehensive income	-0.8	-1.0	0.0	-0.1
Total net gains	**-0.9**	**0.1**	**0.0**	**-0.1**
Interest Revenue				
~ Financial assets measured at amortised cost	-3.5	-3.8	0.0	0.0
Total Interest Revenue	**-3.5**	**-3.8**	**0.0**	**0.0**
Interest Expense				
~ Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	17.1	16.9	0.0	0.0
Total Interest Expense	**17.1**	**16.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**

Financial Assets	31 March 2019		31 March 2020	
	Carrying Amount £ m	Fair Value £ m	Carrying Amount £ m	Fair Value £ m
Financial assets held at amortised cost	110.8	110.8	130.2	130.2
Financial assets at fair value through Profit and Loss	43.5	43.5	42.4	42.4
Cash and Cash Equivalents	204.7	204.7	201.7	201.7
Fair value through other comprehensive income - designated equity instruments	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Debtors carried at amortised cost	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5
Debtors carried at contractual amounts	59.4	59.4	56.3	56.3
Long term debtors - amortised cost	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Total	**421.2**	**421.2**	**434.1**	**434.1**

Financial Liabilities	31 March 2019		31 March 2020	
	Carrying Amount £ m	Fair Value £ m	Carrying Amount £ m	Fair Value 31 March 2020
Financial liabilities held at amortised cost	359.9	550.2	341.4	507.5
Long term creditors	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Liability at contractual amounts	75.9	75.9	67.9	67.9
Finance Lease liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	**435.8**	**626.1**	**409.3**	**575.4**

Note 14: Debtors

31 March 2019 (Restated)	Short-term debtors	31 March 2020 £ m
26.7	Trade Receivables	14.9
3.7	VAT	4.8
10.3	Other Public Sector Debtors	13.5
0.2	Other Public Sector Prepayments	0.7
12.1	Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates - Taxpayers	14.1
4.8	Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates - Local authorities	3.4
-3.0	Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates - Bad Debts	-3.7
0.6	Prepayments in relation to capital contracts	0.0
4.4	Other prepayments to External Organisations and Individuals	7.6
12.2	Social Care Debtors	13.6
8.0	Capital debtors from External Organisations and Individuals	14.6
4.2	Other debtors	4.7
-2.0	Bad Debts	-3.5
82.1	**Balance at the end of the year**	**84.7**

Note 15: Cash and cash equivalents

31 March 2019 £ m	Cash and cash equivalents	31 March 2020 £ m
18.1	Cash held by the authority (including schools and imprest accounts)	21.0
129.9	Bank current accounts (call accounts and instant access deposit accounts)	106.6
56.7	Short-term deposits with building societies and other institutions less than 3 months maturity	74.1
204.7	**Total cash and cash equivalents**	**201.7**

Note 16: Creditors

31 March 2019 £ m	Short-term Creditors	31 March 2020 £ m
14.2	Trade Payables	13.9
5.0	Social Security Costs	5.2
7.0	Other Public Sector accruals	7.0
3.1	Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates - Taxpayers	3.3
4.6	Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates - Local authorities	7.8
5.3	Accumulated Absences	6.6
31.6	Receipts in Advance	38.6
13.6	Other accruals in relation to capital contracts	6.5
35.8	Other accruals to External Organisations and Individuals	34.0
120.1	**Balance at the end of the year**	**122.9**

Note 17: Provisions

Our provisions total £8.2 million (£7.6 million 2018/19).

Our former liability insurers, Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI) went into run-off (ceased to write new business) on 30 September 1992, following which a contingent Scheme of Arrangement became effective on January 1994 to ensure a smooth run-off should MMI subsequently be declared insolvent. In the event of the Scheme being triggered, claims paid by MMI after 30 September 1992 will be liable to claw back, at a percentage to be determined by the administrators, with subsequent claims to be paid in part at the same percentage. A Supreme Court judgement relating to establishment of liability arising from mesothelioma claims under employers' liability policies has resulted in the increased possibility of the Scheme being triggered. We have set aside £2.0 million to cover the claw back and the outstanding claims.

We have to account for our share of non-domestic rating appeals that are still to be resolved by the Valuation Office Agency for the District and Borough Councils in Warwickshire. We cannot predict when these appeals may be raised or settled, so we have assumed that these settlements will be made within 1 year for the purposes of these accounts. The amount we have provided is £3.9 million.

We have reassessed the balance of liabilities between the county council and the Firefighters' Pension Fund. Some of the final costs are still uncertain and so a provision of £0.6 million has been included.

We have had to plan to reduce our staff numbers to deliver our savings programme. We have accounted for these employment costs but only where the decisions taken are irreversible. This and all other provisions, totalling £1.7 million, are individually insignificant.

Note 18: Usable Reserves

Movements in our usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement and in notes 1 and 2. A summary of revenue and capital usable reserves is shown below:

31 March 2019 £ m	Usable reserves	31 March 2020 £ m
32.3	General Fund	21.2
135.2	Earmarked Reserves	170.1
1.4	Capital Fund	1.7
9.6	Capital Receipts Reserve	8.9
15.1	Capital Grants Unapplied	3.6
193.6	**Total usable reserves**	**205.5**

Note 19: Unusable Reserves

31 March 2019 £ m	Unusable reserves	31 March 2020 £ m
195.2	Revaluation Reserve	193.1
630.9	Capital Adjustment Account	679.2
6.0	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	11.4
2.4	Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	2.1
-5.3	Accumulated Absences Reserve	-6.6
2.4	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	-1.2
-924.8	Pensions Reserve	-812.6
-93.2	**Total unusable reserves**	**65.4**

Revaluation Reserve
The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains we have made arising from increases in the value of our property, plant and equipment and intangible assets. 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 the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2018/19 £ m	Revaluation Reserve	2019/20 £ m
174.6	Balance on 1 April	195.2
89.5	Revaluation increases	16.4
-33.7	Revaluation decreases	-2.3
-6.1	Depreciation adjustment to Capital Adjustment Account	-6.2
-29.1	Revaluation written off on disposal	-10.0
195.2	**Balance on 31 March**	**193.1**

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 the financing of the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions:

- The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction and enhancement as depreciation, impairment and revaluation losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts we set aside as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement;
- The Account contains the accumulated gains and losses on investment properties; and
- The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on property, plant and equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains. Note 2 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2018/19 £ m	Capital Adjustment Account	2019/20 £ m
706.5	Balance on 1 April	630.9
22.2	Revaluation increase	0.2
-65.4	Revaluation decrease	-12.3
0.0	Reversal of previous impairments	4.8
6.1	Depreciation adjustment to Revaluation Reserve	6.2
29.1	Revaluation written off on disposal	10.2
-105.3	Value of asset disposals	-24.3
-2.7	Disposal proceeds received transferred to usable reserves	0.0
-13.1	Transfer of spending on assets we do not own	-19.2
-30.7	Transfers to and from the revenue account	-26.9
84.1	Money used to buy assets	109.6
630.9	**Balance on 31 March**	**679.2**

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 authority does not treat these gains as useable for financing new capital expenditure until they are backed by cash receipts. When the deferred cash settlement eventually takes place, amounts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

31 March 2019 £ m	Deferred Capital Receipts reserve	31 March 2020 £ m
0.0	Balance on 1 April	6.0
6.0	Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	11.4
0.0	Transfer to the Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	-6.0
6.0	**Balance on 31 March**	**11.4**

Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve

The Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve contains the gains/losses made by the authority arising from increases/decreases in the value of its equity investments that are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income plus those financial assets valued at fair value through profit and loss for which a statutory over ride exists, because they meet the conditions of being classified as a pooled investment vehicle. This means that changes in their fair value do not hit the General Fund.

The balance is reduced when investments with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost
- Disposed of and the gains are realised.

31 March 2019 £ m	Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve	31 March 2020 £ m
2.3	Opening Balance	2.4
0.1	Upward revaluation of investments	0.1
0.0	Downward revaluation of investments	-0.4
0.0	Change in impairment loss allowances	0.0
2.4		2.1
0.0	Accumulated gains or loses on assets sold and maturing assets written out to the CIES as part of other investment income	0.0
0.0	Accumulated gains or loses on assets sold and maturing assets written out to the general fund balance for financial assets designated to fair value through other comprehensive income.	0.0
2.4	**Balance at 31 March**	**2.1**

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the amounts that would otherwise affect the General Fund 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 is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

31 March 2019 £ m		Movement in Accumulated Absences Account	31 March 2020 £ m	
	-7.3	Balance at 1 April		-5.3
7.3		Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	5.3	
-5.3		Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	-6.6	
	2.0	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		-1.3
	-5.3	**Balance at 31 March**		**-6.6**

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of council tax and business rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts due to the General Fund.

31 March 2019 £ m	Movement in Collection Fund Adjustment Account	31 March 2020 £ m
3.7	Balance at start of year	2.4
-1.0	Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	-2.4
-0.2	Amount by which non domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from non domestic rate income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	-1.2
2.4	**Balance at end of year**	**-1.2**

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. We account 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 to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed, as we make employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pay any pensions for which we are 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 we have set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time that the benefits come to be paid.

On 31 March 2019 £ m	Pensions Reserve - All Schemes	On 31 March 2020 £ m
-787.0	Balance as 1 April	-924.8
-88.9	Remeasurements of net defined (liability)/asset	160.7
-94.7	Reversal of net charges made for retirement benefits	-98.8
40.4	Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	45.2
5.4	Grant funding of firefighters' pensions liabilities	5.1
-924.8	**Balance at 31 March**	**-812.6**

Note 20: Cash Flow Statement – operating activities

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

31 March 2019 £m		31 March 2020 £m
41.9	Depreciation	37.8
45.5	Impairment and downward valuations	7.3
1.1	Amortisation	1.0
10.7	Increase/(decrease) in creditors	-3.0
1.2	(Increase)/decrease in debtors including bad debts	-7.2
-0.2	(Increase)/decrease in inventories	0.1
43.0	Movement in pension liability	48.5
105.3	Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	24.1
-0.5	Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services	1.6
248.0		**110.2**

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

31 March 2019 £m		31 March 2020 £m
3.2	Interest received	4.0
-17.1	Interest paid	-25.4
0.8	Dividends received	1.0

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

31 March 2019 £m		31 March 2020 £m
-24.6	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	-15.0
-76.7	Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	-85.1
-101.2		**-100.1**

Note 21: Cash Flow Statement – investing activities

31 March 2019 £ m	Cash flows from investing activities	31 March 2020 £ m
-68.2	Purchase of property,plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	-92.3
-60.4	Proceeds or purchase (-) of short-term and long-term investments	-19.4
-0.3	Other receipts or payments (-) for investing activities	-0.7
27.3	Proceeds from the sale of property, planty and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	9.7
83.4	Other receipts from investing activities - capital grants	104.0
-18.2	**Net cash flows from investing activities**	**1.3**

Note 22: Cash Flow Statement – financing activities

31 March 2019 £ m	Cash flows from financing activities	31 March 2020 £ m
0.0	Cash payments in respect of short-term and long-term borrowing	0.0
-1.2	Repayments of short and long term borrowing	-10.0
0.0	Cash payments for the reduction of outstanding liabilities in relation to finance leases	0.0
-1.2	**Net cash flows from financing activities**	**-10.0**

Our only cash flow in relation to borrowing was the repayment of £10.0 million of loans outstanding (£1.2 million for 2018/19). Included in the opening balance of short term borrowing at 31 March 2019 was an accrual for £8.5 million of interest which was paid on 1 April 2019. This is included in the cash flow for operating activities interest paid in Note 20 above.

Note 23: Grant Income

We credited the following grants to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2019/20:

2018/19 £ m	Grant income	2019/20 £ m
	Revenue grants credited to Services:	
230.1	Dedicated Schools Grant	224.6
9.6	Pupil Premium Grant	9.4
2.7	Sixth Form Funding	0.6
4.3	Other Schools Grants	8.0
3.2	Asylum Seekers Grant	3.6
23.0	Public Health Grant	22.4
5.0	Universal Infant Free School Meals	4.6
1.5	Adult & Community Learning	1.6
15.0	Better Care Fund	13.0
4.0	Other revenue grants	3.8
298.3	**Total revenue grants**	**291.6**
	Capital grants and contributions credited to services:	
4.2	Disabled Facilities Grant	4.5
0.0	Environment Agency	0.1
1.3	Building Digital UK (BDUK)	1.4
0.6	Private developer funding	4.9
1.3	Other grants/contributions	1.2
7.4	**Total capital grants and contributions**	**12.1**
305.7	**Total**	**303.7**

2018/19 £ m	Grant income	2019/20 £ m
	Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income:	
4.2	Business Rates Retention/Compensation Scheme	9.5
12.1	Better Care Fund	18.5
0.0	Covid 19 Support Grant	14.1
2.6	New Homes Bonus	3.1
1.8	Independent Living Fund Grant	1.7
1.4	Tackling Troubled Families	0.9
1.6	Chilldrens Social Innovation Programme	2.4
0.0	Fire Service Pensions Grant	1.2
9.7	Revenue Support Grant	0.0
5.4	Fire Pension Fund Grant	5.1
2.1	Other Grants	2.3
40.8	**Total revenue grants**	**58.8**
	Capital grants and contributions:	
1.2	Devolved Formula Capital	1.7
4.0	HS2 Limited Funding	0.0
20.2	Schools Maintenance and Basic Need	21.5
24.2	Local Transport Plan & other transport grants	23.3
2.3	Contribution from other local authorities	7.9
16.8	Private developer funding	15.7
0.5	Other grants/contributions	3.0
69.2	**Total capital grants**	**73.1**
110.0	**Total**	**131.9**

We have received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned to the giver.

The balances at year end are as follows:

31 March 2019 £ m	Grant receipts in advance	31 March 2020 £ m
	Short-term grant receipts in advance - revenue	
0.7	Other grants	0.9
0.7	**Total revenue grants**	**0.9**
	Long-term grant receipts in advance - capital	
1.5	Devolved Formula Capital	1.1
1.6	Grant from Other Local Authorities	2.4
1.2	Additional School Capital Funding	0.8
53.0	Private developer funding and capital receipt deposits	62.0
1.3	Other grants/contributions	0.3
58.6	**Total capital grants**	**66.6**
59.3	**Total**	**67.5**

Note 24: Accounting standards issued that have not yet been adopted

The following accounting standards have been issued but not yet adopted:

- Amendments to IAS28 Investments in associates and joint ventures: long term interests in associates and joint ventures;
- Annual improvements to IFRS standards 2015 to 2017;
- Amendments to IAS19 Employee benefits: Plan amendments, curtailment and settlements.

These standards all apply to local authority accounts in 2020/21 but are not expected to have a material effect on the authority's financial statements.

The planned introduction of IFRS16 Leases was planned for implementation from 1 April 2020 but in light of COVID-19 CIPFA has deferred adoption with an effective date of 1 April 2021. The impact of this standard for lessees particularly will be that leases with underlying assets that had previously sat off the Balance Sheet will now be brought onto the Balance Sheet. In doing so it will create a fixed asset and lease liability on the Balance Sheet to be written down over the lease term. In addition, the lease payments will be split between an amount used to write down that liability and a finance charge to the CIES over the remaining lease life. Although we are still in the process of assessing the full financial impact on the financial statements on implementation, initial assessment suggests that the value of leased assets and corresponding liabilities to be brought into the Balance Sheet is likely to be material.

Note 25: Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions we have made 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 our Balance Sheet at 31 March 2020 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Property, plant and equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance in relation to individual assets. In the current economic climate, the authority cannot be certain about its ability to sustain the current level of spending on repairs and maintenance bringing into doubt the useful lives of the assets.	If a reduction of asset life occurs, the depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the asset falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for property, plant and equipment would increase by £2.7 million for every year that useful lives are reduced.
Pensions liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance, a 0.5% decrease in the discount rate, in isolation, would result in an increase in the pension liability of £145.6 million. See note 37 for further examples. During 2019/20, our actuaries advised that the net pensions' liability has decreased by £112.2 million mainly as a result of an actuarial gain due to revaluation of fund assets.
Fair Value	It is not always possible for the fair values of investment properties, surplus assets and assets held for sale to be measured based on quoted prices in active markets (i.e. Level 1 inputs). For Level 2 inputs we use quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets at the balance sheet date. Where possible the inputs to these valuation techniques are based on observable data, but where this is not possible, judgement is required in establishing fair values. Where Level 1 inputs are not available, we use valuers to identify the most appropriate valuation techniques to determine fair value.	We use a combination of indexation techniques, beacon valuations and discounted cash flow models to measure the value of our investment properties, surplus assets and assets held for sale.
McCloud and Sargeant Judgements	The McCloud and Sargeant judgements upheld the claimant's cases that the method of implementation of the new public sector pension schemes discriminated against younger members. Our consulting actuaries have included an estimate of the impact in the calculation of our pension liability. However, the remedy to resolve the age discrimination has yet to be agreed and the financial impact remains uncertain.	A 1% change in the employer's liability as a result of the final remedy would change our pension liabilities by £15m.
Covid-19	Our immediate response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the impact of lock down and social distancing on service provision, the wider effects on the economy locally, nationally and globally and the need to invest in the reinstatement of services and recovery began to impact towards the end of March 2020.	We have £193.0m of general fund revenue reserves and £364.0m of cash and short-term investments at 31 March 2020. A significant proportion of these could be used/redirected to meet any immediate funding shortfall. Any material use would require a review of our medium-term spending and investment plans.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Covid-19	We used expert external valuers and actuaries to value of our assets and liabilities as at the end of March 2020 to ensure our balance sheet reflects the estimated impact at that point. However, the duration of the pandemic and the depth of and timeframe for recovery from any economic downturn remain uncertain. Therefore, the financial impact and risk of a material adjustment to our balance sheet going forward remains. The key elements that could be negatively impacted include: • The fair value of our assets and investments; and • The level of reserves and cash we use compared to our plans to meet any unfunded costs as well as an increase in both demand for our services and a reduced resource base in future years.	Our long-term investments and investment property equate to 3% of our total long-term assets at 31 March 2020. The decrease in value of these assets will not affect the underlying strength of our asset base. £157.9m of our operational land and buildings assets are valued on the basis of their existing use. A 9% variation in the value of these assets would have a material impact on our accounts.

Note 26: Capital expenditure and capital financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below, together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed from borrowing (resulting in future revenue charges), the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically yet to be financed. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

2018/19 £ m	Capital financing requirement	2019/20 £ m
314.0	Opening requirement	301.7
	Capital investment:	
70.3	- Property, plant & equipment	90.0
0.0	- Heritage assets	0.0
0.5	- Intangible assets	0.3
0.1	- Investment property	0.1
13.1	- Revenue spending from capital under statute	19.2
84.1	**Total capital investment**	**109.6**
	Sources of finance:	
-17.6	- Capital receipts	-10.3
-63.0	- Government grants and other contributions	-96.6
	- Sums set aside from revenue:	
-3.5	- Direct revenue contributions	-2.7
-12.4	- MRP	-11.9
-96.4	**Total sources of income**	**-121.5**
301.7	**Closing capital financing requirement**	**289.8**

2018/19 £ m	Explanation of movements in the year	2019/20 £ m
	Increase in underlying need to borrowing (supported by government financial assistance)	
-12.3	Change in underlying need to borrow	-11.9
-12.3	**Increase/decrease(-) in Capital Financing Requirement**	**-11.9**

Note 27: Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

In applying our accounting policies as set out at the start of this document, we have had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

- There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, we have determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that our assets might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision;

- We consider voluntary controlled, voluntary aided and foundation schools contribute alongside maintained schools, to meeting our service objectives both now and in the future and that therefore their expenditure, income and the assets they use in the provision of services should form part of our accounts. In accordance with the Code we include them in our single entity accounts, and we do not have to prepare separate group accounts. Details of the value and number of each type of school included in our accounts are shown at note 9;

- When a school that is held on our Balance Sheet transfers to academy status we account for this as a disposal for nil consideration on the date that the school converts to academy status rather than as an impairment on the date that approval to transfer to Academy status is agreed.

- Details of our relationships with other companies and investments in companies are detailed in note 40. These are not material and we have not prepared group accounts on this basis.

- When we become aware of an expected credit loss our accounting policies require that, if material, we charge this to the CIES in the year. Our judgement, based on the advice of our external experts, is that there is no material expected credit loss at 31 March 2020 and therefore no impairment charge to the CIES has been made.

Note 28: Dedicated Schools Grant

Our spending on schools is funded primarily by a grant provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). DSG is ring fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2017. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Central spending includes other funding allocated as school specific contingencies and nominally held funds and allocations by the School Forum. The DSG figure is as confirmed by the Department for Education in March 2020.

We confirm that the DSG receivable in 2019/20 was £224.6 million (made under section 14 of the Education Act 2002). It has been fully distributed to support schools' budgets, as set out in the regulations made under sections 45A, 45AA, 47, 47ZA, 47A, 48, 49 and 138(7) of, and paragraph 2(B) of schedule 14 to, the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and section 24(3) of the Education Act 2002.

New provisions, which come into force on 1 April 2020, under the Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020, mean that local authorities will be required to carry forward overspends of DSG to their schools' budgets either in the year immediately following or the year after. Under Regulation 8, paragraphs (7) and (8) this also applies to a deficit from the previous year i.e. 2019/20, thus creating a comparable position to the statutory funding basis for the 2020/21 financial year. The overall deficit below has been shown as an overdrawn earmarked reserve in Note 7 of the accounts. Any future funding from a local authority to make good any deficit from its General Reserves can only be made upon approval from the Secretary of State. This reflects the statutory requirement that a deficit must be carried forward to be funded from future DSG income, unless the Secretary of State authorise the local authority not to do so. Furthermore, the DSG deficit has to allocated between service categories so that a deficit from one service category cannot be offset against a surplus from another.

The early years DSG is based on data from earlier years. The final allocation will be determined and received during 2020/21 and will be shown in the table as an in-year adjustment. The £1.0m in-year adjustment shown in the table is £0.8m relating to the final in-year adjustment for 2018/19 and £0.2m estimated to be received as the additional final early years DSG for 2019/20.

The deficit on the high needs DSG is £5.2m at the end of the 2019/20 financial year. This will be recovered through future funding growth and our recovery plan aimed at influencing the increasing level of demand in the high needs system and the push towards specialist placements.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2019/20 across the different DSG blocks are shown below.

2018/19 Total		2019/20										
		Central Spending					Individual schools budget (ISB)					
		Schools Block	Early Years Block	High Needs Block	Central Block	TOTAL	Schools Block	Early Years Block	High Needs Block	Central Block	TOTAL	Total
£ m		£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
403.4	Final DSG for the year before Academy recoupment	2.5	9.1	45.2	4.4	61.1	324.8	23.5	17.8	0.0	366.1	427.2
-172.0	Less Academy recouped for the year	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-191.3	0.0	-12.4	0.0	-203.7	-203.7
231.4	Total DSG after Academy recoupment for the year and agreed initial budget distribution in the year.	2.5	9.1	45.2	4.4	61.1	133.6	23.5	5.4	0.0	162.5	223.6
0.9	Plus DSG brought forward from the previous year	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.0
0.0	Less DSG Carry forward to next year agreed in advance	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
232.3	Agreed initial budgeted distribution in the year	2.5	9.1	45.2	4.4	61.5	133.6	23.5	5.4	0.0	162.1	223.6
-1.3	In year Adjustments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
231.1	Final budgeted DSG distribution for the year	2.5	9.1	45.2	4.4	61.5	133.6	24.5	5.4	0.0	163.1	224.6
-55.8	Actual central spending for the year	-2.1	-1.6	-52.4	-4.2	-60.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-60.2
-177.5	Actual ISB deployed to schools	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-133.8	-30.2	-5.5	0.0	-169.4	-169.4
2.1	Our contribution in the year	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1
0.0	**Under/Over(-) spend for the year (carried forward)**	**0.4**	**7.5**	**-5.1**	**0.3**	**3.4**	**-0.2**	**-5.7**	**-0.1**	**0.0**	**-6.3**	**-2.9**

Note 29: Events after the Balance Sheet date

As a result of the Government's White Paper 'The Importance of Teaching', which allows Schools to opt out of local government control by becoming academies, two Warwickshire schools chose to take up the new academy status in 2019/20 and a further 6 Warwickshire schools are anticipated to also convert to academy status in 2020/21 and beyond. The significance of the conversion of these schools to academy is that the value of the land, buildings and any vehicles, plant and equipment will be removed from our Balance Sheet at the date of conversion. The value of the derecognition of the current schools looking to convert to academy status after 31 March 2020 will be in the region of £34.3 million.

Coronavirus Pandemic
In March 2020 it was announced that coronavirus was a global pandemic. This was swiftly followed by Government instituting a lockdown on 23 March 2020. As a result, the Council's staff and services changed overnight. Core services continue to be delivered with staff primarily working from home. Some functions, such as libraries, are restricting their services due to social distancing rules, a small number of internal support services have been paused to free up resources to the Covid-19 response efforts and a number of income generating schemes and investments paused.

The financial position of the Council/Local Government has changed significantly. In the longer term there is likely to be a further squeeze on public spending and there are anticipated risks around tax bases for business rates and Council Tax; increased costs for services we purchase, especially in the care sector, and the impacts of the delays to delivery of internal efficiency and development savings.

Although the Government has announced, and continues to announce, financial support packages these are unlikely to be sufficient to cover all of the expected Covid-related pressures. Despite this uncertain position, the Council is considering strategies for managing these potential pressures including the implementation of further savings and investing in recovery, utilising reserves to pump-prime the activity. However, due to the level of uncertainty concerning the virus, and the absence of a firm future funding commitments from Government it is not possible to make a reliable estimate of the impact this may have on the Council at this time.

Note 30: External audit costs

We have incurred costs of £0.097 million (£0.073 million in 2018/19) in the year in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts and £0.006 million (£0.049 million in 2018/19 (restated)) in respect of certification of grant claims and other services provided by our external auditors.

Note 31: Leases

Authority as lessee

- Finance leases
  We have acquired some equipment under finance leases. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as property, plant and equipment in the Balance Sheet. These amounts are not material to the financial statements.
- Operating leases
  We have acquired a number of buildings, vehicles and items of equipment by entering into operating leases. These amounts are not material to the financial statements.

Authority as lessor

- Finance leases
  We do not have any finance leases as lessor.
- Operating leases
  We lease out property under operating leases for the following purposes:

- For the provision of community services, such as community centres, homes for the elderly and disabled nurseries;
- For economic development purposes to provide accommodation for local businesses;
- For the support of rural businesses to support smallholdings and farming; and
- To individuals for personal and business use.

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

31 March 2019 £ m	Operating lease period	31 March 2020 £ m
1.6	Not later than 1 year	1.5
4.3	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	3.9
10.8	Later than 5 years	10.3
16.7	**Total**	**15.7**

The minimum lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. The contingent rent is not material to the financial statements.

Note 32: Contingent assets

We currently have no contingent assets.

Note 33: Contingent liabilities

A further legal ruling relating to Firefighter Additional Duties received in April 2019 charges Fire Authorities to ensure all allowances related to any regular additional duty are treated as pensionable. The appropriate changes have been made to the payroll system but backpay will be due once further advice is received concerning how far back we are required to consider recompense for. Until this advice is available, we are unable to calculate an appropriate provision amount, but our view is that for Warwickshire FRS this only relates to Training Allowance which is only paid to a small number of individuals and therefore should not be a material amount.

Note 34: Members' allowances

Elected members were paid a total of £0.802 million (£0.790 million in 2018/19) in allowances and expenses. In addition, we paid independent and co-opted members allowances and expenses of £0.014 million (£0.020 million in 2018/19). No single member was paid more than £50,000 during the year. Further details of allowances and expenses payments made to Elected Members in 2019/20 are available on our website https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk. Payments to Elected Members include expenses for the Police and Crime Panel which are reimbursed by the Home Office.

Note 35: Nature and extent of risk arising from financial instruments

Our activities expose us to a variety of financial risks:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to us;
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that we might not have funds available to meet our commitments to make payments; and
- Market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates and stock market movements.

Our overall financial risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Financial risk management is carried out by a central treasury management team, under policies approved by the Council annually in the Treasury Management Strategy, available via https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk. We have written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to our customers. Our Accounting Policies note describes our overall approach to evaluating impairments to be reflected in the carrying value of our financial assets.

Many of the invoices we raise are the result of statutory obligations. However, where we are providing non statutory goods or services to customers, we consider their ability to pay. A number of checks are available to managers as outlined in our Corporate Debt Recovery Policy. Our current debtors, including trade debtors, are assessed at each year end for impairment. This is assessed using aged debt analysis and past experience of bad debt profiles. The change in the bad debt provision during the year and any amounts found to be irrecoverable are charged against services in the Net Cost of Services in the CIES. The amount of our bad debt provision is shown in Note 14.

We have assessed our potential maximum exposure to credit risk, based on experience of default and collectability over the last five financial years. This has been adjusted to reflect current market conditions. However, there is no effect as there is no instance of institutions that meet our credit ratings defaulting in the last five years. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they are rated independently with a minimum score as laid out in the Treasury Management Strategy.

Liquidity risk

As we have ready access to borrowings from the Public Works Loan Board, there is no significant risk that we will be unable to raise finance to meet our future commitments under financial instruments. Instead the risk is that we will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of our borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. To mitigate this, our strategy is to ensure that not more than 20% of loans are due to mature within any rolling three-year period.
The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

2018/19 £ m	Loans we have not yet repaid	2019/20 £ m
	We owe money to:	
351.4	~ Public Works Loans Board	341.4
8.5	~ Public Works Loans Board - Accrued Interest	0.0
359.9	**Total**	**341.4**
	When we will pay the money back:	
18.5	Less than 1 year	20.0
20.0	Between 1 and 2 years	0.0
0.0	Between 2 and 5 years	0.0
0.0	Between 5 and 10 years	18.0
321.4	More than 10 years	303.4
359.9	**Total**	**341.4**

Our level of borrowing is due to paying for capital spending in previous years. We have not borrowed any money from external sources in 2019/20 to pay for new capital spending.

We use cash reserves which we have set aside to support future years' revenue budgets to invest in the short term. We have included these as short-term investments on the Balance Sheet.

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

Market risk

Interest Rate Risk

We are exposed to significant risk in terms of our exposure to interest rate movements on our borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact. For instance, a rise in 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 borrowings will fall;
- 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.

As part of our strategy for managing interest rate risk we aim to keep a maximum of 25% of our borrowing in variable rate loans.

We have an active strategy for assessing interest rates exposure that allows for any adverse changes to be incorporated into the budget on a quarterly basis. According to this assessment strategy, at 31 March 2019, if interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

- No change in the fair value of fixed rate investment assets; and
- A decrease in fair value of fixed borrowing of £79.9 million (£82.1 million in 2018/19).

Changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and affect the General Fund. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments will be reflected in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Price risk

We have some shareholdings in specific interests and we are not in a position to diversify our portfolio. The current value of the shareholding is £2.0 million. For these equity instrument holdings, we have irrevocably elected to recognise any movements in price as gains and losses recognised in Other Comprehensive Income in the CIES. In 2019/20 this amounted to a gain of £0.046 million. They will not be credited or charged to the General Fund until such times as they are either impaired, sold or derecognised. We also have some investments held as Fair Value through Profit and Loss. All profits and losses on sales and impairments as well as in-year valuation movements on these assets must be recognised immediately in the CIES. We have not disposed of any of these holdings this year. At 31 March 2020 we recognised a total net loss of £1.1 million in the CIES. One of these investments has been classified as a pooled investment vehicle which allows us to apply a statutory override which means that any changes in fair value do not hit the General Fund but are reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement and placed in the unusable Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve until the investment is either sold or de-recognised. The other is not classed as a pooled investment vehicle so the statutory override does not apply and changes in fair value are reflected in the General Fund in the year.

Treasury management

We comply with CIPFA's Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government guidance on local government investments issued in March 2004. An updated version of the latter was released in February 2018 to apply to accounting periods from 1 April 2018 onwards.

We aim to achieve the optimum return on our investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. The borrowing of monies purely to invest and make a return is unlawful and we do not engage in such activity. Our external fund managers comply with the Annual Investment Strategy, approved by Elected Members on an annual basis. The agreement between us and the fund managers additionally stipulates additional guidelines and limits in order to manage risk.

Note 36: Officers' remuneration and termination benefits

We are required to show the number of our staff who are paid more than £50,000 a year. This is shown in the table below. Pay includes salary, redundancy, taxable travel and other taxable costs. These figures do not include employer's pension contribution and exclude remuneration for senior staff who are shown separately.

2018/19		Remuneration Band	2019/20	
Number of Staff	Number Left in the Year		Number of Staff	Number Left in the Year
128	2	£50,000 - £54,999	138	0
73	1	£55,000 - £59,999	78	1
72	1	£60,000 - £64,999	71	3
40	3	£65,000 - £69,999	39	3
24	2	£70,000 - £74,999	27	2
21	2	£75,000 - £79,999	19	3
5	2	£80,000 - £84,999	14	3
2	0	£85,000 - £89,999	4	1
1	1	£90,000 - £94,999	4	1
5	0	£95,000 - £99,999	6	2
1	0	£100,000 - £104,999	2	0
2	1	£105,000 - £109,999	1	0
0	0	£110,000 - £114,999	1	1
1	0	£115,000 - £119,999	2	1
2	1	£120,000 - £124,999	0	0
0	0	£125,000 - £129,999	0	0
0	0	£130,000 - £134,999	0	0
1	1	£165,000 - £169,999	0	0
1	1	£170,000 - £174,999	0	0
379	**18**		**406**	**21**

We are required to disclose the remuneration of senior employees, as defined by regulation, by post for salaries under £150,000 and by name for those whose salary is over £150,000. Remuneration for senior staff includes the employer's contribution to the appropriate pension fund.

Post holder information (post title and name)		Salaries (including fees and Allowances) £	Taxable Expense Allowances £	Compensation for loss of office £	Benefits in Kind £	Total excluding pension contributions £	Employer's Pension Contributions £	Total including pension contributions £
N/A - Note 1	2018/19							
Chief Executive - Monica Fogarty (Head of Paid Service)	2019/20	179,500				179,500	35,002	214,502
Joint Managing Director, Communities - Monica Fogarty	2018/19	166,876	967			167,843	32,541	200,384
N/A - Note 1	2019/20							
Joint Managing Director, Resources - David Carter (Head of Paid Service)	2018/19	166,050				166,050	32,380	198,430
N/A - Note 1	2019/20							
N/A - Note 2	2018/19					0		0
Strategic Director for Resources (Section 151 Officer)	2019/20	135,644				135,644	26,451	162,095
Assistant Director Finance (Section 151 Officer)	2018/19	92,854	0	0		92,854	18,106	110,960
N/a - Note 2	2019/20		0	0		0		0
Strategic Director, People Group	2018/19	134,284				134,284	26,185	160,469
Note 3	2019/20	139,250				139,250	27,154	166,404
Strategic Director, Communities Group	2018/19	22,007	0	0		22,007	4,291	26,298
Note 4	2019/20	132,038		0		132,038	25,747	157,785
Chief Fire Officer	2018/19	127,415	0	0		127,415	23,712	151,127
Note 5	2019/20	133,532	0	0		133,532	36,200	169,732
Assistant Director - People (Head of Public Health - Dr John Linnane)	2018/19	164,702	271	0		164,973	23,167	188,140
N/A - Note 6	2019/20	0		0		0	0	0
Assistant Director Children & Families (Chief Education Officer) - Note 7	2018/19	59,938	0	0		59,938	11,688	71,626
Assistant Director Education Services (Chief Education Officer) - Note 7	2019/20	108,273	0	0		108,273	21,113	129,386
Assistant Director Governance and Policy (Monitoring Officer)	2018/19	110,434	0	0		110,434	21,535	131,969
	2019/20	111,555	0	0		111,555	21,753	133,308
Total 2018/19		**1,044,560**	**1,238**	**0**	**0**	**1,045,798**	**193,605**	**1,239,403**
Total 2019/20		**939,792**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**939,792**	**193,420**	**1,133,212**

Note 1: The Chief Executive (Head of Paid Services) was appointed from 1 April 2019. Previously this the post was held by the Managing Director, Resources. On 31 March 2019 both Joint Managing Director roles ceased.

Note 2: The Section 151 role passed to the Strategic Director for Resources from 1 April 2019. Previously the role was held by the Assistant Director for Finance who left on 31 January 2019. Their annualised salary was £111,555. The role was covered by an Interim from 1 February 2019 and paid via an agency. Payments for the period 1 February 2019 to 31 March 2019 were £39,960.

Note 3: The Strategic Director for People holds the posts of Director of Children's Services and Director of Adult Social Services.

Note 4: The Interim Strategic Director, Communities started on 1 February 2019. The annualised salary for the post in 2018/19 was £132,038. Prior to this, the role was included in the post of Joint Managing Director, Communities.

Note 5: The new Chief Fire Officer took up the post from 18 March 2019 and his annualised salary was £128,689. Amounts paid in relation to the period to 31 March 2019 were paid in 2019/20 and are included above.

Note 6: The standard salary for the Assistant Director People was £101,451 in 2018/19. In 2018/19 additional payments for Clinical Excellence Award, Additional Programme Activity and the Director of Public Heath role result in the total salary in the table. We are required to disclose by name this non-statutory post as the salary paid is over £150,000. The post-holder in 2019/20, whose salary was not over £150,000 is included in the staff paid over £50,000 in the previous table.

Note 7: The Assistant Director for Children and Families left on 7 December 2018. The annualised salary for this post is £86,838. The role was covered from December 2018 to March 2019 by an interim. Payments via an agency were £51,942. The Assistant Director, Education held the role of Chief Education Officer during 2019/20.

The Director of Transformation, reporting directly to the Head of Paid Service, was paid via an Agency. Payments for 2019/20 were £142,500 (£222,000 in 2018/19). This post ceased when they left in October 2019.

A number of employees left during 2019/20, incurring costs of £2.8 million (£2.3 million in 2018/19). None of this relates to senior staff. This cost includes officers who have left as part of ongoing savings and efficiency plans. See table below for details of total exit costs, which also includes the pensions costs funded by the authority not shown in the table above.

Exit Package Cost Band (including Special Payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total Number of packages by cost band		Total cost of packages in each band £ m	
	2018/19	2019/20	2018/19	2019/20	2018/19	2019/20	2018/19	2019/20
£0 - £20,000	9	7	57	73	66	80	0.453	0.491
£20,001 - £40,000	0	1	12	8	12	9	0.339	0.235
£40,001 - £60,000	0	5	7	5	7	10	0.311	0.507
£60,001 - £80,000	3	4	2	0	5	4	0.353	0.274
£80,001 - £100,000	2	4	2	0	4	4	0.346	0.356
£100,001 - £150,000	0	0	3	0	3	0	0.359	0.000
£150,001 - £200,000	1	3	0	1	1	4	0.183	0.721
£200,001 - £250,000	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.000	0.243
	15	**25**	**83**	**87**	**98**	**112**	**2.344**	**2.828**

This is staff that have left the authority in the year. In addition, we are required to account for the termination costs for staff that have signed an agreement to leave the authority which cannot be cancelled but who do not leave until after the 31 March, as a provision charged in the CIES. These staff will be included in the note in the year in which they leave the authority.

Note 37: Pension schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment, we offer retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the authority has a commitment to make payments that need to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

Pension Schemes operated by the Council

Teachers

We operate a pension scheme for our teaching staff, under the Superannuation Act 1972. The scheme provides teachers with a defined benefit when they retire. The Teachers' Pensions Agency manages the scheme under the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 1997, as amended. The Government sets teachers' and employers' contribution rates on the basis of an assumed fund. The scheme has a large number of participating employers and so we are not able to identify our share of the underlying financial position and performance of the scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of our Statement of Accounts, the scheme is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

We may be required to make two kinds of contributions to the scheme – 'normal' and 'supplementary'. The normal contribution is the percentage of a newly recruited teacher's salary that is needed to meet the cost of the pension liability. We would pay a supplementary contribution if the Government found that future liabilities would not be met by the normal contributions. A supplementary contribution is not needed at present. Our total employer's contribution cost was £14.7 million in 2019/20 (£12.2 million in 2018/19).

We are also responsible for paying any extra added years of benefits and early retirement costs to pensioners. These extra costs are classed as defined benefits. As a result, in our accounts we show the extra cost of pensions decisions we made in the current year, no matter when we will actually pay these financial costs. There is no fund for these discretionary benefits and so there are no assets. In 2019/20 the payments relating to added pensionable years came to £3.2 million (£3.2 million in 2018/19). We made no payments relating to early retirement in 2019/20 or 2018/19.

Firefighters

There is a defined benefit pension scheme for our firefighters, under the Superannuation Act 1972. The Firefighters' Pension Scheme in England is an unfunded scheme where we promise to provide employees with benefits under the scheme but make no advance funding in the scheme for those benefits. Benefits are paid directly when they become due.

We pay an employer's pension contribution, based on a percentage of pay, into the pension fund. The pension fund will be balanced to nil at the end of the year by either paying over to the government any excess, or by receiving cash in the form of pension top-up grant. This grant is paid to the Firefighters' Pension Fund and not the County Council. The Government sets the employees' and employer's contribution rates by regulation.

In 2019/20, pension payments totalled £6.8 million (£6.4 million in 2018/19). Costs relating to early retirement totalled £2.1 million in 2019/20 (£1.3 million in 2018/19).

The estimated employer's contributions for Fire Fighters pension for the period to 31st March 2021 will be approximately £2.6 million.

Firefighters' Injury Awards Scheme

Firefighters' injury awards are financed from our revenue account. An ongoing liability to pay injury awards is included in our Balance Sheet. This liability is subject to the same actuarial assumptions as the main firefighters' scheme, though it is not a separate pension scheme as there is a benefit paid whether the recipient of the injury award is a member of the scheme or not. However, the liability forms part of our overall pensions' liability.

National Health Service

During 2013/14 some NHS staff transferred to us. These staff have maintained their membership in the NHS Pension Scheme. The scheme provides these staff with specified benefits upon their retirement and we contribute towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The scheme is an unfunded defined benefit scheme. However, we are not able to identify our share of the underlying financial position and performance of the Scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2019/20 we paid £0.098 million (£0.164 million in 2018/19) to the NHS Pension Scheme in respect of former NHS staff retirement benefits, including employees' contributions.

Local Government Pension Scheme – all other Council employees

We operate a funded, defined benefit pension scheme for staff, under the Local Government Pensions Scheme Regulations 2013. We manage the scheme for ourselves, the five district councils and a number of other organisations. We prepare the accounts, but they are separate from our financial statements. The Council and employees pay contributions into the fund calculated at a level intended to balance pension liabilities with investment assets.

An actuarial valuation is carried out every three years to assess the difference between the fund's projected assets and liabilities and the amount employers will have to contribute for the next three years. The valuation on 31 March 2019 set the rates for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

In the valuation carried out as at 31 March 2016 the funding level increased from 77% to 82%. As a result, the employer's rate is expected to increase by 0.75% per annum until 2019/20. In 2019/20, we made normal employer's contributions totalling £26.6 million (£26.0 million in 2018/19).

We are also responsible for all pension payments relating to benefits we have awarded for added years, together with related increases. In 2019/20, these came to £2.8 million (£1.7 million in 2018/19). The estimated employer's contribution for the period to 31st March 2021 is £28.3 million.

The value of our LGPS assets at 31 March 2020 is based on the market value at 31 December 2019. The actuary has made an assumption about the movement in the investment market to arrive at the valuation at the Balance Sheet date. There were re-measurements as a result of a difference between expected and actual returns on assets which amounted to 0.25% of the value of assets at 31 March 2020. The movement in our LGPS assets in the year is as shown below:

31 March 2019 £ m	Change in Fair Value of WCC Share of LGPS Assets	31 March 2020 £ m
1,047.4	Fair value of assets at the beginning of the year	1,117.0
-2.8	Effect of settlements	0.0
28.2	Interest Income on plan assets	26.8
46.7	Remeasurements on assets	-118.3
28.1	Employers' contributions (including receipts covering early retirements)	30.4
8.5	Member contributions	8.7
-39.0	Benefits/transfers paid	-45.4
1,117.0	**Fair value of assets at the end of the year**	**1,019.2**

A breakdown of the nature of those assets is as follows:

31 March 2019			31 March 2020	
Quoted prices in active markets £ m	Quoted prices not in active markets £ m	LGPS Assets	Quoted prices in active markets £ m	Quoted prices not in active markets £ m
		Equity securities:		
53.8	0.0	Consumer	0.0	0.0
22.2	0.0	Manufacturing	0.0	0.0
1.3	0.0	Energy and utilities	0.0	0.0
24.4	0.0	Financial institutions	0.0	0.0
26.5	0.0	Health and care	0.0	0.0
27.4	0.0	Information technology	0.0	0.0
34.8	0.0	Other	0.0	0.0
		Debt Securites:		
0.0	31.8	Other	0.0	32.4
		Private equity:		
0.0	56.9	All	0.0	48.8
		Real estate:		
121.9	0.0	UK property	99.6	0.0
0.2	0.0	Overseas property	0.1	0.0
		Investment funds and unit trusts:		
420.8	0.0	Equities	584.2	0.0
183.9	0.0	Bonds	156.6	0.0
0.0	0.0	Hedge funds	0.0	0.0
0.0	25.8	Infrastructure	0.0	26.8
69.4	0.0	Other	56.5	0.0
15.8	0.0	**Cash and cash equivalents**	14.2	0.0
1,002.5	**114.5**	**Totals**	**911.2**	**108.0**

The expected return on scheme assets does not affect the Balance Sheet position as at 31 March 2020 but will affect the reported pension cost for the following year. It is based on market expectations at the beginning of the financial period for returns over the life of the obligation. This requires the consideration of the composition of the Scheme's assets and the potential returns of different asset classes. The assumption used is the average of the assumptions appropriate to the individual asset classes weighted by the proportion of the assets in the particular asset class.

The Impact of Pensions in our Accounts

We show the cost of retirements benefits in 'Money spent on services' in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when employees earn them. We have made adjustments in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that the charge made against the council tax reflects the actual cash we have paid relating to the year.

31 March 2019					Pension scheme accounting	31 March 2020				
LGPS £m	**Teachers £m**	**Fire fighters £m**	**Fire fighter Injury £m**	**Total £m**		**LGPS £m**	**Teachers £m**	**Fire fighters £m**	**Fire fighter Injury £m**	**Total £m**
					Spending:					
52.0	0.0	4.3	0.5	56.8	Current service cost	62.1	0.0	4.2	0.5	66.8
0.2	0.0	11.0	0.0	11.2	Past service cost and curtailments	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
-2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.6	Effects of Settlement	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
40.5	1.2	7.3	0.7	49.7	Interest cost	40.7	1.2	6.8	0.6	49.3
-28.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-28.2	Interest income on plan assets	-26.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	-26.8
62.0	**1.2**	**22.6**	**1.2**	**87.0**	**Net charge to CIES**	**76.7**	**1.2**	**11.0**	**1.1**	**90.0**
					Contribution from Pensions Reserve:					
-116.0	-4.0	-16.1	-1.7	-137.8	Movement on the Pensions Reserve	76.0	6.7	26.7	2.8	112.2
82.2	6.2	-0.5	1.0	88.8	Re-measurements recognised in CIES	-122.3	-4.6	-30.6	-3.2	-160.7
n/a	n/a	-5.4	n/a	-5.4	Funded by Government top up grant	n/a	n/a	-5.1	n/a	-5.1
-33.8	**2.2**	**-22.0**	**-0.7**	**-54.4**	**Contribution (from) Pensions Reserve**	**-46.3**	**2.1**	**-9.0**	**-0.4**	**-53.6**
					Actual amount charged against council tax:					
28.1	n/a	1.3	n/a	29.4	Employer's contributions & ill-health contributions	30.4	n/a	2.6	n/a	33.0
28.1	**n/a**	**1.3**	**n/a**	**29.4**	**Amount charged against council tax**	**30.4**	**0.0**	**2.6**	**0.0**	**33.0**
					Amount funded by government top up grant					
n/a	n/a	7.1	n/a	7.1	Retirement benefits paid and due to be paid to pensioners and transfers out	n/a	n/a	8.2	n/a	8.2
n/a	n/a	-0.6	n/a	-0.6	Retirement Benefits paid directly by Government Top Up Grant	n/a	n/a	-0.7	n/a	-0.7
n/a	n/a	-1.1	n/a	-1.1	Employee contributions	n/a	n/a	-1.1	n/a	-1.1
n/a	n/a	-1.3	n/a	-1.3	Employer's contributions & ill-health contributions	n/a	n/a	-2.6	n/a	-2.6
n/a	**n/a**	**4.1**	**n/a**	**4.1**	**Government top up grant receivable**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**3.8**	**0.0**	**3.8**
					Movement in Reserves Statement					
-61.9	-1.2	-30.4	-1.2	-94.7	Reversal of net charges made for retirement benefits	-76.7	-1.2	-19.8	-1.1	-98.8
28.1	n/a	1.3	n/a	29.4	Employer's contributions & ill-health contributions	30.4	n/a	2.6	n/a	33.0
n/a	3.4	7.1	0.5	11.0	Retirement benefits paid or due to be paid to pensioners and transfers out	n/a	3.3	8.2	0.7	12.2
-33.8	**2.1**	**-22.0**	**-0.7**	**-54.3**	**Movement in Reserves Statement**	**-46.3**	**2.1**	**-9.0**	**-0.4**	**-53.6**

The key assumptions used by our actuary to determine valuations are as laid out in the table below:

31 March 2019				Pension scheme assumptions	31 March 2020			
LGPS	Teachers	Firefighters	Firefighter Injury Award		LGPS	Teachers	New Firefighters	Firefighter and Injury Award
				Financial assumptions:				
2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	Rate of Inflation CPI	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%
3.1%	3.1%	3.5%	3.5%	Salary Increase	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%
2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%	Pensions increases	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%
2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	Rate of discount	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
				Life expectancy assumptions:				
22.5 (24.7)	22.5 (24.7)	27.3 (29.4)	27.3 (29.4)	A male (female) current pensioner aged 65	21.6 (23.8)	21.6 (23.8)	26.4 (28.5)	26.4 (28.5)
24.3 (26.7)	24.3 (26.7)	28.4 (30.6)	28.4 (30.6)	A male (female) future pensioner aged 65 in 20 years	22.5 (25.4)	22.5 (25.4)	27.5 (29.7)	27.5 (29.7)
				Commutation of pension for lump sum at retirement:				
75.0%	n/a	90.0%	90.0%	~ Taking maximum cash	75.0%	n/a	90.0%	90.0%
50.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	~ Taking 3/80th cash	50.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a

The sensitivity regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the LGPS scheme liabilities are set out below.

Change in assumptions as at 31 March 2020	Approximate increase to Employer Liability %	Approximate monetary amount £ m
0.5% decrease in real discount rate	10%	145.6
1 year increase in member life expectancy	3%	45.2
0.5% increase in the salary increase rate	1%	13.8
0.5% increase in the pension increase rate	9%	130.5

The liabilities associated with each scheme are as shown in the table below:

31 March 2019				Change in present value of pension scheme liabilities during the year	31 March 2020			
LGPS £m	Teachers £m	Firefighters £m	Firefighter Injury Award £m		LGPS £m	Teachers £m	Firefighters £m	Firefighter Injury Award £m
1,494.4	47.4	267.2	25.4	Benefit obligation at the beginning of the year	1,680.0	51.4	283.3	27.1
52.0	0.0	4.3	0.5	Current service costs	62.1	0.0	4.2	0.5
-5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	Effect of Settlements	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
40.5	1.2	7.3	0.7	Interest on pensions liabilities	40.7	1.2	6.8	0.6
8.5	0.0	1.1	0.0	Member contributions	8.7	0.0	1.1	0.0
0.2	0.0	11.0	0.0	Past service costs	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Curtailments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-39.0	-3.4	-7.1	-0.5	Benefits/transfers paid	-45.5	-3.3	-8.2	-0.7
128.8	6.2	-0.5	1.0	Remeasurements on liabilities	-240.6	-4.6	-30.6	-3.2
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Changes in assumptions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Liabilities extinguished	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1,680.0	**51.4**	**283.3**	**27.1**	**Present value of liabilities at the end of the year**	**1,506.2**	**44.7**	**256.6**	**24.3**

This leaves each scheme with a net liability as shown below:

31 March 2019						31 March 2020				
LGPS £m	Teachers £m	Fire fighters £m	Fire fighter Injury Award £m	Total £m	**Pension assets and liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet**	LGPS £m	Teachers £m	Fire fighters £m	Fire fighter Injury Award £m	Total £m
1,680.0	51.4	283.3	27.1	2,041.8	Present value of the defined benefit oblicgation	1,506.2	44.7	256.6	24.3	1,831.8
1,117.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,117.0	Less: Fair value of plan assets	1,019.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,019.2
563.0	**51.4**	**283.3**	**27.1**	**924.8**	**Net Liability arising from defined benefit obligation charge to CIES**	**487.0**	**44.7**	**256.6**	**24.3**	**812.6**
116.0	**4.0**	**16.1**	**1.7**	**137.8**	**Increase/decrease (-) in net liability from previous year**	**-76.0**	**-6.7**	**-26.7**	**-2.8**	**-112.2**

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that we have in the long run to pay retirement benefits. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that our financial position remains healthy:

- LGPS - the deficit will be recovered by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the scheme actuary;
- Firefighters Pension Scheme - the deficit is paid by Central Government;
- Teachers' Pension Scheme - finance is provided by the Teachers Pensions Agency; and
- Firefighters' Injury Awards – these are financed through revenue budgets.

The accounts of the Warwickshire Pension Fund include a disclosure note about a material uncertainty in respect of the property funds it holds. Details of these can be found in Note 5 of the Warwickshire Pension Fund Accounts. The Council's proportion of these funds is approximately 50% which equates to £109 million. Therefore, less certainty can be attached to the valuation of these assets at 31 March 2020.

Note 38: Pooled budgets with health

Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 allowed joint-working arrangements between NHS organisations and local authorities. Pooled funds allow these health organisations and local authorities to work together to tackle specific health issues. An important feature of the pool is that the way resources are used will depend on the needs of the clients who meet the conditions set for the pooled budget, rather than the contributions of the partners.

Warwickshire County Council is the host authority for the Section 75 Pooled budget arrangement via the Better Care Fund. The strategic aims of the programme are:

- People are helped to remain healthy and independent;
- People are empowered to play an active role in managing their own care and the care they receive; and
- People get the right service at the right time and in the right place – which means services will envelop individuals close to their home.

Agreements for the financial years since 1 April 2015 have been agreed by us and the three Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) in Warwickshire. Annual contributions are agreed by the Better Together Programme Board before the commencement of each financial year thereafter. The agreement sets out the basis of the governance arrangements and reporting requirements to both the Better Together Programme Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The total pooled budget arrangement for 2019/20 is £61.6 million (£49.8 million in 2018/19) of which £4.5 million (£4.2 million in 2018/19) is capital funding for Disabled Facilities. Of the revenue element £27.1 million (£22.2 million in 2018/19) is held by the CCGs for them to commission services and of that £3.7 million (£3.9 million in 2018/19 (restated) has been passed back to the authority as part of a separate S75 Integrated Community Equipment Service agreement. A total of £30.0 million (£23.4 million in 2018/19) revenue funding was allocated to the council for commissioning services in accordance with the agreement.

The surplus and deficit at the end of the year on the Integrated Community Equipment Service and Better Care Fund Revenue respectively belong to the CCGs. The surplus at the end of the year on Disabled Facilities belongs to the District and Borough Councils of Warwickshire.

The S75 agreement for the Commissioning of Mental Health Services was agreed in 2018/19. The pooled resources total £5.4 million (£5.4 million in 2018/19) with any surplus or deficits remaining within the pool, to be allocated by agreement with the Partnership Board.

The table below summarises the financial transactions of the pooled budgets.

2018/19 Surplus(-)/ Deficit £ m	Pooled budgets with health	2019/20 Our contribution £ m	Total pool £ m	Total spend £ m	Surplus(-)/ Deficit £ m
	Better Care Fund Pooled Budget - S75				
-0.5	~ Integrated community equipment service	2.3	5.9	5.7	-0.2
0.5	~ Better Care Fund - Revenue other	27.7	51.2	51.2	0.0
-1.3	~ Disabled Facilities Capital Grant	0.0	4.5	3.4	-1.1
-1.3	**Total Better Care Fund**	30.0	61.6	60.3	-1.3
0.0	**Commissioning of Mental Health Services for Children & Young People**	0.9	5.4	5.4	0.0
-1.3	**Total**	**30.9**	**67.0**	**65.7**	**-1.3**

Note 39: Coventry and Warwickshire Business Rates Pool

The Coventry and Warwickshire Business Rates Pool was created on 1 April 2013 with seven member authorities: Warwickshire County Council, the five District and Borough Councils within Warwickshire and Coventry City Council. Warwickshire County Council is the lead authority for the pool and there is an agreed memorandum of understanding in place that determines how the Pool's resources are allocated. Under the agreement any surplus generated by the pool, will be shared between pool members. We have accounted for our share of the current surplus in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account and the full pool surplus is held in our reserves until such times as it is distributed (see note 19).

Note 40: Related parties and associated parties

Central Government
Central Government has effective control over our general duties – it is responsible for providing the legal framework within which we work, provides funding in the form of grants and sets the terms of many of the relationships that we have with other organisations. Details of the grants we receive from government departments are set out in note 23. Details of the balances with central government departments are shown in notes 14 and 16. Pooled budget arrangements with the Department of Health via Clinical Commissioning Groups are disclosed in note 38.

Elected Members
Elected Members of the council have direct control over our financial and operating policies. The total of Elected Members' allowances paid in 2019/20 is shown in note 34. During 2019/20 works and services to the value of £29.7 million (£32.3 million in 2018/19) was paid to companies in which elected members had an interest (this includes £14.2 million (£11.5 million in 2018/19) paid to District and Borough Councils in Warwickshire where they are also elected members). Contracts were entered into in full compliance with our contract standing orders. The above figure includes any grants paid to voluntary groups in which elected members had positions on the governing body, including any made to organisations whose senior management included close members of the families of elected members. In all instances, grants were made with proper consideration of declarations of interest. The relevant members did not take part in any discussions or decisions relating to the grants. Details of all these transactions are recorded in the Register of Members' Interests, open to public inspection at Shire Hall. Details of the Members and the Committees and organisations for which they represent the authority are also available on the authority's web-site www.warwickshire.gov.uk.

Senior Officers
During 2019/20 £2.7 million (2018/19 – nil) were made to organisations in which senior officers or members of their families had declared an interest.

A number of senior officers and elected members represent us on the board of related companies (such as Warwick Technology Park Management Limited, Warwick Technology Park Management No 2 Limited, SCAPE Group Limited, and University of Warwick Science Park Innovation Centre Limited). In addition, a number of officers within the authority are directors of our two wholly owned Local Authority Trading Companies. You can see registers of members' and officers' interests at Shire Hall, Warwick or at the registered office of the company in question if this is not Shire Hall, Warwick.

Other Public Bodies
At the end of the year we owed £22.4 million (£20.2 million in 2018/19) to other local authorities, central government and public bodies including £5.2 million (£5.0 million in 2018/19) to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and they owed us £27.8 million (£25.2 million in 2018/19), including £4.8 million (£3.7 million in 2018/19) from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

We charged the Warwickshire County Council Pension Fund £1.2 million (£0.9 million in 2018/19) for carrying out the administration work for the fund (not including payroll-processing costs).

Other Entities
We hold shares in the following companies as at 31 March 2020:

Company	WCC Share holding	Directors
Warwickshire Legal Services Trading Ltd	Wholly owned LATC - £1 ordinary share capital	Two officers appointed as directors
Educaterers Ltd	Wholly owned LATC - £1 ordinary share capital + working capital loan interest at	Three officers appointed as directors
University of Warwick Science Park Innovation Centre Limited	19.9% of ordinary share capital. 1/6 voting rights £1,502,500 preference shares	One of six directors is appointed by us
Warwick Technology Park Management Company Limited	4.8% of called up share capital	One officer and one elected member as directors
Warwick Technology Park Management Company (No 2) Limited	0.2% of called up Share capital	One officer and one elected member as directors.
Eastern Shire Purchasing Organisation (ESPO)	n/a	Two elected members from each authority on Management Committee
ESPO Trading Ltd - also owns 100% share capital in Eduzone Ltd	16.67% of called up share capital	No Directors appointed by WCC
SCAPE Group Limited	16.7% of the called up share capital	One of the six directors is appointed by us
Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Limited	No share capital and liability limited to £1.	Two type 'B' (public sector) directors to be appointed by us
Coventry and Solihull Waste Disposal Company	10,000 ordinary 'C' shares I representative on shareholder panel with 1% voting rights and 24% voting rights for matters relating to WCC SLA agreement	No right to appoint to board of Directors. 1% proxy vote unless WCC SLA related.
UK Municipal Bond Agency Plc	120,000 fully paid B shares of £0.01 each 180,000 ordinary shares of £0.01 each	No Directors appointed by WCC

We have two wholly owned local authority trading companies which started trading in 2017/18.

Warwickshire Legal Services Trading Ltd started trading on 1 October 2017. It provides legal services to other entities outside the Council and pays the authority for the services of our staff to carry out that work. This company has negligible assets.

Educaterers Ltd, providing meals services to schools, started trading on 1 September 2017. Its accounts for the year to 30 August 2019 showed net liabilities of £2.7 million (£0.1 million for the year to 30 August 2018). This is mainly as a result of an increased pensions liability. Most of the company's trading is with maintained schools in Warwickshire so that expenditure is already included in our Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Some authority staff transferred to the trading company and we have given a guarantee to pay any amount or employer's contributions due to the Warwickshire Pension Fund in respect of their pension liability if the company ever becomes insolvent and ceases trading. We have also agreed a working capital loan of up to £1.5 million as required for the three years to 31 August 2020. Interest is charged at a market rate of 6% per annum charged periodically with interest changes mirroring that of the Bank of England Base Rate. At 31 March 2020 the balance on the loan was £1.5 million (£0.8 million at 31 March 2019). No dividends or profit distributions have yet been agreed for the trading periods up to 31 March 2020.

We have assessed these two companies, having due regard to the non-material external turnover of both entities and the potential effect of consolidating them into our financial statements both quantitatively and qualitatively. We have concluded there is no current need to consolidate them into our accounts.

We are part of a purchasing partnership, Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO), with five other local authorities. Each authority is represented on the management committee by two elected members. There are controls in place so that none of our elected members are involved in letting our contracts. We received £0.5 million in dividends from ESPO in 2019/20 (£0.5 million in 2018/19). As part of ESPO's strategic growth plan, ESPO Trading Limited was incorporated on 27 February 2018. We own 100 of the 600 shares for which we paid £100. The company has been set up to be able to trade with organisations outside the public sector customer base. It has also purchased Eduzone Ltd in June 2018 (100 shares) since its incorporation, a company with a strong base in the providing products to the early years sector. We have not received any income in respect of these new holdings in the year.

We also received dividends from SCAPE Group Limited and University of Warwick Science Park companies in the year totalling £0.5 million (£0.3 million in 2018/19). All dividend income received is shown as investment income in note 5.

We are part of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership Limited (the LEP). This company is limited by guarantee and aims to co-ordinate public and private sector partners to develop the economy and increase prosperity. The LEP's four objectives are:

- To drive economic growth;
- To help remove barriers to economic growth;
- To help create high value jobs; and
- To co-ordinate local government co-operation and support.

The LEP also has a role in coordinating elements of government funding for growth, for example the Growing Places Fund.

The Gateway Alliance is a strategic partnership of primary schools in Warwickshire. It was created to provide professional development and school to school support following the reduction of Local Authority improvement services in 2011. The company is limited by guarantee and the members have confirmed that the governing documentation of the company contains the necessary provisions which are required pursuant to the School Company Regulations 2002. Under the regulations, all school companies are required to have a local authority as a supervising authority. Warwickshire is the supervising authority for the Gateway Alliance School Company and also processes the payroll for the Company staff, all costs of which are reimbursed in full.

West Midland Rail Ltd is a company limited by guarantee with a Board of Directors appointed from each of the 14 constituent member authorities and 2 affiliate member authorities for the purpose of providing local democratic strategic guidance for the specification of the new West Midlands rail franchise being let by the Department of Transport during 2017.

We are also a partner in a special company, Pride in Camp Hill Ltd. The company was set up in 2002/03 in partnership with the Homes and Communities Agency and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to carry out a redevelopment project in Camp Hill. Our initial share was £0.720 million and each partner is committed to funding the running costs of the company in equal shares until it completes its work, which is currently expected to be in 2023.

We are part of the Regional Adoption Agency via a shared service arrangement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, Coventry City Council, Worcestershire County Council and Herefordshire Council. The Regional Adoption Agency is known as Adoption Central England. We have become the host authority to facilitate the operational delivery of the shared service, however governance arrangements ensure that all five authorities retain strategic responsibility for performance delivery and outcomes.

For 2019/20 our contribution was £1.046 million (£0.950 million in 2018/19) and we received £4.155 million (£3.566 million 2018/19) from the other local authorities and fees and charges. The total spend was £4.463 million (£4.144 million in 2018/19). The underspend belonging to the Agency for 2019/20 is £0.738 million (£0.372 million in 2018/19).

When the agency was created staff were seconded from partner authorities. On 1 October 2019 the staff were TUPEd (see glossary) across to the County Council and are now our employees.

The County Council, as administering authority on behalf of the Warwickshire Pension Fund is a shareholder in Borders to Coast Pension Partnership Limited. Borders to Coast is a wholly owned private limited company registered in England and Wales founded to carry out pension fund asset pooling obligations set out by the Government. The company provides the facility to pool the pension fund investments of twelve local authorities in order to gain the benefits of economies of scale: the concentration of expertise, improved ability to manage down investment costs and the benefits of investing on a larger scale. Each of the twelve local authorities is an equal joint owner of the company through purchase of a £1 class A ordinary share. The authority also owns £833,333 class B ordinary shares but these are not voting shares and do not give entitlement to dividends or other distributions of income.

Note 41: Trading accounts

Our trading activities are expected to break even after taking account of charges for the assets they use to provide their services. These charges are worked out in line with the accounting rules we use when we prepare our accounts. Any surplus or loss these trading activities make is transferred to, or met from, directorate risk reserves.

The spending in the table below is included in our main accounts. However, we have adjusted these surpluses to reflect the effects of the required accounting treatment of pension costs (to reflect the actual costs of pensions decisions they have taken in the current year). The total value of this adjustment is £1.9 million (£1.4 million in 2018/19).

2018/19		Trading activity	2019/20				
Net Expenditure £ m	Memo Net Expenditure before technical adjustments £ m		Turnover £ m	Spend after internal income £ m	External income £ m	Net expenditure £ m	Memo Net Expenditure before technical adjustments £ m
-0.1	-0.1	Schools finance	0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
-0.2	-0.3	Construction services	5.0	0.7	-0.8	0.0	-0.1
0.3	0.2	County fleet maintenance	0.0	0.5	-0.5	0.0	0.0
-0.3	-0.7	Legal services	6.3	1.6	-2.3	-0.7	-1.3
0.2	0.0	ICT services	4.3	1.6	-1.7	0.0	-0.2
0.2	0.1	Warwickshire Music	2.6	1.6	-1.5	0.1	0.0
-0.1	-0.1	Specialist Teaching Services	1.0	0.3	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1
-0.1	-0.1	School absence (sickness scheme)	2.2	0.9	-0.4	0.5	0.5
0.0	0.1	Schools Insurance	3.3	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
0.0	0.0	Archeology	1.2	1.2	-1.2	0.0	-0.1
0.1	0.1	Education Psychology Service	1.0	0.5	-0.5	0.0	-0.1
0.0	-0.5	Other trading accounts (turnover of less than £1m each)	5.7	3.2	-3.5	-0.3	-0.8
0.0	**-1.3**	**Total**	**33.4**	**12.0**	**-12.8**	**-0.8**	**-2.6**

Negative figures show we have more income than our spending (surplus).

Other trading accounts with a turnover of less than £1 million include Internal Audit and Risk Management, School Governance, County Print Unit, HR support and Payroll, Pension Services, and County Cleaning.

The Firefighters' Pension Fund

2018/19 £m	Fund account	2019/20 £m
	Income to the fund	
	Contributions receivable (funds due to us during the year):	
	- from employer: Warwickshire County Council	
-1.3	- normal contributions in relation to pensionable pay	-2.7
0.0	- early retirements	0.0
0.0	- other contributions	0.0
-1.1	- from members (firefighters' contributions)	-1.1
	Transfers in:	
0.0	- individual transfers in from other authorities	0.0
-2.4	**Income to the fund**	**-3.8**
	Spending by the fund	
	Benefits payable:	
6.4	- Pension payments	6.8
1.3	- Commutation of pensions and lump-sum retirement benefits	2.1
0.0	- Lump sum death benefits	0.0
	Payments to and on account of leavers	
0.0	- Refund of Contributions to people who leave the scheme	0.0
0.0	- Individual transfers out of the scheme to other authorities	0.0
7.7	**Spending by the fund**	**8.9**
5.4	**Net amount payable for the year (before top-up grant receivable from Government)**	**5.1**
-5.4	Top-up grant payable by the Government	-5.1
0.0	**Net amount payable or receivable (-) for the year**	**0.0**

31 March 2019 £m	Firefighters' Pension Fund net assets statement	31 March 2020 £m
	Current assets:	
2.0	- Top-up grant receivable from Government	1.6
0.0	- other current assets (other than assets in the future) ~ debtor	0.1
	Current liabilities:	
-2.0	- other current liabilities (other than liabilities in the future)	-1.7
0.0	**Net assets or liabilities (-) at the end of the year**	**0.0**

Notes to the Firefighters' Pension Fund statements

Note 1: Fund operations

The Firefighters' Pension Scheme in England is an unfunded scheme. The employer promises to provide employees with benefits under the scheme but makes no advance funding in the scheme for those benefits. Benefits are paid directly by the employer when they become due. We are required to pay an employer's pension contribution based on a percentage of pay into the pension fund. Each Fire and Rescue authority must run a pension fund and the amounts that must be paid into and out of the pension fund are set by regulation. The legislation that controls its operation is the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Amendment) (England) Order 2006. The benefits payable are pensions to retired firefighters and/or widows/widowers of retired firefighters. The benefits paid and employee and employers contributions are administered through our human resources management system. The scheme has no investment assets.

The pension fund is balanced to nil at the end of the year by either paying over to the sponsoring government department the amount by which the amount receivable by (due to) the fund is more than the amount payable, or by receiving cash in the form of pension top-up grant from the sponsoring department equal to the amount by which the amount payable from (owed by) the pension fund for the year is more than the amount receivable. An amount of 80% of the estimated grant needed each year is paid to the fund by the Government during the year. The balance is only paid once the Pensions statement has been audited by our external auditors and a claim, certified by the authority's S151 officer, is submitted to the Government.

Note 2: Accounting policies

The financial statements are accounted for on an accruals basis. We did not use any estimation techniques in preparing the statements.

For assets and liabilities in the net asset statement the fair value is deemed to be the carrying value as they are both due within one year.

Note 3: Liabilities

The statements do not take account of any liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the period end i.e. 31 March 2020. Details of the long-term pension obligations, employees and employer's contribution rates and actuarial assumptions used in the required disclosures in accounts for the Firefighters' Pension Fund are found in note 37 to the accounts.

Note 4: Contribution levels

Employees' and employer's contribution levels are based on percentages of pensionable pay set nationally by the Home Office (previously dealt with by the Department for Communities and Local Government) and are subject to triennial revaluation by the Actuary.

Note 5: AVCs and added years

Additional voluntary contributions are excluded from the accounts of the Pension Fund. However, where members of the scheme have brought added years within the scheme, these will be included in the Fund contributions.

Note 6: Debtors and creditors

The debtors and creditors for both years are amounts due to/from central government (balance of grant due to balance the account to nil). Other debtors and creditors for both years are the amounts due to or from Warwickshire County Council, the administering authority or tax not yet paid to HMRC. This year we have had less grant from the Home Office than we have needed, so they owe us more money. As the Firefighters' Pension Fund does not have its own separate bank account this additional payment has been made by the County fund and is therefore owed to the Warwickshire County Council when this money comes in from the Home Office. All amounts are due within 1 year.

Glossary

This section explains some of the more complicated terms that have been used in this document.

Accruals
Cost of goods and services received in the year but not yet paid for, or income earned but not yet received.

Actuarial gain (loss)
For pension assets, actuarial gains or losses happen when the actual return on investments in the pension fund is different from the expected return. For pension liabilities, actuarial gains and losses happen when the actual liability is different from the expected liability. For assumptions, actuarial gains or losses happen as a result of changes to the population or financial assumptions the actuary uses to work out the liability. Liabilities are valued in terms of 'today's money'.

Amortisation
The drop-in value of intangible assets as they are used or become out of date.

Asset
An item which is purchased or created to be used by the Council.

Benefits we have awarded for added years
When a member of staff retires early because they are made redundant, we can give added years of scheme membership. We meet the costs of giving these added years, usually from the savings that will be made.

Budget
A statement of our spending plans for a financial year, which starts on 1 April and ends on 31 March.

Business rates (National Non-Domestic Rates)
Businesses pay these rates, set annually by government, to billing authorities instead of council tax. Business rates are shared between local authorities partly on the basis of need and partly on the basis of increased business rates generated locally. The amount each business is charged is based on multiplying the rateable value of each business property by the national rate in the pound.

Capital Adjustment Account
This account includes the value of capital charges to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that do not directly affect the level of council tax.

Capital programme
Our plan of capital projects and future spending on buying land, buildings, vehicles and equipment.

Capital receipts
Income from selling assets that we would consider capital expenditure if we were the purchaser.

Capital spending
Spending on assets that have a lasting value, for example, land, buildings and large items of equipment such as computers or vehicles.

CIPFA
Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Contingent asset
A possible asset which may arise pending decisions that are not under our control.

Contingent liability
A possible liability which may arise when we know the outcome of outstanding claims made against us.

Council tax
A tax based on property which is retained by local authorities to fund their expenditure. In Warwickshire, the district or borough councils issue council tax bills and collect the council tax.

Creditors
People or organisations we owe money to for work, goods or services which have not been paid for by the end of the financial year.

Current assets
Short-term assets which constantly change in value such as stocks, debtors and bank balances.

Current liabilities
Short-term liabilities which are due to be paid in less than one year such as bank overdrafts and money owed to suppliers.

Current service cost
Officers employed during the year will have earned a year of pensionable service. The current service cost is the increase in the value of the pension scheme's liabilities arising from the employee service during the period.

Debtors
People who owe us money that is not paid by the end of the financial year.

Depreciation
The drop in the value of assets, for example, through wear and tear, age and becoming out of date.

Disclosure
Information we must show in the accounts under the Code.

Earmarked reserves
Money set aside for a specific purpose.

Fair value
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.

General reserves
Money set aside to be used in the future.

Historic cost
The cost of initial acquisition of an asset.

International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS)
Standards on the way we need to treat certain items in our accounts.

Liabilities
Money we will have to pay to people or organisations in the future.

Material related-party transactions
Two or more organisations are 'related parties' if, during the year, one of them has some form of control over the other. By ‘material’ we mean of ‘significant value’.

Minimum revenue provision (MRP)
The amount we must set aside to repay loans.
Net book value
The value of an asset after depreciation.

Non-current asset
An asset which is expected to be used for more than 12 months.

Non-distributed costs
Costs which are not allocated to specific services, according to the Service Expenditure Reporting Code of Practice.

Past service costs
The past service cost is the extra liability that arises when we grant extra retirement benefits that did not exist before, such as when we agree early retirement or extra years of service.

Pensions interest cost and expected return on assets
The pensions interest cost is the increase in the value of the liabilities that arise because those liabilities are one year closer to being paid. The return on assets is the value of the return expected to be achieved on the fund's investments in the long term.

Provisions
Money set aside to meet specific service liabilities and to meet spending.

Reserves
Savings we have built up from surpluses or by not spending income which has conditions on its use.

Return on assets
The return on assets is the value of the return we expect to achieve on the Pension Fund's investments in the long term.

Revaluation Reserve
This account contains the difference between the amount paid for assets and the amount that they are currently worth.

Revenue spending
Spending on the day-to-day running of services - mainly wages, running expenses of buildings and equipment, and debt charges. These costs are met from council tax, business rates, government grants and fees and charges.

Revenue expenditure funded by capital under statute (REFCUS)
Spending on assets that have a lasting value, for example land and buildings, but which we do not own.

Revenue Support Grant
The main government grant to support local authority services.

Settlement costs
Settlement costs arise when we make a lump-sum payment to a scheme member in exchange for their rights to receive certain pension benefits.

Specific grants
Payments from external bodies to cover local authority spending on a particular service or project.

TUPE - Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment)
Regulations to protect employees if the business in which they are employed changes hands. Its effect is to move employees and any liabilities associated with them from the old employer to the new employer by operation of law.

Unrealised
A change in the market value which does not actually take place until an asset is sold.

This page is intentionally left blank

County Council

13 October 2020

Warwickshire Pension Fund Accounts 2019/20

Recommendations

1. That the Council approves the 2019/20 Pension Fund Statement of Accounts.

2. That the Council authorises the Strategic Director for Resources to make any amendments to the final version of the accounts to take account of any observations from the external auditors.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Appendix to this report presents the Pension Fund Statement of Accounts for 2019/20.

1.2 The statement of accounts comprises the following:

- Warwickshire Pension Fund Account (page 7). This statement sets out all of the revenue income and expenditure relating to the financial year.
- Net Assets Statement (page 7). This statement sets out the total assets and liabilities of the fund as at the 31st March 2020, i.e. a snapshot at a moment in time.
- Notes to the Accounts (pages 8-42). These statements provide further detail and explanation of the figures in the accounts.

1.3 The scheme is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the fund is administered in accordance with the relevant secondary legislation.

1.4 As at the 31st March the scheme had net assets of £2.034m and membership of 50,031 people.

1.5 The funding level (meaning the value of total assets as a proportion of the value of total liabilities) was assessed as being 92% at the time of the 2019 valuation, having increased from 82% at the 2016 valuation. Covid has had a subsequent impact on asset values, the funding level reducing to 83% at the end of the 2019/20 financial year and recovering to 86% by August. Investment asset performance and the funding level are regularly reported to the Pension Fund Investment Sub Committee. The Fund takes a long-term view and has strategies in place to manage the meeting of liabilities over the long term.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 None.

3. Environmental Implications

3.1 None.

4. Supporting Information

4.1 Our external auditors are required to report to those charged with governance on issues arising from the audit of the financial statements of the Pension Fund before issuing their final opinion. Their report was presented to the Audit and Standards Committee on the 28th September 2020.

4.2 Audit and Standards Committee discussed that the accounting statements do not present the funding level of the Fund, i.e. comparing assets with long term total liabilities and requested that the covering report for the accounts make mention of the funding level which is therefore set out in Section 1.5.

4.3 As part of the audit process the External Auditors require written confirmation about the fairness of various elements of the financial statements. This is known as the Letter of Representation and a draft was presented to the Audit and Standards Committee on the 28th September 2020.

4.4 Audit and Standards Committee supported the presentation of the Accounts to Council and the wording of the draft Letter of Representation

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

5.1 The accounts will be published by the 30th November 2020.

5.2 The accounts will also be included in the published Pension Fund Annual Report 2019/20 which provides wider information about the Pension Fund including its policies and activities.

Appendix

Warwickshire Pension Fund Accounts 2019/20

Background Papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Chris Norton	chrisnorton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Andrew Felton	Andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Strategic Director for Resources	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): None
Other members: Councillors Warwick, Singh Birdi, Boad, O'Rourke and Falp

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix - Warwickshire Pension Fund

Statement of Accounts

2019/20

We would welcome any comments or suggestions you have about this publication. Please send any comments or suggestions to wpfinvestments@warwickshire.gov.uk

If this information is difficult to understand, we can provide it in another format, for example, in Braille, in large print, on audiotape, in another language or by talking with you.

Contents

Independent Auditors' Report……………………………………..……………...page 4

Statement of responsibilities for the statement of accounts…………………......page 8

Warwickshire Pension Fund Account……………………………………………page 9

Net Assets Statement…………………………………………………………......page 9

Notes to the Accounts:

Note 1: Description of fund………………………………….……………..….page 10

Note 2: Basis of preparation…………………………………..…………...page 12

Note 3: Summary of significant accounting policies……………….……..……..page 13

Note 4: Critical judgements in applying accounting policies……………………page 17

Note 5: Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty………………………………………………………page 18

Note 6: Events after the reporting date……………………………………page 20

Note 7: Contributions receivable……………………..……………………page 20

Note 8: Transfers in from other pension funds……………………….……page 21

Note 9: Benefits payable…………………………………...…………page 21

Note 10: Payments to and on account of leavers…………………..…………page 21

Note 11: Management expenses……………………………...………..page 21

Note 12: Investment management expenses……………………………….page 22

Note 13: Investment income……..…………………………………….………..page 22

Note 14: Other fund account disclosures: external audit costs………..………page 22

Note 15: Investments……….…..………………………………………..page 23

Note 16: Reconciliation of movements in investments….……………..…..…..page 24

Note 17: Analysis of investments……….…………………..………..……..page 25

Note 18: Investments analysed by fund manager…….……..…………………..page 26

Note 19: Investments representing more than 5% net assets of the scheme ……………………………………………………………………..…………….page 26

Note 20: Stock lending………………………………..……………………….page 27

Note 21: Property holdings……………………………...……………………….page 27

Note 22: Classification of financial instruments……….……………………….page 28

Note 23: Net gains and losses on financial instruments….……………………..page 29

Note 24: Valuation of financial instruments carried at fair value…….………….page 29

Note 25: Reconciliation of fair value measurements within Level 3…..…...…..page 32

Note 26: Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments………..page 33

Note 27: Funding arrangements……………………………………………..……..page 38

Note 28: Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits……………..page 40

Note 29: Current assets………………………………………………………........page 43

Note 30: Current liabilities…………………………………………..……..……..page 43

Note 31: Additional voluntary contributions…………………….……….…….page 44

Note 32: Related party transactions………………………………..….………..page 44

Note 33: Contingent Liabilities……………………………………………………..page 45

Glossary……………………………………………………………..……………..page 46

Note on rounding's: individual tables presented within disclosures may not sum due to rounding's. This does not reflect any inaccuracy or error.

(Independent Auditors Report)

Statement of responsibilities for the statement of accounts

This section explains our responsibilities for our financial affairs and how we ensure we carry out these responsibilities properly in line with the Accounts and Audit (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

Responsibilities of the Pension Fund

We do the following:

- make sure that one of our officers is responsible for managing our financial affairs. For the Pension Fund, Warwickshire County Council's Strategic Director for Resources is responsible for this;
- manage our affairs to use our resources efficiently and effectively and to protect our assets;
- comply with IFRS financial reporting framework; and
- approve the statement of accounts.

Responsibilities of the Strategic Director for Resources

As the Strategic Director for Resources, I am responsible for preparing our statement of accounts. These accounts must present a true and fair view of our financial position, including our income and spending for the year.

In preparing the Pension Fund accounts, I have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates; and
- followed the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

I have also:

- kept proper accounting records which are up to date; and
- taken steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position as at the 31st March 2020 and the income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2020. The unaudited draft accounts were authorised for issue on 26th June 2020. These were audited and were considered and approved at a meeting of the Council on 13th October 2020. The approved accounts were authorised for issue on that date.

Rob Powell
Strategic Director for Resources — Date: 13th October 2020

Councillor Alan Cockburn
Chair of the Council — Date: 13th October 2020

Warwickshire Pension Fund Account

2018/2019 £ m		Notes	2019/2020 £ m
	Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the Fund		
(80.1)	Contributions	7	(84.9)
(8.5)	Transfers in from other schemes	8	(12.9)
(88.7)			(97.8)
76.9	Benefits payable	9	80.7
7.9	Payments to and on account of leavers	10	12.0
84.8			92.7
(3.9)	**Net (additions)/withdrawals from dealing with members**		**(5.1)**
12.3	Management expenses	11	**13.2**
8.5	**Net (additions)/withdrawals including fund management expenses**		**8.1**
	Returns on investments		
(29.2)	Investment income	13	(20.3)
0.5	Taxes on income		(0.1)
(79.6)	Profit and losses on disposal of investments	23	(306.7)
(33.7)	Changes in the market value of investments	23	450.6
(141.9)	**Net return on investments**		**123.5**
(133.4)	**Net (increase)/decrease in the net assets available for benefits during the year**		**131.6**
(2,032.3)	**Opening net assets of the scheme**		**(2,165.7)**
(2,165.7)	**Closing net assets of the scheme**		**(2,034.1)**

Net Assets Statement

2018/2019 £ m		Notes	2019/2020 £ m
0.8	Long-term Assets	15	0.8
2,139.7	Investment assets	15/16/17	2,003.6
0.0	Investment liabilities	15	0.0
17.5	Cash deposits	15/16/17	20.9
2,158.0	Total net investments		2,025.4
11.5	Current assets	29	12.6
(3.8)	Current liabilities	30	(3.8)
2,165.7	**Net assets of the Fund available to fund benefits at the period end**		**2,034.1**

The Fund’s financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the period end. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed in the Actuary Statement Note 28.

Notes to the Warwickshire Pension Fund Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020

Note 1: Description of fund

The Warwickshire Pension Fund (‘the Fund’) is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme and is administered by Warwickshire County Council. The County Council is the reporting entity for this pension fund.
The following description of the Fund is a summary only. For more detail, reference should be made to the Warwickshire Pension Fund Annual Report 2019/20 and the underlying statutory powers underpinning the scheme, namely the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) Regulations.

a) General

The scheme is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The Fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended);
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and
- Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended); and
- The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 (as amended).

It is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme administered by Warwickshire County Council to provide pensions and other benefits for pensionable employees of Warwickshire County Council, the district and borough councils in the county of Warwickshire and a range of other scheduled and admitted bodies within the county area. Teachers, police officers and firefighters are not included as they come within other national pension schemes.

The Fund is overseen by the Warwickshire Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee, which is a Sub-Committee of Warwickshire County Council and is made up of five County Councillors. Two independent specialists provide advice and guidance to the Sub-Committee.

The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 included a requirement to establish a Local Pension Board, with responsibility to assist the administering authority to:

- secure compliance with; the LGPS regulations; other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS and; the requirements imposed by the Pension Regulator in relation to the LGPS; and

- perform an oversight role to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the LGPS.

A Local Pension Board has been in place since February 2015.

b) Membership

Membership of the LGPS is automatic for entitled employees, but they are free to choose whether to join the scheme, remain in the scheme or make their own personal arrangements outside the scheme.

Organisations participating in the Warwickshire Pension Fund include:

- scheduled bodies, which are local authorities and similar bodies whose staff are automatically entitled to be members of the Fund; and
- admitted bodies, which are other organisations that participate in the Fund under an admission agreement between the Fund and the relevant organisation. Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable and similar bodies or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

There are 190 employer organisations with active members within Warwickshire Pension Fund including the county council itself, as detailed below.

Warwickshire Pension Fund	31 March 2019	31 March 2020
Number of employers with active members	192	190
Number of employees in scheme		
County Council	8,303	7,930
Other employers	8,755	8,786
Total	**17,058**	**16,716**
Number of pensioners		
County Council	7,706	8,039
Other employers	5,970	6,355
Total	**13,676**	**14,394**
Deferred pensioners		
County Council	10,680	11,262
Other employers	7,128	7,659
Total	**17,808**	**18,921**
Total	**48,542**	**50,031**

c) Funding

Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members of the Fund in accordance with The LGPS Regulations 2013 and range from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2020. Contributions are also made by employers which are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations. The last valuation was at 31 March 2019 and a revised schedule of employer contribution rates became effective for the three years from 1 April 2020.

d) Benefits

Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service, summarised in the following table.

	Service pre 1 April 2008	Service post 31 March 2008
Pension	Each year worked is worth 1/80 x final pensionable salary	Each year worked is worth 1/60 x final pensionable salary
Lump Sum	Automatic lump sum of 3 x pension In addition, part of the annual pension can be exchanged for a one-off tax-free cash payment. A lump sum of £12 is paid for each £1 of pension given up.	No automatic lump sum Part of the annual pension can be exchanged for a one-off tax-free cash payment. A lump sum of £12 is paid for each £1 of pension given up.

From 1 April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Accrued pension is updated annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index. The changes also brought in a 50/50 option allowing members the opportunity to contribute 50% for 50% of the benefit entitlement.

Contributions to the LGPS prior to 1 April 2014 were assessed on full-time equivalent pay and excluded non-contractual elements of pay such as overtime and bonus. However, contributions since 1 April 2014 are assessed on all pensionable pay received including non-contractual elements. In addition, the contribution bandings were extended with many of the higher paid seeing an increase in contributions.

There are a range of other benefits provided under the scheme including early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits.

Note 2: Basis of preparation

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Fund's transactions for the 2019/20 financial year and its position at year-end as at 31 March 2020. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20* which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector. They have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with IAS1.

The accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. The accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year. This is addressed by the actuary's triennial valuation.

Note 3: Summary of significant accounting policies

a) Contribution income

Normal contributions, both from the members and from the employer, are accounted for on an accruals basis at the percentage rate recommended by the fund actuary in the period to which they relate.

Employer deficit, augmentation and pension strain contributions are accounted for in the period in which the liability arises. Any amount due in year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset.

b) Transfers to and from other schemes

Transfer values represent the amounts received and paid during the year for members who have either joined or left the Fund during the financial year and are calculated in accordance with The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (see notes 8 and 10). This is normally when the member liability is accepted or discharged.

c) Investment income

i) Interest Income
Interest income is recognised in the fund account as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination. Income includes the amortisation of any discount or premium, transaction costs (where material) or other differences between the initial carrying amount of the instrument and its amount at maturity calculated on an effective interest rate basis.

ii) Dividend income
Dividend income is recognised on the date the shares are quoted ex-dividend. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is reflected within investment assets in the Net Assets Statement. Investment income arising from the underlying investments of the Pooled Investment Vehicles is either reinvested within the Pooled Investment Vehicles and reflected in the unit price or taken as dividends.

iii) Distributions from managed funds
Distributions from managed funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is reflected within investment assets in the Net Assets Statement.

iv) Profit and losses on disposal of investments
Profit and losses on the disposal of investments are recognised as income and comprise all realised profits/losses during the year.

v) Movement in the market value of investments

Changes in the market value of investments are recognised as income and comprise all unrealised profits/losses during the year.

d) Benefits payable

Pensions and lump-sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. And amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as current liabilities.

e) Taxation

The Fund is a registered public service scheme under section 1(1) of Schedule 36 of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a fund expense as it arises.

f) Management expenses

The Code does not require a breakdown of pension fund administration expenses. However, in the interests of greater transparency, the council discloses its pension fund management expenses in accordance with the CIPFA guidance *Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Costs.*

Administrative expenses
All administrative expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis. All staff costs of the pension's administration team and associated accounting, management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Oversight and governance costs
All oversight and governance expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis. All costs associated with governance and oversight are charged direct to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Investment management expenses
All investment management expenses are accounted for on an accrual basis.
Fees of the external investment managers and custodian are agreed in the respective mandates governing their appointments. Broadly, these are based on the market value of the investments under their management and therefore increase or reduce as the value of these investments change. Where these are deducted at source (as opposed to being charged via an invoice) the fee is identified and a journal posted to record the investment management fee and increase the investment income.

g) Investment assets
Investment in the LGPS asset pool, Border to Coast Pensions Partnership, is valued at transaction price i.e. cost. The pool's main trading company, Border to Coast

Pensions Partnership Limited, became licensed to trade in July 2018 and does not have established trading results or profit forecasts available yet.

The Pension Fund's view is that the market value of investments in the Border to Coast Pension Partnership at 31 March 2020 cannot be reasonably assessed and that cost is therefore an appropriate estimate of fair value.

All other investment assets are included in the net assets statement on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. An investment asset is recognised in the net asset statement on the date the Fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. From this date, any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the asset are recognised in the Fund.

The values of investments as shown in the net assets statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS13 (see Pension Fund Note 24).For the purposes of disclosing levels of fair value hierarchy, the Fund has adopted the classification guidelines recommended in Practical Guidance on Investment Disclosures(PRAG/Investment Association, 2016).

The values of investments as shown in the Net Assets Statement have been determined as follows:

i) Market-quoted investments
The value of an investment for which there is a readily available market price is determined by the bid market price on the final day of the accounting period.

ii) Fixed interest securities
Are recorded at net market value based on their current yields.

iii) Unquoted investments

The fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available is determined as follows:

- directly held investments include investments in limited partnerships, shares in unlisted companies, trusts and bonds. Other unquoted securities typically include pooled investments in property, infrastructure, debt securities and private equity. The valuation of these is undertaken by the investment manager or responsible entity and advised as a unit or security price. The valuation standards followed in these valuations adhere to industry guidelines or to standards set by the constituent documents of the pool or to the management agreement;

- investments in unquoted property and infrastructure pooled funds are valued at the net asset value or a single price advised by the fund manager; and

- investments in private equity funds and unquoted listed partnerships are valued based on the fund's share of the net assets in the private equity fund or limited partnership using the latest financial statements published by the respective fund managers in accordance with the *International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2018.*

iv) Limited partnerships
Fair value is based on the net asset value ascertained from periodic valuations provided by those controlling the partnership.

v) Pooled investment vehicles
Pooled investment vehicles are valued at closing bid price if both bid and offer prices are published; if single priced, at the closing single price.
In the case of pooled investment vehicles that are accumulation funds, change in market value also includes income, which is reinvested in the Fund net of applicable withholding tax.

h) Foreign currency transactions

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of transaction. End-of-year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, market values of overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and on demand deposits and includes amounts held by the fund's external managers.

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

j) Investment Liabilities

The Fund recognises investment liabilities at fair value as at the reporting date. An investment liability is recognised on the date the Fund becomes party to the liability and are summarised in Note 15. From this date any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability are recognised by the Fund.

k) Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of IAS19 and relevant actuarial standards. The last triennial valuation was carried out as at 31st March 2019. As permitted under the Code, the Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the Net Assets Statement (Note 28).

l) Additional Voluntary Contributions

Warwickshire Pension Fund provides an additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) scheme for its members, the assets of which are invested separately from those of the pension fund. The Fund has appointed Equitable Life and Standard Life as its AVC providers. AVCs are paid to the AVC provider by employers and are specifically for providing additional benefits for individual contributors. Each AVC contributor receives an annual statement showing the amount held in their account and movements in the year.

AVCs are not included in the accounts in accordance with section 4(1)(b) of The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 but are disclosed as a note only (Note 31).

j) Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. The term, 'financial instrument' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes financial assets and liabilities such as trade receivables and trade payables.

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement - The standard provides a consistent definition of fair value and enhanced disclosure requirements. It is designed to apply to assets and liabilities covered by those IFRS standards that currently permit or require measurement at fair value (with some exceptions). The Fund currently complies with this standard.

Note 4: Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

Pension fund liability

The pension fund liability is calculated every three years by the appointed actuary, with annual updates in the intervening years. The methodology used is in line with accepted guidelines and in accordance with IAS 19. Assumptions underpinning the valuations are agreed with the actuary and are summarised in Note 27. This estimate is subject to significant variances based on changes to the underlying assumptions.

The McCloud and Sargeant judgements upheld the claimant's cases that the method of implementation of the new public sector pension schemes discriminated against younger members. No allowance has been made for this in the accounts as the remedy to resolve the age discrimination has yet to be agreed and the financial impact remains uncertain. However, the fund actuary has included an allowance for the impact of McCloud in Note 28 within the fund liabilities.

Investment in Border to Coast Pensions Partnership

This investment has been valued at cost on the basis that fair value as at 31 March 2020 cannot be reasonably assessed as set out under Note 3.

Impact of COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 has been felt throughout the Fund. The Fund has exposure to several Property and Infrastructure funds which have experienced some uncertainty surrounding their valuations. The Fund has decided to use the investment managers' valuations as the most reasonable available estimates of the values of these assets as at 31 March 2020, but these estimates are subject to greater uncertainty than in previous years. Transactions in the market have been limited due to the lockdown therefore valuers have not been able to rely on previous market experience. Most Property funds have suspended trading to protect the interest of investors during this time. As a result, the valuations presented in the accounts as at 31 March 20 are based on less certainty.

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

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the Balance Sheet date and the amounts reported for the revenues and expenses during the year. Estimates and assumptions are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, the nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the accounts as at 31 March 2020 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance: - a 0.5% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in the pension liability of £294m - a 0.5% increase in assumed earnings inflation would increase the value of liabilities by approximately £27m, and - a one-year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase the liability by approximately 3-5%.
Private equity, Infrastructure and Private Debt	These investments are valued at fair value in accordance with *International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines* 2018 and US GAAP. These investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation. Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic, there is a risk that the valuation of these investments may have an increased level of uncertainty. There are a wide range of possible outcomes, resulting in a high degree of uncertainty.	The total value of Level 3 investments stand at £271.7m. There is a risk that this investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The custodian reports a tolerance of +/- 2% around the net asset values on which the valuation is based. This equates to a tolerance of +/- £5.4m.
Pooled property funds	Valuation techniques are used to determine the carrying amount of pooled property funds and directly held freehold and leasehold property. Where possible these valuation techniques are based on observable data but where this is not possible management uses the best available data. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the valuation of these funds have therefore been reported on the basis of “material valuation uncertainty” as set out in Valuation Practice Guidance Application (VGPA) 10 of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors’ Global Valuation Standards. Therefore the value of units may vary somewhat from the valuations in the accounts. Both property funds (Threadneedle and Schroders) suspended trading in March 2020. Threadneedle lifted some sector specific property trading suspensions in September 2020.	The Fund holds two property mandates managed by Schroders and Threadneedle. These are classified as Level 2 investments in the accounts. The materiality limit for the Fund accounts is £20m. The estimated value of these property funds at the balance sheet date was £217.4m. Therefore, for a material issue to be caused by the valuation of these funds, a movement of over 9.2% in their value would need to occur. Updated valuations have been received up to August 2020 and these do not show material differences in valuation from March 2020.

Note 6: Events after the reporting date

Events from the balance sheet date to the date of authorisation for issue would be reflected as an adjustment to The Statement of Accounts whether favourable or adverse. This would occur where there was provision of evidence that these conditions were in place by the end of the reporting period and that these events were significant to the fair value of the Fund's net assets. Those events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue will not be reflected in the statement of accounts.

In June 2020, Northumberland Pension Fund and Tyne and Wear Pension Fund, two of the twelve partners in the Border to Coast Pension Partnership, merged into a single fund. This merger reduced the number of partners within the partnership from 12 to 11 and required a redistribution of share capital to reflect the new arrangements, with Northumberland being repaid its £866k capital and the other 11 partners making equal contributions of £76k each to replace this.

There has been significant volatility in markets since the 31st March 2020. Although markets fell significantly before the end of the financial year they have since recovered to some degree. The total Fund asset valuation reported as at Quarter 1 2020/21 to the Pension Fund Investment Sub Committee having risen by £203m due to returns on investments.

Note 7: Contributions receivable

By category

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
17.2	Employees' contributions	18.2
	Employer's contributions:	
58.0	Normal contributions	60.3
4.8	Deficit Recovery contributions	6.5
62.9	**Total employer's contributions**	**66.8**
80.1		**84.9**

By authority

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
36.9	Administering authority	39.3
39.7	Scheduled bodies	42.8
3.4	Admitted bodies	2.7
0.1	Bodies no longer contributing	0.1
80.1		**84.9**

Note 8: Transfers in from other pension funds

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
0.7	Group transfers	0.7
7.8	Individual transfers	12.2
8.5		**12.9**

Note 9: Benefits payable

By category

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
62.1	Pensions	65.6
13.3	Commutation and lump sum retirement benefits	13.3
1.5	Lump sum death benefits	1.8
76.9		**80.7**

By authority

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
41.8	Administering authority	43.2
30.7	Scheduled bodies	32.7
3.7	Admitted bodies	4.0
0.8	Bodies no longer contributing	0.9
76.9		**80.7**

Note 10: Payments to and on account of leavers

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
0.3	Refunds	0.4
0.0	Group transfers	0.0
7.7	Individual transfers	11.7
7.9		**12.0**

Note 11: Management expenses

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
1.3	Administration costs	1.6
10.0	Investment management expenses	10.6
1.0	Oversight and governance costs	1.0
12.3		**13.2**

This analysis of the costs of managing the Warwickshire Pension Fund during the period has been prepared in accordance with CIPFA guidance.

Indirect costs are incurred through the bid-offer spread on investment sales and purchases. These are reflected in the cost of investment acquisitions and in the proceeds from the sale of investments (Note 16 and Note 25).

Note 12: Investment management expenses

2018/2019		2019/2020
£m		**£m**
8.6	Management fees	9.4
1.0	Performance related fees	1.1
0.1	Custody fees	0.1
0.3	Transaction costs	0.0
10.0		**10.6**

Note 13: Investment income

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ 000		**£ 000**
0.0	Index linked bonds	0.0
15.4	Equity dividends	5.3
13.5	Managed funds:	14.8
4.9	Property	4.9
1.0	Infrastructure	1.5
0.2	Pooled Equity	1.2
0.5	Private Debt	0.9
5.5	Absolute Return	4.9
1.4	Private Equity	1.4
0.3	Interest on cash deposits	0.2
0.0	Stock lending	0.0
29.2		**20.3**

Note 14: Other fund account disclosures: external audit costs

The external audit fee for 2019/20 was £18,397 excluding VAT. The fee for 2018/19 was £19,724.

Note 15: Investments

2018/2019		2019/2020
£ m		**£ m**
	Long term investments	
0.8	Equities	0.8
	Investment Assets	
389.3	**Equities**	**0.0**
101.2	Private Equity	120.7
224.7	Pooled Property	217.4
1,308.9	Pooled Investments, Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	1508.2
47.9	Infrastructure	67.9
62.1	Private Debt	83.1
1,744.8	**Managed funds:**	**1,997.3**
17.5	Cash deposits	20.9
5.6	Investment current assets	6.4
2,158.0	**Total Investment Assets**	**2,025.3**
	Investment Liabilities	
0.0	Investment current liabilities	0.0
	Total Investment Liabilities	
2,158.0	**Net Investment Assets**	**2,025.3**

Note 16: Reconciliation of movements in investments

	Market value 31 March 2019	Purchases during the year	Sales during the year	Change in market value during the year	Market value 31 March 2020
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
Investment Assets					
Equities	390.1	13.8	-446.6	43.5	0.8
Private Equity	101.2	14.8	-17.7	22.3	120.7
Pooled Property	224.7	12.8	-10.3	-9.8	217.4
Pooled Investments, Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	1,308.9	874.5	-463.0	-212.3	1508.2
Infrastructure	47.9	14.5	-0.7	6.3	67.9
Private Debt	62.1	22.8	-5.7	3.8	83.1
Managed funds:	**1,744.8**	**939.5**	**-497.4**	**-189.7**	**1,997.3**
Other Investment Balances					
Cash deposits	17.5	59.9	-56.9	0.4	20.9
Net investment current assets	5.6	0.5	0.0	0.3	6.4
Net Investment Assets	**2,158.0**	**1,013.7**	**-1,000.8**	**-145.5**	**2,025.3**

	Market value 31 March 2018	Purchases during the year	Sales during the year	Change in market value during the year	Market value 31 March 2019
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
Investment Assets					
Equities	**638.3**	**78.8**	**-361.4**	**34.5**	**390.1**
Private Equity	78.1	17.1	-15.9	21.9	101.2
Pooled Property	207.8	13.3	-3.7	7.3	224.7
Pooled Investments, Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	996.3	574.4	-305.3	43.5	1308.9
Infrastructure	31.9	16.1	-2.5	2.5	47.9
Private Debt	0.0	60.2	-0.2	2.1	62.1
Managed funds:	**1,314.1**	**681.0**	**-327.6**	**77.4**	**1,744.8**
Other Investment Balances	0.0				0.0
Cash deposits	73.7	80.3	-137.0	0.4	17.5
Net investment current assets	11.2	0.1	-5.8	0.1	5.6
Net Investment Assets	**2,037.3**	**840.2**	**-831.9**	**112.4**	**2,158.0**

Note 17: Analysis of investments

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£ m		**£ m**
	Equities	
0.8	UK	0.8
389.3	Overseas	0.0
390.1		**0.8**
	Managed funds	
224.4	Pooled Property	217.4
1,308.9	Pooled Investments, Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	1508.2
17.7	Infrastructure	24.0
1,551.0	**UK:**	**1,749.5**
62.1	Private Debt	83.1
101.2	Private Equity	120.7
0.3	Pooled Property	0.1
30.2	Infrastructure	44.0
193.8	**Overseas:**	**247.8**
1,744.8		**1,997.3**
	Cash deposits	
11.2	UK Sterling	20.4
6.3	Foreign currency	0.5
17.5		**20.9**
5.6	**Net investment current assets/(liabilities)**	**6.4**
2,158.0	**Net Investment Assets**	**2,025.3**

Note 18: Investments analysed by fund manager

Market value 31 March 2019			Market value 31 March 2020	
£ m	**%**		**£ m**	**%**
Investments managed by BCPP asset pool				
253.6	11.8%	UK Equity Alpha Fund	199.0	9.8%
0.8	0.0%	BCPP Shareholding	0.8	0.0%
0.0	0.0%	Private Equity	0.9	0.0%
0.0	0.0%	Infrastructure	3.7	0.2%
0.0	0.0%	Global Equity Alpha Fund	292.2	14.4%
0.0	0.0%	BCPP Investment Grade Credit	173.1	8.5%
254.5	**11.8%**		**669.7**	**33.1%**
Investments managed outside of BCPP asset pool				
0.7	0.0%	Columbia Threadneedle Investments (UK Equities)	0.0	0.0%
396.9	18.4%	MFS Investment Management (Global Equities)	2.3	0.1%
578.3	26.8%	Legal and General Investment Management (Index Tracker - Global Equities)	542.4	26.8%
349.3	16.2%	Legal and General Investment Management (Index Tracker - Fixed Income)	179.0	8.8%
121.8	5.6%	Columbia Threadneedle Investments (Property)	114.2	5.6%
105.5	4.9%	Schroder Investment Management (Property)	107.1	5.3%
101.2	4.7%	HarbourVest (Private Equity)	119.8	5.9%
128.2	5.9%	JP Morgan (Strategic Bond)	122.8	6.1%
17.7	0.8%	Standard Life Capital (Infrastructure)	22.3	1.1%
30.2	1.4%	Partners Group (Infrastructure)	41.9	2.1%
10.3	0.5%	Alcentra (Private Debt)	29.9	1.5%
51.8	2.4%	Partners (Private Debt)	53.2	2.6%
11.7	0.5%	BNY Mellon (Global Custodian)	20.8	1.0%
1,903.5	88%		1,355.6	67%
2,158.0	**100.0%**		**2,025.3**	**100.0%**

Note 19: Investments representing more than 5% net assets of the scheme

Security	Market value 31 March 2020	% of total fund as at 31.03.20
	£ m	
Border to Coast Global Alpha Equity Fund	292.2	14.48%
Border to Coast Alpha Equity Fund	199.0	9.86%
L&G Fundamental Indexation	183.4	9.09%
Border to Coast Investment Grade Credit	173.1	8.58%
L&G Europe (Exc UK) Equity Index	130.2	6.45%
JPM Strategic Bond Fund	122.8	6.08%
L&G Index linked Bonds	121.8	6.04%
Columbia ThreadneedleTPN Property A	114.2	5.66%
L&G UK Equity Index	107.2	5.31%

Security	Market value 31 March 2019	% of total fund as at 31.03.19
	£ m	
Border to Coast Alpha Equity Fund	253.6	11.79%
L&G Investment Grade Corporate Bond	229.4	10.66%
L&G Fundamental Indexation	216.6	10.07%
L&G Europe (Exc UK) Equity Index	136.0	6.32%
JPM Strategic Bond Fund	128.2	5.96%
Columbia ThreadneedleTPN Property A	121.8	5.66%
L&G Index linked Bonds	119.6	5.56%
L&G UK Equity Index	117.6	5.47%

Note 20: Stock lending

The Fund's Statement of Investment Principles sets the parameters for the Fund's stock-lending programme. At the year-end, the value of stock on loan was £0.0m (31 March 2019: £4.0m). Any investments continue to be recognised in the Fund's financial statements.

Counterparty risk is managed through holding collateral at the Fund's custodian bank. At the year-end the Fund held no collateral (via the custodian) (31 March 2019: £4.3m). Collateral is obtained at 102% for sterling denominated equities and 106% for all other currency denominations and consists of government debt.

Stock-lending commissions are remitted to the Fund via the custodian. During the period the stock is on loan, the voting rights of the loaned stock pass to the borrower.

There are no liabilities associated with the loaned assets.

Note 21: Property holdings

The Fund does not hold property directly. Property is held in the form of pooled funds.

Note 22: Classification of financial instruments

Accounting policies describe how different asset classes of financial instruments are measured, and how income and expenses, including fair value gains and losses, are recognised. The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities (excluding cash) by category and Net Assets Statement heading. No financial assets were reclassified during the accounting period.

Fair value through profit and loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial liabilities at amortised cost		Fair value through profit and loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial liabilities at amortised cost
31 March 2019				31 March 2020		
£ m	£ m	£ m		£ m	£ m	£ m
			Investment Assets			
390.1			**Equities**	**0.8**		
101.2			Private Equity	120.7		
224.7			Pooled Property	217.4		
1,308.9			Pooled Investments, Unit Trusts & Other Managed Funds	1,508.2		
47.9			Infrastructure	67.9		
62.1			Private Debt	83.1		
1,744.8			**Managed funds:**	**1,997.3**		
	17.5		Cash deposits		20.9	
	5.6		Investment current assets		6.4	
	9.8		Debtors		9.0	
	1.7		Cash balances		3.6	
2,134.9	**34.5**	**0.0**		**1,998.1**	**39.8**	**0.0**
			Liabilities			
		0.0	Investment current liabilities			0.0
		-3.8	Creditors			-3.8
0.0	**0.0**	**-3.8**		**0.0**	**0.0**	**-3.8**
2,134.9	**34.5**	**-3.8**		**1,998.1**	**39.8**	**-3.8**

Note 23: Net gains and losses on financial instruments

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£ m		£ m
	Financial Assets	
113.2	Fair value through profit and loss	306.7
0.0	Loans and receivables	0.0
	Financial liabilities	
0.0	Fair value through profit and loss	-450.6
0.0	Loans and receivables	0.0
113.2	**Total**	**-143.9**

The authority has not entered into any financial guarantees that are required to be accounted for as financial instruments.

Note 24: Valuation of financial instruments carried at fair value

The Unquoted equities holding in Border to Coast Pensions Partnership is valued at cost (i.e. transaction price), as an appropriate estimate of fair value. A fair value cannot be otherwise established for these assets as at 31 March 2020 because the main trading vehicle of Border to Coast Pensions Partnership only became licenced to trade in July 2018 and the reliability of any observable or unobservable inputs used to calculate fair value cannot as yet be assessed with certainty.

All other investments are held at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS13. The basis of the valuation of each class of investment asset is set out below. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year.

All assets have been valued using fair value techniques based on the characteristics of each instrument, with the overall objective of maximising the use of market-based information.

The valuation of financial instruments has been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values.

Level 1

Financial instruments at level 1 are those where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Products classified as level 1 comprise quoted equities, quoted fixed securities, quoted index linked securities and unit trusts.

Listed investments are shown at bid prices. The bid value of the investment is based on the bid market quotation of the relevant stock exchange

Level 2

Financial instruments at level 2 are those where quoted market prices are not available; for example, where an instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value, these inputs are observable. Products classified as level 2 include unquoted bonds and overseas unit trusts and property funds.

Level 3

Financial instruments at level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data.

Such instruments would include unquoted equity and debt investments, which are valued using various valuation techniques that require significant judgement in determining appropriate assumptions.

The values of the investment in private equity, infrastructure and private debt are based on valuations provided by the general partners to the funds in which Warwickshire Pension Fund has invested.

These valuations are prepared in accordance with the International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines, which follow the valuation principles of IFRS and US GAAP. Valuations are undertaken quarterly and an adjustment is made to roll forward the latest available valuation to 31 March as appropriate.

Description of asset	Basis of valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Market quoted investments Level 1	Published bid market price ruling on the final day of the accounting period	Not required	Not required
Pooled investments – overseas unit trusts & property funds Level 2	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published. Closing single price where single price is published.	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Not required
Private equity, Infrastructure and Private Debt. Level 3	These investments are valued at fair value in accordance with International Private Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2018 and US GAAP.	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Valuations could be affected by material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the pension funds own reporting date, by changes to expected cashflows, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts.

The following table provides an analysis of the financial assets and liabilities of the pension fund grouped into Levels 1 to 3, based on the level at which the fair value is observable.

	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	
Valuation at 31 March 2020	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
	£ m	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**
Financial assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	144.0	1,582.4	271.7	1,998.1
Financial liabilities				
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net financial assets	144.0	1,582.4	271.7	1,998.1

	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	
Valuation at 31 March 2019	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
	£ m	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**
Financial assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	528.7	1,394.2	211.2	2,134.1
Financial liabilities				
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net financial assets	528.7	1,394.2	211.2	2,134.1

The following assets have been carried at cost:

	Quoted market price	Using observable inputs	With significant unobservable inputs	
Valuation at 31 March 2020	**Level 1**	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
	£ m	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**
Investment in Border to Coast Pensions Partnership			0.8	0.8
Investments held at cost				

Note 25 Reconciliation of fair value measurements within Level 3

	Market value 31 March 2019	Purchases during the year	Sales during the year	Change in market value during the year	Realised profit or loss (-) during the year	Market value 31 March 2020
	£ m	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**	**£ m**
Private Debt	62.1	22.8	-5.7	4.8	-1.0	83.1
Private Equity	101.2	14.8	-17.7	13.4	9.0	120.7
Infrastructure	47.9	14.5	-0.7	1.3	5.0	67.9
	211.2	**52.2**	**-24.2**	**19.5**	**13.0**	**271.7**

Note 26: Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments

Risk and risk management

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e. promised benefits payable to members). Therefore, the aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole fund portfolio. The Fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the Fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows. The Council manages these investment risks as part of its overall pension fund risk management programme.

Responsibility for the Fund's risk management strategy rests with the Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Council's pensions operations. Policies are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in activity and in market conditions.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from fluctuations in equity and commodity prices, interest and foreign exchange rates and credit spreads. The Fund is exposed to market risk from its investment activities, particularly through its equity holdings. The level of risk exposure depends on market conditions, expectations of future price and yield movements and the asset mix.

The objective of the Fund's risk management strategy is to identify, manage and control market risk exposure within acceptable parameters, whilst optimising the return on risk.

In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through the diversification of the portfolio in terms of geographical and industry sectors and individual securities. To mitigate market risk, the council and its investment advisors undertake appropriate monitoring of market conditions and benchmark analysis.

The Fund manages these risks in two ways:

- the exposure of the Fund to market risk is monitored through a factor risk analysis, to ensure that risk remains within tolerable levels; and
- specific risk exposure is limited by applying risk-weighted maximum exposures to individual investments.

It is possible for over-the-counter equity derivative contracts to be used in exceptional circumstances to manage specific aspects of market risk.

Other price risk

Other price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all such instruments in the market.

The Fund is exposed to share price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which the future price is uncertain. All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital.

The Fund's investment managers mitigate this price risk through diversification and the selection of securities and other financial instruments is monitored to ensure it is within limits specified in the Fund's investment strategy.

Following analysis of historical data and expected investment return movement, the Fund has determined that the following movements in market price risk were reasonably possible for the 2019/20 reporting period. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates, remain the same.

Asset Type	2019/20 Potential market movement
	%
UK Pooled Funds	27%
Overseas Pooled Funds	28%
Total Bonds, Index Linked & Pooled Managed Funds	10%
Cash	0%
Property	14%
Alternatives	11%

The potential price changes disclosed above are broadly consistent with a one-year dispersion in the value of the assets and are based on observed historical volatility of the returns of the asset class.

Had the market price of the Fund investments increased/decreased in line with the above, the change in the net assets available to pay benefits would have been as follows (the prior year comparator is shown below):

Asset Type	Value as at 31 March 2020	Potential market movement	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
UK Pooled Funds	306.1	82.7	388.8	223.5
Overseas Pooled Funds	727.3	203.6	930.9	523.6
Total Bonds	352.0	35.2	387.1	316.8
Cash	27.3	0.0	27.3	27.3
Alternatives	394.5	43.4	437.8	351.1
Property	217.4	30.4	247.9	187.0
Total	**2,024.5**	**395.3**	**2,419.8**	**1,629.2**

Note: Segregated mandates have fully transitioned the BCPP pool

Asset Type	Value as at 31 March 2019	Potential market movement	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
UK Equities	578.3	98.3	676.7	480.0
Overseas Equities	652.0	117.4	769.4	534.6
Total Bonds & Pooled Managed Funds	349.3	34.9	384.2	314.3
Cash	11.7	0.1	11.8	11.6
Alternatives	339.4	33.9	373.4	305.5
Property	227.3	31.8	259.1	195.4
Total	**2,158.0**	**316.5**	**2,474.5**	**1,841.5**

Interest rate risk

The Fund invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on investments. These investments are subject to interest rate risks, which represent the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Fund's interest rate risk is monitored as part of asset allocation decisions. Changes in interest rates do not impact on the value of cash and cash equivalent balances but they will affect the interest income received on those balances. Changes to both the fair value of assets and the income received from investments impact on the net assets available to pay benefits.

The analysis that follows assumes that all other variables, in particular exchange rates, remain constant, and shows the effect in the year on the net assets available to pay benefits of a +/- 1% change in interest rates.

Asset Type	Duration	Value as at 31 March 2020	Value on 1% increase	Value on 1% decrease
	Years	£ m	£ m	£ m
LGIM UK Corporate Bonds	7.6	57.1	52.7	61.4
LGIM UK Index Linked	21.4	121.8	95.7	147.9
JPM Absolute Return Bonds	8.5	122.8	112.4	133.2
BCPP IGC	3.1	173.1	167.7	178.4
Total		**474.7**	**428.5**	**521.0**

Asset Type	Duration	Value as at 31 March 2019	Value on 1% increase	Value on 1% decrease
	Years	£ m	£ m	£ m
LGIM UK Corporate Bonds	7.9	229.4	211.2	247.5
LGIM UK Index Linked	22.1	119.6	93.1	146.0
JPM Absolute Return Bonds	1.5	128.2	126.3	130.1
Total		**477.1**	**430.7**	**523.6**

Currency risk

Currency risk represents the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on financial instruments that are denominated in any currency other than the functional currency of the Fund (£UK). The Fund holds both monetary and non-monetary assets denominated in currencies other than £UK. Our investment adviser has provided an estimate of 10% volatility for a pooled overseas fund.

A strengthening/weakening of the pound against the various currencies in which the Fund holds investments would increase/decrease the net assets available to pay benefits as follows. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant. The prior year comparator is shown below and based 7on the Funds segregated overseas mandate which has now transitioned to the BCPP pool:

	Value as at 31 March 2020	Potential market movement	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
Overseas Pooled Funds	727.3	72.7	800.0	654.6
Total	**727.3**	**72.7**	**800.0**	**654.6**

Note: Segregated mandates have fully transitioned the BCPP pool

Currency	Value as at 31 March 2019	Potential market movement	Value on increase	Value on decrease
	£ m	£ m	£ m	£ m
Czech Republic Koruna	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Danish Krone	2.7	0.2	3.0	2.5
Euro	136.4	12.3	148.6	124.1
Japanese Yen	10.8	1.4	12.2	9.4
Mexican Peso	1.0	0.1	1.2	0.9
Swedish Krona	9.2	0.9	10.0	8.3
Swiss Franc	30.2	3.4	33.6	26.8
Thai Baht	0.8	0.1	0.9	0.7
US Dollar	307.0	30.1	337.1	276.9
Hong Kong Dollar	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.7
Total	**498.8**	**48.6**	**547.4**	**450.3**

Credit risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities.

In essence the Fund's entire investment portfolio is exposed to some form of credit risk. However, the selection of high-quality counterparties and financial institutions minimises credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle a transaction in a timely manner.

The Pension Fund is exposed to credit risk through the stock lending programme. This is managed by the custodian who monitors the counterparty and collateral risk. The level of collateral for stock on loan is assessed daily to ensure it takes account of market movements. To mitigate risk, stock lending is restricted to 25% of the total market value of the stock held, in accordance with investment regulations.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Pension Fund therefore takes steps to ensure that it has adequate cash resources to meet its commitments, particularly cash to meet pensioner payroll and other benefit costs, and cash to meet investment commitments.

The Pension Fund has immediate access to its cash holdings and has had a long-term positive cash flow. Cash flow surpluses are invested with fund managers. The Pension Fund is authorised to borrow on a short-term basis to fund cash flow deficits.

The actuary to the Pension Fund produces regular cash flow forecasts which are presented to the Investment Sub-Committee.

All financial liabilities as at 31 March 2020 are due within one year.

Note 27: Funding arrangements

In line with The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the Fund's actuary undertakes a funding valuation every three years for the purpose of setting employer contribution rates for the forthcoming triennial period. The last such valuation took place as at 31 March 2019 and set contribution rates for the three years commencing 1 April 2020.

The key elements of the funding policy are:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of the Fund, i.e. that sufficient funds are available to meet all pension liabilities as they fall due for payment;
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are as stable as possible;
- to minimise the long-term cost of the scheme by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy that balances risk and return;
- to reflect the different characteristics of employing bodies in determining contribution rates where the administering authority considers it reasonable to do so; and
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the council taxpayer from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

The aim is to achieve 100% solvency over a period of 19 years and to provide stability in contribution rates by spreading any increases in rates over a period of time. Normally this is three years but, in some cases, an extended period can be granted. Solvency is achieved when the funds held, plus future expected investment returns and future contributions are sufficient to meet expected future pension benefits payable. When an employer's funding level falls significantly short of the 100% funding target, then a deficit recovery plan will be put in place requiring additional contributions from the employer to meet the shortfall.

At the 2019 actuarial valuation, the Fund was assessed as 92% funded. This corresponded to a deficit of £180m.

Contribution increases were phased in over the three-year period ending 31 March 2023. The common contribution rate (i.e. the rate which all employers in the Fund pay) is as follows.

Valuation Date	31-Mar-19
Total contribution rate	
Primary Rate (% of pay)	20.1%
2018/19 Secondary Rate £000	60.71
2018/19 Secondary Rate £000	62.51
2019/20 Secondary Rate £000	64.36

Individual employer rates will vary from the common contribution rate depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each employer. Full details of the contribution rates payable can be found in the 2019 actuarial valuation report and the funding strategy statement on the Fund's website.

The valuation of the Fund has been undertaken using the projected unit method under which the salary increase for each member is assumed to increase until they leave active service by death, retirement or withdrawal from service. The principal assumptions are as follows:

Financial assumptions

Financial assumptions	Nominal	Real
	%	%
Post Retirement Discount Rate	3.7%	1.4%
Pre Retirement Discount Rate	3.7%	1.4%
Salary Increases	3.1%	0.8%
Price Inflation/Pension Increases	2.3%	-

Demographic assumptions

Assumed life expectancy from age 65 is as follows.

Demographic assumptions	31 March 2019	
Assumed life expectancy at age 65	**Male**	**Female**
Pensioners	21.6	23.8
Non-pensioners	22.5	25.4

Commutation assumptions

It is assumed that future retirees will take 50% of the maximum additional tax-free lump sum up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 75% of the maximum for post-April 2008 service.

50:50 Option

1.0% of members (uniformly distributed across the age, service and salary range) will choose the 50:50 option.

Note 28: Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

28.1 Report from Fund Actuaries

In addition to the triennial funding valuation, the fund's actuary also undertakes a valuation of the pension fund liabilities, on an IAS19 basis, every year using the same base data as the funding valuation rolled forward to the current financial year, taking account of changes in membership numbers and updating assumptions to the current year. This valuation is not carried out on the same basis as that used for setting fund contribution rates and the Fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.

In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, the actuary has updated the actuarial assumptions (set out below) from those used for funding purposes (see Note 24). The following is the full Pension Fund Accounts Reporting Requirement provided by the fund actuary.

Introduction

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2019/20 requires Administering Authorities of LGPS funds that prepare pension fund accounts to disclose what IAS26 refers to as the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. I have been instructed by the Administering Authority to provide the necessary information for the Warwickshire Pension Fund ("the Fund").
The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is to be calculated similarly to the Defined Benefit Obligation under IAS19. There are three options for its disclosure in the pension fund accounts:

- showing the figure in the Net Assets Statement, in which case it requires the statement to disclose the resulting surplus or deficit;
- as a note to the accounts; or
- by reference to this information in an accompanying actuarial report.

If an actuarial valuation has not been prepared at the date of the financial statements, IAS26 requires the most recent valuation to be used as a base and the date of the valuation disclosed. The valuation should be carried out using assumptions in line with IAS19 and not the Fund's funding assumptions.

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£m		£m
1,593	Active members	1,167
670	Deferred pensioners	651
948	Pensioners	1089
(3,211)	Present value of promised retirement benefits (£m)	(2,907)
2,166	Fair Value if scheme assets (bid value) (£m)	2,025
(1,045)	Net Liability	(882)

The fair value of scheme assets (bid value) figure as at 31 March 2020 has been provided by the Administering Authority and is as disclosed in the Fund's 2019/20 accounts.

The promised retirement benefits at 31 March 2020 have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2019. The approximation involved in the roll forward model means that the split of benefits between the three classes of member may not be reliable. However, I am satisfied that the total figure is a reasonable estimate of the actuarial present value of benefit promises.

Note that the above figures at 31 March 2020 include an allowance for the "McCloud ruling", i.e. an estimate of the potential increase in past service benefits arising from this case affecting public service pension schemes.
The figures include both vested and non-vested benefits, although the latter is assumed to have a negligible value. Further, I have not made any allowance for unfunded benefits.

It should be noted the above figures are appropriate for the Administering Authority only for preparation of the pension fund accounts. They should not be used for any other purpose (i.e. comparing against liability measures on a funding basis or a cessation basis).

Assumptions

The assumptions used are those adopted for the Administering Authority's IAS19 report and are different as at 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019. I estimate that the impact of the change in financial assumptions to 31 March 2020 is to decrease the actuarial present value by £275m. I estimate that the impact of the change in demographic and longevity assumptions is to decrease the actuarial present value by £90m.

Financial assumptions

Year ended (% p.a.)	31 March 20	31 March 19
	%	%
Inflation/pensions increase rate	1.9%	2.5%
Salary increase rate	2.7%	3.1%
Discount rate	2.3%	2.4%

Longevity assumptions

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2018 model, an allowance for smoothing of recent mortality experience and a long-term rate of 1.25% p.a.. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

	Males	Females
Current pensioners	21.6 years	23.8 years
Future pensioners (assumed to be aged 45 at the latest formal valuation)	22.5 years	25.4 years

Please note that the longevity assumptions have changed since the previous IAS26 disclosure for the Fund.

Commutation assumptions

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 50% of the maximum additional tax-free cash up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 75% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service.

Sensitivity analysis

CIPFA guidance requires the disclosure of the sensitivity of the results to the methods and assumptions used. The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the liabilities are set out below:

Sensitivity to the assumptions for the year ended 31 March 2020	Approximate % increase to liabilities	Approximate monetary amount (£m)
0.5% p.a. increase in the Pension Increase Rate	9%	275
0.5% p.a. increase in the Salary Increase Rate	1%	27
0.5% p.a. decrease in the Real Discount Rate	10%	294

The principal demographic assumption is the longevity assumption. For sensitivity purposes, I estimate that a 1-year increase in life expectancy would approximately increase the liabilities by around 3-5%.

Professional notes

This paper accompanies my covering report titled ‘Actuarial Valuation as at 31 March 2020 for accounting purposes’. The covering report identifies the appropriate reliance’s and limitations for the use of the figures in this paper, together with further details regarding the professional requirements and assumptions.

Prepared by:-
Robert Bilton
23 April 2020
For and on behalf of Hymans Robertson LLP

28.2 Other Notes

In July 2020 a consultation on the remedy to a legal ruling (“McCloud”) that transitional protections introduced when the Local Government Pension Scheme was changed in 2014 were unlawful on the ground of age discrimination was launched. The impact of this is uncertain both in terms of future changes to benefits payable to individuals and the resulting financial impact for the authority. Initial high level estimates indicate this is unlikely to be a material figure.

In June 2020 a tribunal ruled that amendments to the Teachers Pension Scheme were discriminatory against survivors of female members. There is a likelihood that any remedy would eventually also impact upon the LGPS. The issue would impact on a small scale, impacting survivors or female members who were in the scheme prior to 1998 who died after 2005. The detailed financial impact and the timing are currently uncertain.

Note 29: Current assets

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£m		**£m**
	Debtors:	
1.4	Contributions due: Employees	1.2
6.1	Contributions due: Employers	5.7
1.7	Invoiced debtors	1.6
0.6	Sundry debtors	0.6
1.7	Cash balances	3.6
11.5	**Total**	**12.6**

Note 30: Current liabilities

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£m		**£m**
	Liabilities:	
1.0	Owed to administering authority	1.5
1.6	Sundry Creditors	1.5
1.1	Benefits Payable	0.9
3.8	**Total**	**3.8**

Note 31: Additional Voluntary Contributions

31 March 2019		31 March 2020
£m		£m
2.6	Standard Life	2.4
0.2	Utmost Life and Pensions*	0.2
2.8	**Total**	**2.7**

*AVCs previously held with Equitable Life now managed by Utmost Life and Pensions

31 March 2018		31 March 2019
£m		£m
2.5	Standard Life	2.6
0.2	Equitable Life	0.2
2.8	**Total**	**2.8**

AVC contributions of £2.4m were paid directly to Standard Life and £0.2m was paid directly to Utmost Life and Pensions during the year (2018/19: £2.5m to Standard Life and £0.2m to Equitable Life).

Note 32: Related Party Transactions

Warwickshire County Council

The Warwickshire Pension Fund is administered by Warwickshire County Council. Consequently, there is a strong relationship between the council and the pension fund.

During the reporting period, the council incurred costs of £1,244,413 (2018/19: £892,212) in relation to the administration of the Fund and was subsequently reimbursed by the Fund for these expenses. The council is also the single largest employer of members of the pension fund. Employee and employer contributions from the council amounted to £39.9m in 2019/20 (£36.9m in 2018/19).

Border to Coast Pensions Partnership

The Warwickshire Pension Fund, through Warwickshire County as the Administering Authority, is a shareholder in the Border to Coast Pension Partnership Limited. The Partnership is a wholly owned private limited company registered in England and Wales founded to carry out pension fund asset pooling obligations set out by the Government. The company provides the facility to pool the pension fund investments of 12 local authorities in order to gain the benefits of economies of scale, concentration of expertise and improved ability to reduce investment costs. The company was incorporated in 2017/18 and the first transfers of investment assets into the pool occurred in 2018/19. As at the balance sheet date all 12 partners own an equal 1/12th share of the company.

The Border to Coast Pension Partnership is a joint venture that brings risks as well as benefits. The partnership has grown significantly, for example in terms of the value of assets under management and the number of personnel employed. Pooling and membership of the Border to Coast Pension Partnership is a regular and high profile feature of reporting to the Pension Fund Investment Sub Committee and the Fund's risk register has regard to key pooling risks.

Governance

There are two members of the Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee who are in receipt of pension benefits from the Warwickshire Pension Fund

Each member of the Pension Fund Investment Sub-Committee is required to declare their interests at each meeting.

There are three members of the Local Pension Board who are active members of the Warwickshire Pension Fund.

Key management personnel

Several employees of Warwickshire County Council hold key positions in the financial management of the Warwickshire Pension Fund, alongside responsibilities for Warwickshire County Council directly. The posts of Head of Resources, Assistant Director, Finance Manager and Technical Specialist are considered to be key management personnel. These employees and their financial relationship with the Fund are set out below.

	2019/20	2018/19
	£000	£000
Short-term benefits	108.0	109.5
Post-employment benefits	103	-298

Note: Post-employment benefits have been calculated on an IAS19 basis.
18/19 figures have been restated to reflect this. Year 18/19
shows a fall in post retirement benefits following departure of two KMP in year
who were not replaced until 19/20 and 20/21.

Note 33: Contingent Liabilities and Contractual Commitments

Outstanding capital commitments at 31 March 2020 totalled £302.6m. Of this, £108.7 related to Private Equity, £135.9 related to Infrastructure, £23m related to Private Debt and £35m related to Private Credit.

Glossary

A

Actuarial valuation
A review of the assets and *liabilities* of a pension fund to determine the surplus or deficit, and the future rate of contributions required.

Alternative investments
Investments other than the mainstream *asset classes* of *equities* and *bonds*. Alternatives include *hedge funds*, *private equity*, *infrastructure* and *commodities*. Property is also sometimes described as an alternative.

Asset allocation
The apportionment of a fund's assets between different *asset classes*.

B

Benchmark
A yardstick against which the investment policy or performance of a fund manager can be compared.

C

Currency risk
Investing in any securities not denominated in the investor's own base currency introduces currency risk due to the *volatility* of foreign exchange rates.

D

Defined benefit scheme
A type of pension scheme where the pension that will ultimately be paid to the employee is fixed, usually as a percentage of final salary. It is the responsibility of the sponsoring organisation to ensure that sufficient assets are set aside to meet the pension promised. Compare with *defined contribution scheme*.

Diversification
The spreading of investment funds among different types of assets, markets and geographical areas in order to reduce *risk*.

H

Hedge Funds
A hedge fund is a capital pool that has the ability to use *leverage* and to take both *long* and *short* positions with the aim of achieving an *absolute return*. A large variety of hedge fund strategies exist, and the level of *risk* taken will vary. Investors looking for a diversified exposure to hedge funds will normally opt for a fund of hedge funds – a fund with underlying investments in several hedge funds covering different strategies and geographical areas.

I

IAS19 (International Accounting Standards)
An accounting standard which requires organisations to incorporate their pension funds into their balance sheets and specifically that all pension fund *liabilities* should be valued using an AA corporate bond yield. Any mismatch between assets and liabilities is effectively brought on to the organisation's balance sheet.

IAS1
An accounting standard that sets out overall requirements for the presentation of financial statements, guidelines for their structure and minimum requirements for their content.

P

Private equity
Funds put up by investors to finance new and growing businesses. Also known as venture capital

Private Debt
Private debt comprises mezzanine and other forms of debt financing that comes mainly from institutional investors such as funds and insurance companies – but not from banks.

R

Risk
In its simplest sense, risk is the variability of *returns*. Investments with greater inherent *risk* must promise higher expected returns if investors are to invest in them. Risk management is an important aspect of portfolio management and involves the use of complex statistical models.

S

Stocklending
The lending of a *security* by the registered owner, to an authorised third party, for a fixed or open period of time, for an agreed consideration secured by *collateral*. The demand to borrow *securities* comes mainly from *market makers* to cover *short positions* or take *arbitrage* opportunities.

T

Transaction costs
Those costs associated with trading on a portfolio, notably *stamp duty* and *commissions*.

Council

13 October 2020

2019/20 Annual Governance Statement

Recommendation

That Council approves the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This report presents the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for consideration at the Appendix.

1.2 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the authority to conduct a review, at least once in a year, of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and to prepare an AGS. The consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic led to an April 2020 amendment to the Accounts & Audit Regulations, altering the statutory timetable for the production and publication of the AGS alongside the Financial Statements by 30 November.

1.3 We have also followed CIPFA guidance issued in April 2020 to include relevant areas of governance impact arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. These are captured in Section 3 (delivering governance principles) and Section 5 (Governance Issues) of the AGS.

1.4 It has been assessed, as a result of the AGS evaluation and assurance gathering process, that there are no significant governance issues or governance failures to report. The Council's key areas of strategic risk are presented as governance challenges in Section 5, along with planned and proposed mitigation.

2. Financial Implications

None

3. Environmental Implications

None

4. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

4.1 The results of the review and the draft AGS were initially considered and endorsed by the Audit and Standards Committee at its meeting on 20 July. The draft AGS was also provided to External Audit for review in July and then to Cabinet in September, with no updates required.

4.2 The proposed AGS was then presented with the financial statements to the Audit & Standards Committee 28 September meeting. The AGS was recommended for approval, subject to an update to recognise the governance challenges of HS2 and the Council's response to this. The Statement has been updated top reflect this (Appendix 1 p.16).

Appendix

Draft 2019-20 Annual Governance Statement

Background Papers

None

	Name	**Contact Information**
Report Author	Chris Norton	chrisnorton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Assistant Director, Finance	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Strategic Director for Resources	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	

The report was not circulated to members prior to publication

Annual Governance Statement

Year ended 31 March 2020

Warwickshire County Council

Working for Warwickshire

Annual Governance Statement 2019/20

Contents

		Page
1	What are we responsible for?	3
2	The aim of the Governance Framework	4
3	The Governance Framework	4
4	Review of Effectiveness	11
5	Governance Issues	12
6	Certification	18
Appendix 1	2020-21 Governance Action Plan	

1. What are we responsible for?

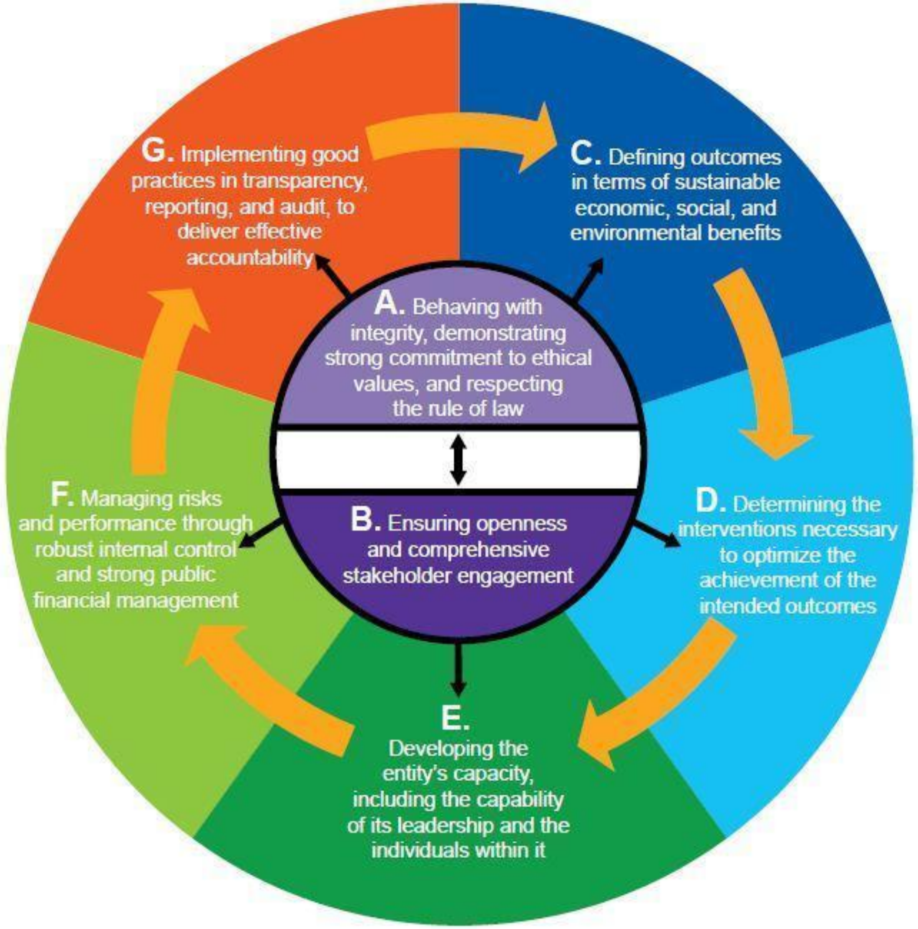
We are responsible for carrying out our business in line with the law and proper accounting standards, and for using public money economically, efficiently and effectively, and accounting for it properly. We also have a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to continually review and improve the way we work, while at the same time offering value for money and an efficient and effective service.

To meet our responsibility, we have put in place proper governance arrangements for overseeing what we do. These arrangements are intended to make sure that we do the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, open and accountable manner. These arrangements consist of all the systems, processes, culture and values which direct and control the way in which we work and through which we account to, engage with and lead our communities.

We have approved and adopted a Code of Corporate Governance, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (2016)*. Further information is on our website:
http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/corporategovernance

This statement explains how the Council has complied with its Code of Corporate Governance and also meets the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. It also covers the governance control and risk management arrangements of the Warwickshire Local Government Pension Scheme and Firefighters' Pension Scheme.

Figure 1 CIPFA's Principles of Good Governance



2. The aim of the governance framework

The framework allows us to monitor how we are achieving our strategic aims and ambitions, and to consider whether they have helped us deliver appropriate services that demonstrate value for money.

The system of internal control is an important part of the framework and is designed to minimise risk to a tolerable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failing to achieve our policies, aims and objectives. The system of internal control is based on continuing processes designed to:

- identify and prioritise the risks that could either prevent us from achieving our priority outcomes or missing opportunities to improve outcomes;
- assess how likely it is that the identified risks will happen, and what will be the result if they did; and
- manage the risks efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2020 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Governance Statement and Statement of Accounts.

Since March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic and the unprecedented public health and economic impacts have required a significant on-going managed emergency response. The Council has had to vary a range of working practices, service responses and business-as-usual governance mechanisms at pace. Due process has been followed by applying the principles of the Governance Framework. Specific governance actions in response to the pandemic are captured in Section 3, as actions against the relevant governance principles and in Section 5, as governance challenges. There will be a full review of lessons learned from the response phase, to inform future governance and emergency responses.

3 The Governance framework

Our code is aligned to the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (2016). A description of the arrangements which we have put in place to secure robust corporate governance are summarised below. The full detail of these arrangements can be found in the Code of Corporate Governance.
http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/corporategovernance
.

Core Principle A. Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

As part of our governance framework we apply six key behaviours (see Figure 2) which provide a clear framework on the behaviours we are demonstrating on a day to day basis to support the cultural change and transformation of the organisation. The behaviours are supported by the following values; high performing, collaborative, customer focused, accountable and trustworthy. The behaviours and values are integral to 1:1s and appraisal conversations as well as key to the way we recruit and develop our colleagues.

We have arrangements in place to provide assurance that our behaviours are being upheld and that members and officers demonstrate high standards of conduct. These include:

- codes of conduct for officers and members (including gifts and hospitality, registering interests, anti-fraud and whistleblowing); and
- inclusion of ethical values in policies and procedures for all areas including procurement and partnership working.
  http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/conduct

Figure 2 Warwickshire's Six Key Behaviours

Complaints and compliments help us improve the services we provide to all customers. We have an updated Complaints Policy and a corporate complaints and feedback procedure to ensure that all complaints are investigated properly and are responded to as quickly as possible. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/complaints

We appreciate the diversity of our customers, workforce and the wider Warwickshire community and are committed to Equality and Diversity. This is integral to everything we do including policy development, service delivery and partnership working to ensure we meet the Public Sector Duty as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and that we do not unlawfully discriminate with services we deliver or commission http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/equality

Our Constitution sets out the framework to ensure that all officers, key post holders and Members are able to fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with legislative requirements so that we are efficient, transparent, accountable to our citizens and compliant with the law.

Roles and responsibilities for individual Members, the Council, Cabinet and senior officers, along with the delegation of statutory powers and executive functions, and protocols on member / officer relations are documented. To ensure continuity of core Council services and statutory duties in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been able to adopt decision making mechanisms which have complied with the Constitution and the legal framework. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/constitution

We have consistent governance arrangements for our two wholly owned trading companies; Warwickshire Legal Services Trading Ltd and Educaterers Ltd:

- the shareholder agreement governs our relationship with each company and sets out which decisions require shareholder approval;

- Annual General Meetings are held to ensure the Council is fully informed of the company's performance; and
- Directors of each company have received "conflict of interest" awareness training and we actively monitor the risk of potential conflicts.

Also, in the case of Educaterers, the larger of the two companies, a shareholder representative attends company board meetings. The allows the Council, as a shareholder, to keep updated on company matters.

Core Principle B. Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

We have a Consultation and Engagement Framework in place, owned by a lead officer, which provides staff with up to date guidance and tools for planning and conducting consultation activities.

As part of our approach to consultation the Ask Warwickshire website is a portal for consultation exercises taking place within Warwickshire. We use a variety of methods to undertake consultation. www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask

We carried out extensive consultation on strategic objective proposals for the 2020-25 Council Plan, including a dedicated consultation web page, a multi media engagement questionnaire and 9 county wide roadshows which reached a large and diverse audience .

Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic has seen our engagement with communities, employees, schools, partners and other stakeholders delivered and managed daily, through our external website home page and links to a dedicated suite of web pages and linked resources offering support and guidance. We have also extended our community engagement through a range of social media channels such as Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram to achieve the maximum reach from our messaging during this critical time.

We value the contribution from our employees and have an Employee Engagement Strategy in place which sets out how we ensure employees have a voice, managers and leaders are focusing, coaching and developing their people and there is clear communication about where our authority is going. This is supported by regular staff surveys and pulse surveys which measure employee engagement and our direction of travel against a number of staff related measures. To support the unique challenges arising from COVID-19, we put in place staff check-in surveys to understand the impact of remote working and the pandemic on their well-being, as well as adoption of new technologies and ways of working. https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/employeeengagement

We actively contribute to and collaborate with partners to promote good governance and achieve the delivery of outcomes through increased joint working and economies of scale. We are members of a number of sub-regional partnerships and groups which have member and / or officer representation. Each partnership has its own governance arrangements in place. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/partnerships

We are registered as a data controller under the Data Protection Act as we collect and process personal information and we have a named Data Protection officer. We have General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliant procedures that explain how we use and share information and arrangements for members of the public to access information. We have also adopted the model publication scheme produced by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Publications-scheme-and-transparency

The Warwickshire Pension Fund engages with its employers and members through the Local Pension Board which has representatives from employers and members, and through direct communications for example directly sharing new policies such as the Funding Strategy Statement for comment.
https://warwickshireintranet.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails

Core Principle C. Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits

2019-20 is the final year of the Council's One Organisational Plan (OOP 2020) and 3 year Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). It set out our vision for Warwickshire and the journey the authority took to deliver this vision and outcomes over the life of the plan. Progress implementing the OOP 2020 has been reported to Cabinet and has been subject to annual review. https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/OneOrganisationalPlan

Going forward, the new Council Plan has been developed with members and in consultation with our stakeholders and communities and defines priority outcomes and key strategic objectives. https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/strategies

Figure 3: Warwickshire's Core Purpose and Priority Outcomes

Alongside the Council Plan, the Council has produced a rolling five-year Medium-Term Financial Strategy which is established on sound assumptions to deliver a sustainable balanced budget in the short and medium term. This will assist with forward planning and responding to variations in financial forecasts.

In 2019 the Council declared a climate emergency. Climate Change adaptation task and finish groups were set up; one group considered mitigation strategies and a second group addressed possible adaptations. A single set of recommended priority actions and options for investment, informed by UK Climate Change data, were approved by Cabinet. A climate impact assessment for Warwickshire is also being prepared.

The most significant impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Council's core purpose and outcomes are being assessed and acted upon, initially, by developing a whole council phased recovery and reform plan. Warwickshire Councils have issued a joint statement of intent on recovery and the recovery planning process aligns to the approach being taken across Warwickshire and the West Midlands through the Local Resilience Forum arrangements.

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

2019-20

The One Organisational Plan (OOP) and the Council's MTFS were aligned to ensure a joined up approach to delivering the OOP 2020 outcomes and agreed savings plans. Transformation Programme Boards were set up in 2018-19 and a Gateway Group, operating at strategic level, has also been meeting during 2019/20 to assess revenue project benefits and alignment with key outcomes. This provided the necessary framework to continue to deliver change and transformation and to ensure clear line of sight in the delivery of WCC's Core Purpose and Outcomes at strategic, directorate and service level.

The creation of a dedicated Commissioning Support Unit is supporting the establishment of a one-organisation approach to the way outcomes are achieved. Bringing together functions around change management, business intelligence, contract management and quality assurance means that a robust, consistent methodology is applied to informing and prioritising commissioning activity. The unit also provides corporate assurances through ongoing monitoring of delivery against outcomes and prompting actions to stay on track.

2020 and Beyond
Our Commissioning Intentions Performance Framework, developed to support the delivery of the new Council Plan, includes the following mechanisms to assess progress and inform actions and interventions to achieve intended outcomes:

- progress against the Council's Key Business Measures (KBMs) to assess the delivery of outcomes for reporting to Overview & Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet on a quarterly basis. This information is also available electronically to members and officers via a series of Cabinet and OSC Dashboards using new business insight technology;
- a suite of reports and dashboards provides HR, finance and performance data to Strategic Directors, Assistant Directors and third tier managers for their areas of responsibility. This enables managers to interrogate information quickly and efficiently, making key business measures and supporting indicators easier to monitor;
- arrangements are in place to report critical management information on the key aspects of the delivery of the Council Plan, including finance, projects and performance to Corporate Board and on a quarterly basis to Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny; and
- Each Directorate has arrangements in place for reporting performance to its Directorate Leadership Team and corporately as part of a Commissioning Intentions Performance.

The Commissioning Support Unit have the resources, tools and expertise to maintain these systems and processes and to support services to identify and monitor actions to stay on track and to escalate further where decisions are needed. All proposed and active projects are managed in the VERTO system, which includes change control and reporting functionality to reduce the risk of non delivery of intended outcomes.

In March 2020, the Council paused, for a short period, corporate performance reporting and the planned change programme to redirect effort and resources to support the immediate emergency response to COVID-19. Specialist response cells have developed interventions to manage and mitigate the COVID-19 impact on the council's defined outcomes across all key services, including Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Education Services, highways and waste management. Outturn and performance reporting resumed in Q1 2020-21.

Core Principle E. Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

A People Strategy has been developed to ensure our workforce can deliver the organisation's new Operating Model and stays aligned with our vision and outcomes. Priority actions to underpin the Strategy have been agreed with action plans in place, focusing on delivery. There is ongoing engagement with staff in this area and direction and progress continues to be governed and monitored by the How We Work Board.

Our How We Work programme is designed to deliver the right technology and tools to work as efficiently and effectively as possible. Our investment in ways of working, remote working technology and infrastructure has greatly enhanced the ability of the organisation to respond effectively to an emergency event and has proven to be a robust part of our COVID-19 response.

Structurally, the move to distinguish between Strategic Commissioning and Delivery roles has helped to build increased strategic capacity alongside functional operating models building capacity to deliver more effectively.

The refreshed approach to our Flexible Working arrangements as a whole Council offer from January 2020 set out principles for employees to work flexibly as efficiently and productively as possible, whilst maintaining a priority focus on service needs. These principles significantly supported the Council's ability to respond effectively and maintain service delivery during the initial response phase of COVID-19.

To enable our employees to be the best they can be we have a corporate process for annual appraisals and Personal Development Plans for Tier 4 officers and above supported by regular 1:1 conversations. This provides the necessary clarity of expectations and behaviour, direction, support and opportunities for growth and development and allows employees and managers to have constructive discussions on performance, progress against outcomes, wellbeing and development. Our corporate appraisal process is aligned to the Behaviours Framework and our recruitment process for tiers 1 – 4 applied a behavioural assessment process, which includes leadership capability and identifies personal development areas.

Our Senior Leadership Forum and planned events and workshops aim to share our strategic direction and Change plans more widely and build the skills and capabilities needed to successfully deliver those plans.

A member development programme is arranged each year to ensure core development needs of members, aligned to their respective roles, are met and to take account of new and emerging issues.

We have invested in the health & wellbeing of our employees with a Workplace Wellness Strategy, and supporting processes including those to manage sickness absence and return to work.

The health & wellbeing of our employees during the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown period has been a top priority. We have focused on:

- maintaining wellbeing and HR policy information on the intranet home page with links to internal and external support networks, resources and check in surveys; and
- regular live communication to staff from Corporate Board.

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

The One Organisational Plan and the new Council Plan are supported by the necessary performance and financial management framework to complete the delivery of transformation and realise the benefits of embedding and sustaining change.

The performance framework ensures that Members and Officers have a clear picture of how well the Organisation is progressing against the outcomes set out in the Plan as well as the key business outcomes that support and underpin it.

Strong financial management is assured by budget monitoring and variance reporting at service and corporate level, ensuring the Council is alert to emerging financial risks and can proactively manage those risks. These processes continued during the final year of OOP 2020. Internal audit provide advice to service areas and change projects to ensure the control environment remains strong.

The impact of COVID-19 on the Council's financial position is subject to continuous financial analysis and key indicators reported to Corporate Board alongside MHCLG COVID-19 financial impact returns.

Financial Regulations set out our financial management framework for ensuring we make the best use of the money we have available to spend. They outline the financial roles and responsibilities for staff and Members and provide a framework for financial decision-making. S48 Agreements with maintained schools ensure we obtain annual assurances from

schools about their financial management of delegated budgets. Where there are specific statutory powers and duties the Financial Regulations seek to ensure these are complied with, as well as reflecting best professional practice and decision-making.
https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/standingorders

Our emergency response to COVID-19 included adapted physical asset and financial control measures with all audit trails assured. Our procurement function and processes ensured supplies of essential equipment and products were maintained and suppliers paid promptly and accurately.

Pension Fund investments are governed by the Pension Fund Investments Sub Committee which is advised by external financial advisers and supported by two independent financial advisers.
https://warwickshireintranet.moderngov.co.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=168

Risk management is an integral part of good management and corporate governance and is therefore at the heart of what we do. It is essential to our ability to deliver public services and as a custodian of public funds. Our approach to managing risk is explained in the Risk Management Strategy. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/riskmanagementstrategy.

An external Health Check of the Council's risk management approach against a national good practice framework was completed in 2019. This resulted in an action plan to deliver improvements to our risk management approach and will inform an updated Risk Management Framework in 2020. This review will include setting a corporate risk appetite, standard corporate principles for the management of risk, and standard approaches to the management of risk in cross cutting functions including project management, procurement, and commercial activities.

We have adopted the CIPFA Code of Practice for Managing the Risk of fraud and corruption and this is reflected in our anti-fraud policy.
http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/antifraud

Core Principle G. Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

We endeavour to always be open and transparent. We have a forward plan which provides information about all of the decisions that the Council has scheduled. Formal agendas, reports and minutes for all committee meetings are published on our website which ensures that people know what decisions the Council is planning to take, and the decisions taken.
http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/democracy

Overview and Scrutiny Committees act as a critical friend and hold Cabinet to account for its decisions. The terms of reference for all O&S Committees are defined in the Constitution.
http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scrutiny

The Audit and Standards Committee has oversight of internal and external audit matters, the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and risk management and any other arrangements for the maintenance of probity.

Each year we publish information on our website outlining how we spend Council Tax income. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/counciltaxspending

Arrangements are in place to ensure that we fully comply with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit. The Internal Audit Manager is designated as the Head of Internal Audit and had regular formal meetings during the year with the Strategic Director for Resources, Assistant Director Finance and Assistant Director Governance and Policy. There is an Internal Audit Board which assists in facilitating the management and governance of the internal audit service. An External Quality Assessment of the Internal Audit service was completed in February 2018 resulting in positive feedback on the quality of internal audit provided to its clients. http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/audit

During the early stages of the COVID-19 response the Council made greater use of Leader decision making as set out in the Constitution. Arrangements were put in place to allow prior sharing of reports with Group Leaders for any representations to be taken into account and reports and minutes were published and made available to the public in the usual way. By mid-May we had re-introduced formal member meetings carried out virtually using Microsoft Teams functionality.

4. Review of effectiveness

We have responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of our governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of managers within the Authority who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the Head of Internal Audit's annual report, and also by comments made by external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates.

The review of effectiveness was co-ordinated by an evaluation panel consisting of representatives from each Directorate, Internal Audit and chaired by the Strategy & Commissioning Manager (Treasury, Pensions, Audit, Insurance and Risk). In carrying out their review, the evaluation panel:

- considered the approach of the Authority to establishing its principal statutory obligations and organisational objectives;
- considered the approach of the Authority to identifying principal risks to the achievement of those obligations and objectives;
- identified the key control frameworks that the Authority has in place to manage its principal risks;
- obtained assurance from managers on the operation of key control frameworks and on the results of relevant external or internal inspection; and
- evaluated the assurances provided and identified gaps.

The evaluation panel also considered the strategic risk register updated and agreed with Corporate Board in January 2020. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on strategic risk has been reviewed to inform recovery planning and key governance improvement actions for 2020-21 **(Appendix A).**

In addition, Assistant Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the risk management framework throughout the year and have provided assurances at year end, including additional assurances about COVID-19 impacts in the final weeks of the financial year. Consideration was also given to the results of reviews carried out by external agencies during the year including the external audit of the accounts. The work of the evaluation panel was scrutinised by the Assistant Director Governance and Policy (Monitoring Officer),the Interim Assistant Director Finance, Strategic Director for Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Adults and Children's Services before being submitted to the Audit and Standards Committee for further scrutiny and reported to Cabinet and Council.

The Council's governance arrangements have been reviewed and improved throughout 2019/20 in a range of areas including:

- An approved Commercial Strategy with the Trading Board overseeing the delivery of the strategy;
- A refreshed Complaints Policy and new electronic complaints system;
- The Council's Integrated Capital Strategy has been reviewed by the Capital Working Group and updated in line with the CIPFA code;
- Development of internal officer level governance arrangements under the Making Better Use of Our Time project;
- The Gateway process is being extended to include Capital projects;
- The development of a new Treasury Management Strategy;
- A new Pension Fund website was launched in December 2019 improving transparency and access for employees;
- An independent review of pension fund administration governance was undertaken, reported to the Local Pension Board, and progress has been made on the resulting action plan;

- Pension Investment controls have been audited for the second year and improvements noted from 2018/19;
- Council meetings are web-streamed, improving transparency of decision making and public accessibility;
- Our new committee management system, Modern.Gov, has been implemented, strengthening consultation, review and sign off procedures as part of key decision making, at the same time as improving ownership and transparency in report writing;
- The Council's move to the Cloud-based Microsoft 365 environment has improved communication and data security and has also enhanced the ability to work remotely, securely and collaboratively;
- Staff were consulted on the new Employer Value Proposition and Flexible Working arrangements;
- Staff consultation on new directorate and service structures was transparent and consistently applied across directorates and service areas;
- A programme of leadership forums and executive coaching offered to support leadership development;
- Our new Customer Experience Strategy gives a corporate focus on delivering positive outcomes for customers;
- A prior year HMICFRS review of Warwickshire Fire & Rescue service was largely positive and action has been taken to respond to any areas identified as requiring improvement; and
- Our Council Plan engagement and consultation activity resulted in a significantly increased public response rate compared with previous years, including 1,112 returned questionnaires and 826 shorter questionnaires completed at roadshows.

The results of Internal Audit work were reported to the Audit and Standards Committee throughout the year with the exception of the March 2020 meeting which was cancelled as a result of COVID-19. The individual reviews feed into the overall Internal Audit Annual Report. The Committee has also considered in greater detail areas where limited assurance opinions have been provided including; Pensions Investment, and Payroll. This report concludes that the Authority's control environment provides moderate assurance that the significant risks facing the Authority are addressed. The internal audit findings, including those with a limited assurance opinion, were duly considered in the preparation of this statement.

5. Governance issues

We have not experienced any significant governance failures during the last year and our arrangements continue to be regarded as fit for purpose in accordance with the governance framework. However, the matters listed below have been identified as major challenges for the Authority. These governance challenges are reflected in the organisation's strategic risk register and have accompanying actions. The risk register highlights the actions taken and successes achieved in addressing the challenges of the past twelve months.

A primary purpose of the governance framework is to manage strategic risks proactively and to ensure that risks that can't be tolerated are appropriately mitigated. We are satisfied that the challenges identified here are addressed by the Council Plan, the Target Operating Model and the COVID-19 recovery plan process. The following paragraphs summarise the risks contained in the strategic risk register and in the context of good governance. **The 2020-21 Governance Action Plan (Appendix 1)** presents, on an exception basis, additional actions that are already planned or being considered to inform future Council planning and strengthen governance.

Government policies, new legislation, funding uncertainty and demographic pressures present challenges to sustainable service delivery.

The outlook for Local Government remains demanding with uncertainty about post Brexit and future government policy changes and the very likely high impact economic and financial consequences of the COVID-19

Pandemic. We will adopt a proactive approach to identifying the future direction of government policies which impact on local government and the implications for Warwickshire. Our new corporate policy function has the capability to support this work. We will also play an active role in regional and national groups, seeking to actively influence government policies and thinking around key issues, risks and future opportunities.

We are actively managing the impact that the Government's emergency COVID-19 response measures will have on the future levels of business rate income, tax base and cashflow management. We also await the outcome of the Treasury's Fair Funding and Comprehensive Spending Review. Government proposals to remove the option for schools to write off Dedicated Schools Grant funds and the projected increase in demand for school places are included in financial scenario planning.

Council Plan and MTFS proposals to save £33m over 5 years to 2025, create financial pressures meaning that the organisation faces significant challenges to meet its aims and objectives. The savings and transformation plans that have already been delivered during the previous OOP 2020 period were challenging but realistic. The potentially significant impact on services that we provide to the public is being actively managed through the Change Programme workstreams coordinated by the Programme Management Office.

There is an overall risk to the delivery of savings plans in 2020/21 and possibly 2021/22, as a result of COVID-19 impacting practical progress on change during the first quarter of 2020/21. However, a Recovery Plan and approach is being developed to inform the refresh of the MTFS, redirect resources where required and reset our Change Programme.

Our pension fund value is in excess of £2bn and we work closely with our Investment Committees, pooling partners and advisers to ensure we maximise the value of our assets and maintain effective governance and reporting arrangements.

The major focus for us in the coming year is to:

- Reassess the overall 2020/21 budget position and implement a 2021/22 and rolling MTFS refresh informed by COVID-19 impact assessments, financial evaluation of COVID-19 response expenditure and recovery planning;
- Deliver a governance and constitutional review, including development of the Financial Framework to improve overall financial management;
- Complete implementation of Functional Operating Models across the organisation to deliver effective and sustainable services;
- Continue to monitor the implementation of in year savings and project plans and ensure that revenue and capital budgets are managed in a clear and prudent manner, with a focus on the quality of in-year forecasting to inform timely resource allocation decisions;
- Continue to work closely with Border to Coast Pension Partnership;
- Continue to explore and engage in the debate around the implication of national policy direction on local public service delivery and what it may mean for Warwickshire;
- Work with our key partners to engage proactively with the UK Government to manage any financial consequences of COVID-19 and our exit from the EU at the end of 2020; and
- Engage with options for conducting LGA led Peer Challenge activity in 2020.

Continuing pressure on Council-funded Social Care, Health and Special Educational Needs & Disability Services (SEND).

There continue to be longer term pressures that have a fundamental impact on the funding and provision of adults and children's social care, SEND and disability services in Warwickshire. Demographic pressures and increase in referral numbers, combined with the impact of the national living wage, means that demand and costs for providing care and support continue to rise. In addition, market pressures on providers increases the risk that they either leave the market or that services provided fail to meet minimum statutory requirements.

The COVID-19 public health emergency greatly increases the risk of gaps in the provision of care and critical support services. There could be council and provider staff shortages as a result of lockdown and social distancing measures. Equally demand surge pressures resulting from the reduction in treatment of non-critical health care by NHS providers, social care easements, suspended referrals, assessments and reviews.

We have already taken action to address pre COVID-19 pressures and increasing demand on adult social care services by utilising the 2% Adult Social Care Levy as part of our budget setting. We have also been allocated over £17 million extra government funding for adult social care over 3 years - £8.3m in 2017/18, £6.3m in 2018/19 and £3.1m in 2019/20.

During the next year we will continue to shape and commission our services and will have a focus on the following:

- Stronger integration with our health partners and strengthening the role of the Community and Voluntary sector. COVID-19 has provided some innovative and successful practice that could be developed further;
- Re-design of commissioning arrangements for working age adults;
- Re-design of the Market Shape functions and Market Position Statement;
- Progressing reablement and early intervention workstreams to address demand for social care services, overseen by an Early Intervention Board;
- Completing the transformation of the “customer journey” for children’s and adult services with customers and carers at its heart; and
- Implementing, through an integrated SEND Change Programme, the Send & Inclusion Strategy, SEND improvement plan and DSG recovery Plan.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults in our community - ability to take action to avoid abuse, injury or death.

There has been a reported rise in incidents of domestic violence during COVID-19 emergency measures. Unsighted vulnerable children and adults due to the closure of schools and impact of restrictions on support services heightens safeguarding risks. We mitigate this with our continued commitment to protect children and vulnerable adults from harm and constantly review the controls in place. These controls include effective escalation and critical incident reporting and continuing to conduct case file and supervision audits. The Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults & Children’s Board has implemented a programme of regular multi-agency audits. The Board is already working to develop new arrangements to ensure greater alignment, integration and a whole family approach.

Responding to increasing levels of referrals, and the potential increase in demand as COVID-19 restrictions ease, requires careful judgements to be made both in terms of managing risk exposure and the associated increase in costs and substantial budget pressures in Children’s Services. Refocusing resources on successful early intervention initiatives continues.

We received a Focused Visit by Ofsted in 2018 which was positive about our child protection and children in need work. A full Ofsted inspection commenced in March 2020 but was interrupted as a result of COVID19 and will be rescheduled to a future date, to be confirmed.

The Council is also focused on addressing high demand for children’s services; following a strategic review, pathways around the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and early help have been redesigned. We continue to improve our safeguarding arrangements with a focus on working more effectively with families in the community.

We also continue to quality assure commissioned services and ensure robust escalation and response plans are in place in the event of a market failure.

Ability to maintain the security of personal or protected data and protect our systems from disruption as result of cybercrime.

Information security is a key issue for all public sector organisations, in light of well publicised data losses and cyber security incidents affecting several public and private sector bodies. A robust process for investigating incidents is in place and we continue to protect our systems and data of our staff and customers. We ensure that data is stored securely, legally and in accordance with Council policy.

In 2019 we released new Information Compliance Training and require staff to undertake e-learning and formally accept their data protection responsibilities. This increases overall awareness, and signposts staff to our more detailed advice and guidance. There is routine General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance reporting to Corporate Board. We have strengthened the role of our Technical Design Authority to approve products on the basis of privacy and security controls and have processes built into our business intelligence work using the “data protection by default and design” principle.

Along with all other organisations, we have seen an increase in the number of attacks on Warwickshire websites and systems arising from hacking, denial of service, ransomware and phishing. In response, we continue to review and develop our network and information security arrangements and invest in those resources, following an agreed ICT security roadmap. We are alert to the risks of cybercrime that may arise due to remote working during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown and we continue to maintain prevention, control, testing and response regimes to mitigate this risk.

Ability to secure economic growth in Warwickshire.

The COVID-19 pandemic will inevitably lead to a significant drop in economic activity and create significant uncertainty around future growth. The Council has worked closely with district and borough councils, Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) and Local Enterprise Partnership to co-ordinate our approach and support our businesses to access the emergency response funds made available by central government.

A key theme of our COVID-19 Recovery and Reform planning, which will shape our refreshed change portfolio, is identified as “Place, Economy and Climate (including skills and education)”. We are implementing and co-ordinating a regional, sub-regional and local approach to economic recovery, helping support our businesses to safely and effectively re-open following lockdown, and exploring how they can adapt to the “new normal”.

To support the re-opening of our economy and businesses within our town centres, we are working to redesign and reallocate road space within our key towns to enable social distancing and improved throughput of pedestrians in a safe way that provides confidence to visitors to come to our town centres.

At a regional level the Council is a non-constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), with its objectives to create jobs, enhance skills, develop prosperity and drive economic growth. We continue to actively engage with WMCA with regards to transport, planning, housing and economic development. The leader of the Council is Chair of the WMCA Wellbeing Board.

The County Council agreed a new Economic Growth Strategy for the period 2020-2025, which sets out our vision and approach to supporting our businesses and the wider economy. While the key priorities remain valid, clearly as a result of COVID-19 it does necessitate a refocusing of key actions and initiatives.

Over the coming year, we will:

- Work with the CWLEP and WMCA to develop our economic recovery plans, and a longer-term approach to economic growth within the county;
- With our regional, sub regional and local partners and networks we will work to access future funding streams to support economic growth and the introduction of the proposed Shared Prosperity Fund to replace existing Growth Deal and European Funding streams;
- Continue to work with the Coventry & Warwickshire Growth Hub, Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and other key partners to support our small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) to survive, grow and prosper;
- Continue to work with our partners to develop the Skills for Employment programme to improve the employability skills and attributes of young people;
- Enhance our approach to place-shaping and infrastructure investment, to both support economic recovery and to help deliver the key priorities set out in our Council Plan;
- Develop a pipeline of transport infrastructure projects with associated funding strategies;
- Continue to work with partners on the development of HS2 and maximising the economic benefits and managing the impacts on our communities; and
- Coordinate the Council's contingency planning for EU Exit and the management of risks including workforce, data handling and supply chain impacts, with lead officers identified from each Directorate.

Ability to keep our communities safe from harm.

There are many challenges nationally and locally for the extensive services we provide that keep our communities safe, in normal times and in times of emergency.

This includes the Fire and Rescue Service, Public Health, Trading Standards, Council owned highways maintenance, flood risk management, corporate arrangements for business continuity and our role in the Local Resilience Forum. We recognise that we need to become increasingly flexible if we are to meet our current and emerging challenges.

As a specific response to COVID-19, working with district and borough councils and the voluntary sector we established Community Shielding Hubs to maintain food supplies and medicines, communication channels and information to support the most vulnerable members of the community. A central, seven-day telephone line provided advice and support to those extremely clinically vulnerable citizens who were shielding, and other vulnerable residents

As an employer, we have applied Public Health England and government guidelines, requiring our staff to work at home wherever possible and ensuring adequate supplies of PPE for the continued safe delivery of frontline council services.

We have also introduced regular meetings with Warwickshire Police executive team to engage and inform decision making at a strategic level.

During the course of the next year we will have a focus on the following areas:

- Our ongoing public health role to deliver, in partnership with Central Government, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Public Health England, Test and Trace, infection control and Local Outbreak Management plans will continue to be prioritised;

- Prioritising and safely reinstating our critical services that keep our communities, including the most vulnerable people, safe from harm;
- Develop a new WFRS Integrated Risk Management Plan to ensure our fire and rescue service has sufficient resources in the right locations to effectively manage the changing risk profile within the county;
- Continue to review and test all our business continuity and emergency plans and learn from our ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Engage with partners through the Warwickshire and West Midlands Local Resilience Fora, Safer Warwickshire Partnership, collaborating with Category 1 and 2 Responders on county wide emergency response and contingency planning;
- Develop an evidence based Asset Management regime for the efficient and effective maintenance of the Highway Network, targeting the most critical areas of the Network and aligned with the annual review of the Council's Capital Programme; and
- Continue to direct Trading Standards resources to support a Rapid Response Unit, targeting criminal and other high-risk activity in the community.

Successfully delivering a refreshed Council Change Portfolio to drive recovery.

Successfully delivering the Council's change portfolio, and sustaining change, is critical to the Council's longer-term strategy, achieving Council Plan outcomes, strategic objectives and maintaining our financial resilience.

Our Commissioning Support Unit drives the development and delivery of the Change Portfolio, through the Portfolio Management Office and change and programme management specialists. Our Change Management Framework means all major change and capital investment projects going forward are given early consideration by a Gateway process before further development and any recommendations to Corporate Board. A programme governance framework is in place with programme groups and accountabilities to cover all change activity.

Progress is reported to Cabinet in quarterly monitoring reports. All Key Business Measures were updated in October 2019 as part of establishing the Commissioning Intentions Performance Framework. Corporate Board will maintain monthly control, oversight and assurances of the Change Portfolio and agree prioritisation of projects and how they align to the Council Plan and COVID-19 recovery planning.

COVID-19 response and recovery activity is accelerating the pace of change and is directly influencing our Change Portfolio. Service Impact Assessments have been completed by all service areas to inform recovery planning and manage associated risks in a co-ordinated and coherent way across the Council, including application of the positive changes that emerged from the response phase.

As a result, the change management process going forward is focused on four themes to drive recovery, linked to regional and sub regional recovery activity:

- Place, Economy and Climate (including skills and education);
- Community;
- Health, Wellbeing and Social Care; and
- Organisation (including the reinstatement of services).

6. Certification

We will continue to manage the risks detailed above and further enhance our governance arrangements over the coming year as set out in the 2020-21 Governance Action Plan at Appendix 1. We are satisfied that the risks we have identified are addressed in our Council Plan, the strategic risk register and ongoing COVID-19 recovery and reform planning. We are satisfied that the actions identified will address the need for improvements that were highlighted in our review of effectiveness. These are monitored and reported to members and Corporate Board as part of the corporate performance management framework. We will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

……………………………………………….
Monica Fogarty
Chief Executive/ Head of Paid Service

……………………………………………….
Councillor Izzi Seccombe OBE
Leader of the Council

Governance Action Plan 2020-21: Actions informed by Effectiveness Review and COVID-19 Learning Points			
Governance Element/ Principle	**Governance Improvement Actions**	**Action Owner (Leadership Team)**	**Target Date**
The Council's Corporate Governance Framework (All Principles)	Our Local Code of Corporate Governance was last updated and approved in 2016. Our transformation journey, including organisational restructure and new ways of working, requires the governance code to be reviewed and revised to be fit for future purpose. Learning points from our COVID-19 response actions and recovery planning will also inform updates to the code.	Assistant Director Governance & Policy	December 2020
Constitution and Financial Regulations (Principle A)	Complete the review of the Council's Constitution and Financial Regulations informed by recovery and reform planning improvement areas for decision making and governance,	Assistant Director Governance & Policy/ Assistant Director Finance	April 2021
System of Internal Control: Risk Management Framework (Principle F, Managing risks and performance).	A proposed Risk Management Framework project includes workstreams to revise the Council's approach to: • strategic risk management; • service risk management; • integration of risk management with performance management strategic and business planning and core business processes; • to support innovation, change and maximising positive outcomes by moving from being risk averse to being more risk aware.	Assistant Director Finance	December 2020
Corporate Assurance Framework (To inform Effectiveness of Governance reviews - All Principles)	To implement a Three Line of Defence model as part of a council wide assurance framework to manage risks and deliver ongoing internal control assurances to Corporate Board and members throughout the year.	Assistant Director Finance	March 2021
Service Re-instatement Plans (Principle D, interventions to optimise the achievement of intended outcomes)	Reinstatement Planning for all Council services are prioritised and risk-based and will focus on the following areas: • Keeping people safe; • Managing risk successfully; • Supporting staff with new ways of working; and • Ensuring learning points are identified and followed up.	AD Enabling	September 2020

Governance Action Plan 2020-21: Actions informed by Effectiveness Review and COVID-19 Learning Points			
Governance Element/ Principle	**Governance Improvement Actions**	**Action Owner (Leadership Team)**	**Target Date**
Strategic and Financial Planning – COVID-19 Recovery (Principle C, Defining outcomes, Principle E Developing Capacity and Capability)	Update of strategic planning tools to reflect COVID-19 recovery: • Review and refresh the Council Plan informed by COVID-19 recovery and reform planning, for presentation to Council for approval in February 2021. • MTFS refresh for 2021/22 budget to accommodate revised income and expenditure forecasts. • Integrate Strategic Policies and Priority Outcomes • Review and update Our People Strategy Delivery Plan	SD Resources	February 2021

Agenda Item 5

Council

13 October 2020

Capital Investment Fund 2020/21 Q2

Recommendations

Council are recommended to:

1) Approve £3.615 million from the Capital Investment Fund for relocation work at Kingsway Nursery & Children's Centre and add to the Capital Programme at a full cost of £5.165 million.

2) Approve £3.025 million from the Capital Investment Fund for improvements to the A3400 Birmingham Road Corridor (Stratford) and increase the existing scheme in the Capital Programme to a full cost of £6.525 million.

3) Approve £2.002 million from the Capital Investment Fund for improvements to the A446 Stonebridge Junction (Coleshill) and add to the Capital Programme at a full cost of £2.378 million.

4) Approve £4.682 million from the Capital Investment Fund for improvements to the A429 Coventry Road Corridor (Warwick) and add to the Capital Programme at a full cost of £5.921 million, on the condition that CIL funding is secured from WDC.

5) Approve £1.968 million from the Capital Investment Fund for procurement of measuring equipment to support evidence led decision making in tackling the climate emergency and air quality and add to the Capital Programme at a full cost of £2.058 million.

6) Authorise the Strategic Director for Communities to procure and enter into any agreements to give effect to the proposals on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

1. Purpose of this report and context

Context

1.1. On 10th September 2020 Cabinet supported the recommendations within this report and as these schemes exceed £2 million agreed to recommend that Full Council approve the schemes and add to the Capital Programme.

CIF Overview

1.2. Under existing capital approval rules agreed by Members, all Capital Investment Fund allocations and subsequent additions to the capital programme require approval by Cabinet (and Council if the cost of the scheme exceeds £2 million), unless an urgent decision is required which can be taken by the Leader under delegated powers.

1.3. Services were invited to submit detailed bids to the Capital Investment Fund for evaluation by the Fund's Technical Panel. The Panel, consisting of experts from Finance, Legal, Property, Project Management Office and Directorate Service Teams evaluate and score each individual bid out of 100 based on the bid's strengths in each of the following key areas:

- Delivery of the Council's Strategic Objectives;
- Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy;
- Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk; and
- Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact.

1.4. £24.900 million per annum has been added to the 2020-25 Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Capital Investment Fund. The estimated drawdown from the CIF for these proposals can be accommodated within this CIF budget allocation. Detailed expenditure profiles will be spread over multiple years and does not exhaust the available CIF funding in any given year.

2. Description of the Schemes and Analysis

Kingsway Nursery & Children Centre Relocation

2.1. Description

The proposal is for capital investment totalling £5.165m to fund the demolition and re-provision of the Nursery and Children and Family Centre buildings on the site on Kingsway Primary School, Leamington Spa as part of a larger scheme of redevelopment on the school's site. The proposed redevelopment of the site also includes demolition and re-provision of the school hall, kitchens and boilers which will be funded by the Department for Education to a total of £1.550m bringing the total proposed capital investment from WCC in this scheme to £3.615m

Kingsway Primary School received an Inadequate Ofsted judgement in July 2017 and in line with Government policy was subsequently given an academy order. It has been agreed by the DfE and WCC that the Community Academies Trust (CAT) are the preferred trust for this school to join. The school has since improved and is now rated as Requires Improvement by Ofsted; however, the DfE academy order remains.

This is a forced academy conversion and has stalled for several years attracting significant attention from government ministers, unhappy with the lack of progress. The delay has mostly been due to the trust being unwilling to take on the liability of the existing 'blue building' which houses the school hall, boiler and kitchen as well as the WCC leased

Nursery and Children and Family Centre.

The WCC Strategic Assets team agreed with the Trust's assessment that the building in question is nearing the end of its lifespan, however WCC's rolling maintenance programme would ensure the building remains safe and usable but not facilitate complete replacement. The current proposal has been agreed with the Trust, DfE and School to unlock the stalemate and move towards successful conversion to an academy.

In order to facilitate this proposal, the Department for Education have agreed in principle to a £1.55 million grant as a contribution towards the proposed scheme, covering the costs associated with demolition and replacement of the school hall, kitchens and boilers. This grant funding is being made available by the DfE to support the academy trust rectify existing capital issues as they take on a forced conversion school and is separate from any wider school condition grants provided by the DfE under other circumstances.

Usually trusts would undertake this work themselves but given the inter-dependency with the Nursery and Children and Family Centre that WCC will be retaining on site and also require replacing it has been agreed the most effective way forward is for this to be delivered as one scheme by WCC.

2.2. Technical Panel Findings

The panel scored the bid as follows:

Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10)	7.8
Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40)	33.6
Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40)	24.0
Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10)	8.0
Total Score	**73.4**

The following key points were raised by the panel:
Evidence was presented which proved this is a good solution to a complex problem which is manageable despite a relatively high level of risk. This risk will be managed within the lease agreement with the academy and through the project governance structure.

Any works will need to ensure safeguarding of children within the school and nursery and users of the children's centre is at the forefront of plans.

There are a lot of moving parts which will require a defined governance structure to be held accountable and responsible for holding it all together. This is will be achieved through nomination of a project sponsor (Assistant Director – Education Services), project manager and project team with arrangements in place to manage the contract and relationship between the Academy Trust and WCC.

The DfE grant is directly dependant on the school academising, there is no access to this funding if the school does not academise. The capital works element was, and continues to be, the only issue delaying the academisation.

2.3. **A3400 Birmingham Road Corridor Improvements, Stratford-upon-Avon**

2.4. Description

The ‘Stratford-upon-Avon Gateway to Business and Culture: A3400 Birmingham Road Growth Corridor’ proposal was successful in securing full funding (£3.5 million) from an earlier round of WCC’s CIF. A subsequent successful bid for £2.4 million from central government’s National Productivity Investment Fund reduced the CIF allocation requirement to £1.1 million. The proposal has progressed well and is nearing completion of the detailed design stage. However higher than anticipated utility costs (£3.0 million rather than the £0.65 million) has meant that the proposal now faces a shortfall in funding of £2.35 million. The opportunity to make some enhancements to the proposal is also being sought, adding an additional £0.675 million to the overall cost (the enhancements are outlined below in the scheme description).

The purpose of this submission is to bid for the £3.025 million shortfall in funding to enable the proposal to commence construction in 2021, supporting WCC’s COVID recovery plan. Supporting this bid will provide an opportunity to kickstart and accelerate the delivery of a project that will help invest in our economy. This is particularly important as Stratford-upon-Avon has been identified as one of the hardest hit local authorities in terms of reduction in economic output due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The aim of the project is to improve transport infrastructure along the principal arterial route linking Stratford Town Centre and the A46 Stratford northern bypass. The improved infrastructure will help to address existing congestion issues along the route that are damaging to local productivity and undermine the arrival experience for the town’s tourist and visitor economy. The improvements will also help unlock planned housing and employment sites and support the tourist economy.

The project comprises a number of transport improvements to:

- Manage the flow of traffic along the corridor
- Improve conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and enhancing the overall public realm
- Improve connectivity to the corridor from within Stratford town

2.5. Technical Panel Findings

The panel scored the bid as follows:

Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10)	6.8
Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40)	22.4
Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40)	16.0
Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10)	3.2
Total Score	**48.4**

The following key points were raised by the panel:

The need for a scheme to address the congestion issues is widely acknowledged and has the support of local members, the MP and the local community. The scheme's governance arrangements includes regular reporting of progress to the Communities Directorate Major Schemes Board (MSB), with representatives including senior officers and the Portfolio Holder for Transport.

The project is requesting additional funding as utilities costs were not factored in last time funding was awarded. The panel were not confident that the costs will not continue to increase as the explanations and evidence on how the costs increased were not sufficiently robust. However, significant contingency has now been built into the additional bid to deal with any further cost increases.

The modelling data has been used to forecast two future year scenarios for road use – 2023 and 2031. The growth assumptions used in these forecasts are based on pre-COVID 19 growth levels. However these are still considered valid in the Birmingham Road corridor. Traffic levels in the town have already returned to near normal levels due to the influx of domestic tourists to the area and this is expected to continue. The town does not have a high level of office based commuters and associated high level of commuter traffic on the corridor. A potential drop in travel demand due to a shift to home working for office staff has not therefore been experienced on the Birmingham Road corridor.

In terms of other solutions to solving the problem of congestion on the corridor, the bid demonstrated how difficult it is to find a solution that satisfies all the different demands. The approach taken is therefore to adopt a multi-modal strategic approach as follows:

1) Encourage tourists destined for the town centre to utilise the Park & Ride. There is less demand for the Park & Ride to serve destinations on the Birmingham Road as the outlets on the corridor that have a catchment beyond the town centre (and could therefore be intercepted by Park & Ride) do not lend themselves to bus based trips e.g. DIY outlets, furniture shops and supermarket etc.

2) Encourage local residents to choose walking and cycling if undertaking trips in the corridor, including to access the retail offer in the corridor itself and for town centre trips. The improvements to walking and cycling infrastructure are designed to encourage this mode shift;

3) Manage the demand for people accessing the various retail outlets by tackling known local congestion hotspots.

The scheme has already secured £2.4 million from Department for Transport. The possibility of funding from Stratford District Council's Community Infrastructure Levy fund is being explored. If successful, this is likely to contribute a further £0.5 million of funding towards the overall cost, with the equivalent amount being returned to the CIF.

2.6. **A446 Stonebridge/ Birmingham Rd Junction Improvement**

2.7. Description

This is an application for £2 million of Capital Investment Funding (CIF) to form part of the overall funding required to deliver modal improvements, by creating safer pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, and improvements to A446 Stonebridge/ Birmingham Rd Junction. The scheme will include two staggered toucan crossings for crossing the A446, which would allow access to employment, leisure and religious centres for pedestrians and cyclists. The project will include improvements to the footway to allow a more sustainable connection to Coleshill. As part of the junction improvements, two traffic signals additional to the toucan crossings are being considered in the roundabout. These will allow traffic to be moderated and optimise flows, which will reduce congestion in the town centre and will deliver further benefits to road safety and air quality, improvements required to enable Local Plan growth, increase the efficiency of the highway network by facilitating economic recovery post-Covid 19 while contributing to a greener, more sustainable Warwickshire

This scheme was identified as the second phase for the Greenman junction improvement project in Coleshill. The Greenman scheme has been funded through a road safety allocation in the CIF (2019) and this submission forms part of the overall transport strategy for Coleshill, mitigating the impact of release of traffic following the Green Man junction improvements.

2.8. Technical Panel Findings

The panel scored the bid as follows:

Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10)	8.0
Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40)	32.0
Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40)	27.2
Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10)	8.4
Total Score	**75.6**

The following key points were raised by the panel:
The main issue being addressed in this project is that there is no safe crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists at the junction, which prevents the use of sustainable transport in the area.

It is too early to draw any conclusions around the future of traffic growth as a result of COVID19. The A446 corridor is part of the Major Route Network and expected to experience significant growth in the next few years based on multiple development proposals located just to the north in the vicinity of M42 J9. This is recognised by the fact that there is currently a cross authority (Birmingham City Council, WCC, Homes England and North Warwickshire Borough Council) study looking into the implications of the significant growth proposals. Transport Planning is developing a Transport Strategy dealing with the knock-on impact of releasing traffic from this location.

There are no anticipated impacts from COVID-19 at this point in time in terms of programme delivery. Recent recruitment of additional staff to address some capacity issues and resource has been identified to support the delivery of this and other transport infrastructure projects coming forward through CIF and other funding sources.

Concern was raised around the risk of local commercial developments not proceeding due to the current economic climate and the subsequent loss of s.106 contributions. Emerge Surf is the development that generates the highest volume of trips and therefore, the one with the higher contribution. The developers responsible for Emerge Surf continued with their planning application during the lockdown and the development was approved on 27/07/20.

The bid contained a detail of associated cost assumptions including a 40% contingency for utilities/statutory diversions. This is considered appropriate given the nature of the scheme.

2.9. **A429 Coventry Road Corridor Scheme**

2.10. <u>Description</u>

This is an application for £4.7 million of Capital Investment Funding (CIF) to form part of the overall funding required to deliver capacity improvements and provision of improved pedestrian and cycle infrastructure on the Coventry Road Corridor. The improvements will facilitate a modal shift and encourage more trips within the Warwick Air Quality Management Area to be made by sustainable modes of transport by releasing the potential for bus priority measures and improving pedestrian and cycle infrastructure. This will deliver further benefits to road safety and air quality, improvements required to enable Local Plan growth, increase the efficiency of the highway network by accelerating capital schemes for post-Covid 19 economic recovery while contributing to a greener, and more sustainable Warwickshire. This proposal seeks to facilitate Local Plan growth through delivery of capacity improvements at key pinch points along the route and a high-quality, segregated, cycle route connecting Warwick, Kenilworth and Coventry. Therefore, as part of a corridor improvement strategy, which aligns with other transport network improvements in Warwick Town Centre and the Emscote Rd corridor. WCC is planning to implement the following junction and sustainable transport improvements:

Coventry Road Cycle Route:

The delivery of an off-carriage way cycle route linking the cycle network north of Spinney Hill, south to St Johns junction, improving access to the town centre, housing and Warwick Hospital. The proposal is complementary to, and provide continuity with, the recently funded wider Warwick Town Centre sustainable transport improvements (including the recently delivered A445 Priory Road cycle routes which connects directly into the town centre) and the part funded Emscote Rd cycle corridor improvements, along with the wider existing and proposed cycle network.

Spinney Hill Roundabout:

- The addition of a Toucan crossing on Primrose Hill to allow a safer crossing for pedestrians and cyclists in the North/ South directions and providing continuity for the cycle routes which are part of the National Cycle Route.
- Bus priority on Coventry Road approached to facilitate public transport flows.

- The four exit arms all widened to accommodate 2 lanes before merging into one lane, retaining the bus stops at each exit on Coventry Road and Primrose Hill extended to Montague Road in both directions providing right turning bays.

St Johns junction improvements:
A fully funded junction improvement which forms a key intersection for 3 high quality off-carriageway cycle routes (Coventry Rd -St Johns, Emscote Rd- Leamington Town Centre and Priory Rd which provides a direct connection to Warwick Town Centre). This signalisation and junction improvement scheme are identified in the WDC IDP and helps to address the existing and forecast congestion issues entering and exiting Warwick town centre. This element of the scheme has been through significant development work, consultation and stakeholder engagement and is programmed for delivery in 2021.

Technical Panel Findings

The panel scored the bid as follows:

Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10)	5.2
Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40)	30.4
Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40)	19.2
Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10)	8.6
Total Score	**63.4**

The following key points were raised by the panel:
This bid grouped three separate projects into one which meant they were scored as a whole rather than on their individual merits. The projects could be delivered separately if required, however there are economies of scale resulting from delivering schemes as a package. Another consideration for delivering as a package is the disruption during construction which is being looked to be minimised. All sections of the scheme identified for the Coventry Road Corridor are interdependent. Meaning that the delivery of one single section without the other one, will represent an impact on their benefits.

Coventry Road shows to be among the highest demanded routes for cyclists and it is expected that cyclists will embrace any new infrastructure. As cycle use growth is significant along with multiple other cycle bids being undertaken to complete networks, cycling should be continuing to be promoted as a sustainable transport alternative to cars.

The Spinney Hill Roundabout section represents 71% of the total scheme costs for the corridor, which corresponds to a multimodal project where improvements will benefit vehicular and public transport movements through the junction with the new/upgraded toucan crossings for the national cycle network. The junction is under pressure already in the current scenario and the road usage growth expected indicates that it will require improvements. The scheme is included in the local Infrastructure Delivery Plan which is informed by the Local Plan and is evidenced through the Strategic Transport Assessment (undertaken by WCC). Therefore, the scheme is considered essential.

The cost estimates might vary due to location, concepts and complexity of the area and are based on conceptual layouts produced at the time of the estimation. A more detailed estimate will be produced with the final designs, which is considered as part of the costs and programme. The scheme is yet to undergo detailed design so may influence cost but has built in contingencies for utilities and traffic management.

The scoring was impacted by the uncertainty around Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding from Warwick District Council (WDC). The amount WDC receives in CIL depends on developments coming forward and this relates back to the economic uncertainty surrounding COVID-19. If the full CIL amount of £1.239 million were not to come materialise, it is likely a further CIF bid would be made to cover the shortfall to complete the scheme. This could be paid back if the remaining CIL funding came through at a later date. A letter from WDC confirming £0.373 million of the contribution has been received, with a further £0.866 million approved by WDC Full Council on 23 July 2020. WCC legal have confirmed that WDC are not legally bound to provide this funding so there remains a risk of not securing all external funding, however WDC has given no indication that the funding will be withdrawn.

2.11. **Supporting Evidence Led Decision Making in tacking the Climate Emergency and Air Quality**

2.12. <u>Description</u>
This is an application for £1.9 million of Capital Investment Funding (CIF) to fund 3 projects to support evidence-based decision making in the County's approach to tackling climate impacts and air quality management:

1) A strategic asset management review and replacement programme – focusing on cycle counters, Air Quality Management Area traffic counters and cordon monitoring sites with the option of considering wider replacement of survey infrastructure. To include the purchase or renting of equipment to monitor vehicle (including cycle) and pedestrian activity and social distancing

2) Air Quality (AQ) modelling software to support scheme development, facilitate option assessments and prioritisation, and to inform development assessments and wider Local Plan AQ assessments.

3) The purchase of region wide Mobile Network Data to analyse travel behaviours, inform traffic model development and undertake targeted sustainable travel initiatives

The project is required to:
- monitor the economic impacts of Covid-19
- understand the economic recovery rate
- monitor the effectiveness of social distancing initiatives in town centres
- monitor behavioural changes in terms of choice of travel mode and frequency of travel that will result from social distancing (e.g. increased propensity for home working)
- make best use of new types of monitoring using existing network of on-street comms linked to WCC's Telensa enabled streetlights

- provide support for local businesses, particularly in town centre areas, through the provision of data on traffic flows and pedestrian footfall

2.13. Technical Panel Findings

The panel scored the bid as follows:

Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10)	7.0
Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40)	36.0
Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40)	29.6
Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10)	9.0
Total Score	**81.6**

The following key points were raised by the panel:
Available options were thoroughly explored based on advice and recommendations from the Procurement Team. In this case, 32 sensors and equipment have been already purchased through COVID-19 Emergency fund and WCC has the option to procure more equipment from the current supplier which will meet consistency requirements.

This project benefits from enabling WCC to implement a way to collect data that can be used to evaluate situations in real time. The project follows a good strategy and the IT architecture is considered robust, a lot of evidence was presented to the panel to prove that this scheme could work very well.

There may be opportunities to sell some of the data collected however WCC cannot begin selling data purely for profit. Therefore, the data will not be sold at more than the cost of collection. Income only offsets that cost and helps to keep the service running. However, the Warwickshire Property Company may be a vehicle in future which can be explored to begin selling data for profit.

A Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) was produced in 2019 for surveys collected by WCC or any third-party collecting data for WCC. Another PIA was produced in 2020 to cover AI Monitoring Sensors and Software before the deployment of the 30 first sensors which are already operating. Both PIAs have been approved by WCC Legal. However, there may need to be some public relations considerations once installed to alleviate the perception of a ‘big brother’ environment.

An analysis of leasing against purchasing the AI Monitoring sensors was undertaken before making the recommendation. The analysis showed leasing the equipment would be more expensive if we intended to use them for more than 2 years.

3. Financial Implications

3.1. As part of the 2020/21 Budget Resolution approved by Council in February 2020, £24.914 million per annum was added to the 2020-25 Medium Term Financial Strategy for the

Capital Investment Fund. The drawdown from the CIF for this proposal can be accommodated within the existing 2020/21 CIF budget allocation.

3.2. The available CIF balance available over the period of the 2020-25 Medium Term Financial Strategy currently sits at £128.608 million and is included in the current Capital Programme, the recommendations in this report result in a call on this pot of £15.294 million. Therefore, the remaining unallocated CIF balance is £113.314 million.

4. Environmental Implications

4.1. Environmental implications of these recommendations are:

- The highways schemes within this report focus on a modal change in road use, promoting more sustainable transport such as public transport and cycling

- The Supporting Evidence Led Decision Making in tacking the Climate Emergency and Air Quality scheme will equip WCC with the data to improve intelligence on where to target future investment in reducing car journeys

5. Background Papers

None

	Name	**Contact Information**
Report Author	Andrew Harper	andrewharper@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Andy Felton	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Rob Powell	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Peter Butlin	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

This report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:
Cllrs Butlin, Boad, Warwick, Chilvers, O’Rourke, Adkins, Roodhouse, Singh Birdi

This page is intentionally left blank

Council

13 October 2020

Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) CIF Bid

Recommendations

That Council;

1. Approves the investment of £21,704,000 to deliver four highway mitigation schemes along the A444 Nuneaton Ring Road, as detailed in section 1.5, as part of the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) Project.

2. Subject to the approval of recommendation 1 above, add the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) scheme to the capital programme at a cost of £29.6M.

1. Executive Summary

1.1. On 8 October 2020 Cabinet considered the following report. The recommendations placed before Cabinet were that:

Cabinet recommend that Council,

1. Approves the investment of £21,704,000 to deliver four highway mitigation schemes along the A444 Nuneaton Ring Road, as detailed in section 1.5, as part of the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) Project.

2. Subject to the approval of recommendation 1 above, add the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) scheme to the capital programme at a cost of £29.6M.

That (subject to Council agreeing the above recommendations), Cabinet;

3. Authorise the Strategic Director for Communities to invite tenders and enter into the appropriate contracts and grant agreements on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources for the implementation and construction of the highway mitigation schemes.

4. Authorise the Strategic Director for Communities to submit funding applications to support the delivery of the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) Project subject to acceptable terms and conditions as confirmed by the Strategic Director for Resources.

1.2. This report for Council is being drafted ahead of the 8 October meeting of Cabinet. Council will be updated on the outcome of that meeting.

1.3. In November 2018 Corporate Board supported the further development of capital investment proposals in Nuneaton in order to drive regeneration, deliver the vision held by WCC and NBBC, and drive the change needed to support growth of the local economy.

1.4. Corporate Board agreed to a notional allocation of capital investment funds to the Transforming Nuneaton to deliver key interventions, including the delivery of transport infrastructure. This would be subject to the development of business cases submitted through the CIF process for the individual interventions. The request for funds, from the CIF, detailed within this report has been developed as part of this process.

1.5. The Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) Programme is a suite of projects that, together, will unlock development to support the wider Transforming Nuneaton (TN) Programme, help reduce existing Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's), enhance existing cycling infrastructure, along with creating new infrastructure therefore encouraging more sustainable travel, and relieve existing localised pinch points and congestion. This can be seen within section 5 (Supporting Information).

1.6. The programme includes the following schemes:

- Junction reconfiguration and key improvements at 3 major junctions on the ring road to accommodate growth (housing and employment) outlined in the Borough Plan (as identified within the Strategic Transport Assessment carried out as part of the Borough Plan) and minor upgrades to existing junctions to support these (overview figure 1).

- Creation of a new gateway entrance point at Nuneaton train station, a key economic asset of the town providing services on the west coast mainline and cross country, will lay the foundations for further work at the Station to create an integrated transport hub (bus, cycling, pedestrian and rail). Work is also taking place to look at creating a northern access point for rail / bus users thereby removing the need for them to travel over the Leicester Road bridge on to the ring road. Funding strategies are yet to be developed for these elements of works and will be focused on during a phase 2 of transport related Transforming Nuneaton.

- Improved walking and cycling facilities in and around the town centre – supporting active travel and the aspiration to reduce emissions in the town all junction upgrades will include upgrades for pedestrians and cyclists.

- Unlocking Vicarage Street development site through the opening up of a (closed) junction onto the ring road – a key development opportunity for the town centre this site will be actively marketed for development by WCC and NBBC in the next few months. The site forms a key part of the regeneration of the town centre and will be the location for WCC's new Library and Business Centre.

- New public realm works, uplifting the local landscape and improving people's perceptions of the area, which will be incorporated into scheme D.

1.7. The schemes to be delivered by the requested CIF funds are:

- (A) A444 / Corporation Street / Powell Way
  The existing 'dandelion' roundabout will be taken up and replaced with a four arm signalised crossroads (Appendix 1.1 Fig 1). This provides a significant reduction in

queues on Corporation Street and reduces queues in the Midland Road/Corporation Street Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and improves facilities for cyclists and pedestrians. Also included within this scheme is a new four arm signalised junction at the A444 / Abbey St junction, to provide improved bus access into the town centre.

- (B) A444 / Queens Road
  The road will be widened to provide significant improvement for cyclists/pedestrians and allow the implementation of a bus lane that will provide improved public transport accessibility at the junction.

- (C) A444 / Wheat Street
  Provision of a fourth arm to an existing three arm signalised junction to unlock development along Wheat Street west (Vicarage Street Development Site). This will also provide improvements to cyclist/pedestrian facilities. It is possible that a minor land acquisition will be required but any land required is owned by N&BBC.

- (D) A444 / Leicester Road / Back Street / Bond Street / Regent Street
  This scheme will remove the existing one-way gyratory system and replace it with a four-arm roundabout. Approximately 420 metres of one way system will be removed. Proposed toucan crossings on Leicester Rd (E) arm, Vicarage St (S) and A444 (W) approach, along with the existing alignment of Regent St will provide vastly improved cyclist and pedestrian facilities. Details can be found in Appendix 1.1 (Fig 2.) whereby it can be seen that various land titles will need to be purchased (see para 1.9) and various buildings demolished.

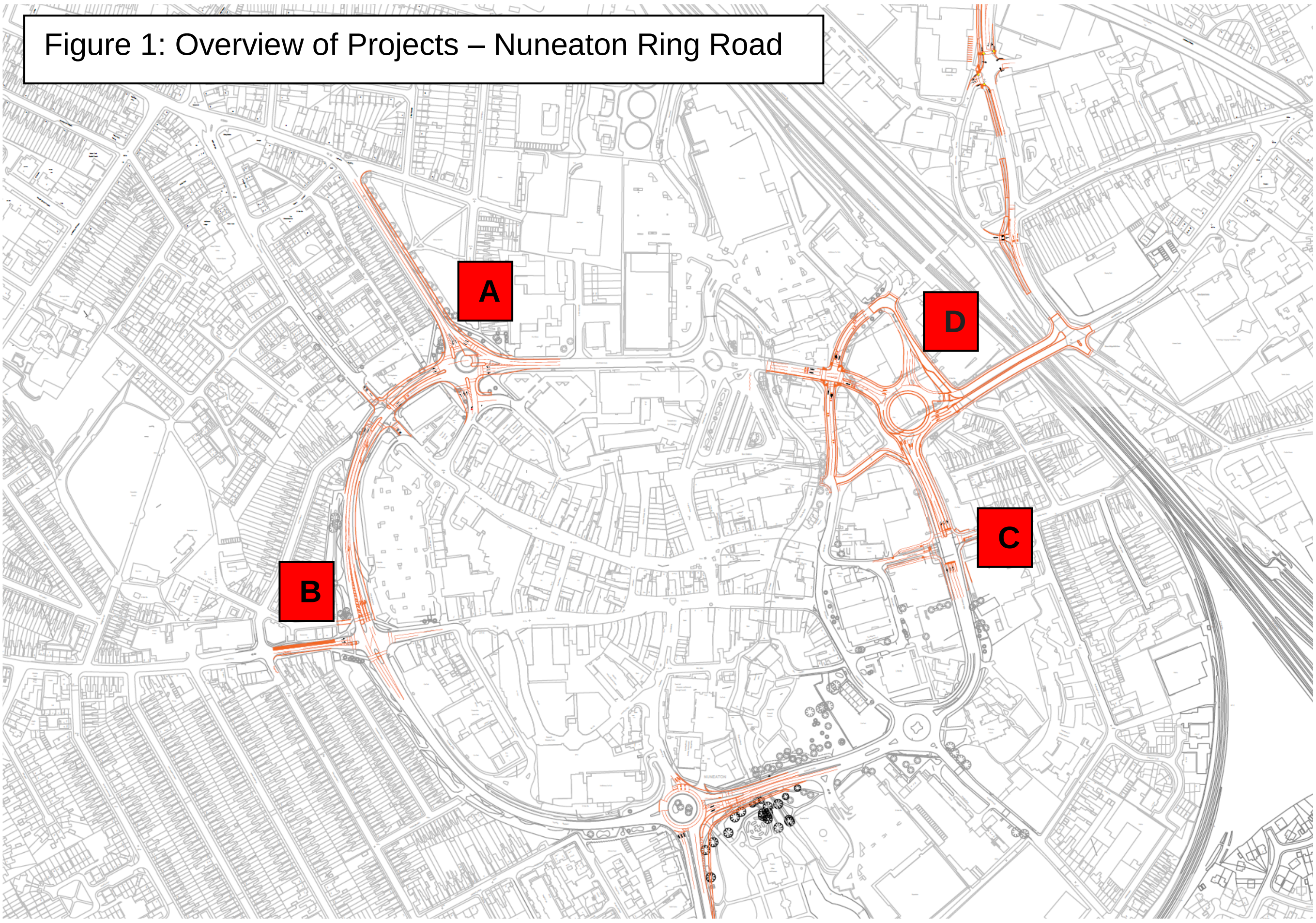
1.6 The following schemes are the remaining schemes within the overall programme of highway improvement works that transport modelling has shown to be required to mitigate the anticipated level of development through the wider Transforming Nuneaton overall programme, and should be added to the Capital Programme, however, funding bids for these schemes are being undertaken by N&BBC (paras 2.4.1 & 2.4.3) Should these funding bids be declined, the schemes being submitted for CIF funding will still create a good Value For Money, though further transport modelling work will be required.

- A444 / Coton Road roundabout
  This scheme is to create a dedicated left slip turn from Vicarage Street onto Coton Road southbound. This involves the closing of the existing access to the Museum and Register office, meaning s new access will need to be created, likely to be from Clinic Drive. To facilitate this new access, a number of private land title holders will need to be negotiated with.

- A444 / Weddington Terrace
  This scheme involves both the northern and southern junctions of Weddington Terrace. The southern junction will become a one way access, with the northern access becoming a signalised junction. Along with the junction works a cycle super highway will be constructed along Weddington Road to enhance cycle highway works that are already being planned under a different project.

1.7 Full details can be found in Appendix 1: TN Junctions Preferred Options. A 3D presentational video may be shared at Cabinet if required.

Figure 1: Overview of Projects – Nuneaton Ring Road



1.8 An economic appraisal of the overall TN (Highway Improvements) package was undertaken, of which the Transport Users Benefit Appraisal (TUBA) assessment shows the scheme will result in a total of £51.06M in user benefits over a 60 year appraisal period, assuming a conservative 2.5% modal shift from private car to sustainable transport results in a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of 2.34 representing high value for money, as described by Department for Transport.

1.9 In order to complete the scheme at A444 / Leicester Rd / Back St / Bond St / Regent St, there is a need for land acquisition. An assessment has been undertaken of the land required and an initial valuation exercise has been completed for this land. Following lessons learned from previous highway schemes, the CPO process will be followed in tandem with negotiation and any additional permissions required to do this will be subject to separate Cabinet reports once the full details are known.

1.10 Whilst the full implications of Covid-19 on transport will not be fully understood for some time the A444 through Nuneaton is part of the Major Route Network (MRN) and expected to experience significant growth in the next few years linked to the identified growth in the Local Plan. The schemes within the CIF proposal will incorporate measures which support all modes of travel, allowing for a growth in sustainable travel, helping to address the climate change agenda, as recognised in the Nuneaton

Town Centre Transport Strategy.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 The capital costs for the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) programme is £29.6M, and it is this to which approval is being sought to be added to the Capital Programme.

2.2 The costs for those schemes to be delivered using CIF funding total £21.704M, and it is this funding which is being sought in this report.

2.3 The capital spend profile can be shown in Appendix 2.1, with CIF schemes being shown in green.

2.4 As shown the overall Programme of works totals £29.6M. Those schemes being requested to be funded by CIF total £21.704M. The remaining schemes are to be funded from external funding to support the delivery of the whole transport programme, as shown in the table below. Should the external funding not be provided, then it is possible that two highway schemes (outlined in para 1.6) will not be able to be constructed. However, the larger schemes, which provide the better return in terms of benefit to cost, will still be able to be completed, should the CIF bid be approved. The following funding bids are in development and or have been submitted and the outcome is pending:

2.4.1 Future High Street Fund – NBBC submitted an application to the FHSF in July 2020 and includes a request to support land assembly required for the delivery of infrastructure improvements. Funding request £5.5m, timescale for outcome unknown.

2.4.2 Department for Transport Pinch Point Funding – expression of interest (EoI) was submitted in January 2020; the funding programme has been paused during the Covid-19 pandemic and no details have been released as to when it will resume. Funding request circa £5m. Should the EoI prove successful, and a further successful bid made, this funding could be released back to CIF, to mitigate against scheme A.

2.4.3 Towns Fund – the Nuneaton Town Investment Plan is currently in development and is likely to include a request for funds to support the delivery of the Town Centre Transport schemes. Submission 31st October 2020 by the lead organisation Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

Funding Source	**Amount £M**	**Confirmed/Unconfirmed**
External Grant (LEP Growth Deal)	1	Confirmed
WCC Capital Investment Fund	21.7	Unconfirmed
S106	0.465	Confirmed
S106	1.5	Unconfirmed
Town Fund	5.2	TBC/unconfirmed
Future High St Fund	5.5	Submitted/unconfirmed
Total	35.37	

2.5 Should the external funding, as being led by N&BBC (Towns Fund & FHSF) prove unsuccessful, the S106 monies, when fully received will be sufficient to complete the two Weddington Terrace junction mitigation schemes (para 1.6)

2.6 The LEP Growth Deal Funding is an element of wider CWLEP funding for the overall Transforming Nuneaton programme, and might only be claimed against highway design and enabling works. Thus far, that funding has been claimed against internal staff costs, external optioneering works and transport modelling.

2.7 As can be seen, the scheme(s) estimate for the overall Transforming Nuneaton (Highway Improvements) Programme is £29.6M. With various external funding avenues being explored and submitted, should all funding avenues prove successful, then the project budget will be £35.37M. If the funding obtained raises the total to more than £29.6m, further consideration would have to be given to the use of the extra funds obtained; however, this is considered to be a very unlikely scenario

3. Capital Investment Fund (CIF) Panel Assessment

3.1 Introduction (Scoring and Feedback from Technical Panel 20/08/20)

The Capital Investment Fund's Technical Panel evaluated and scored this bid prior to release of this report. The Panel, consisting of experts from Finance, Legal, Property, Project Management Office and Directorate Service Teams evaluate and score each individual bid out of 100 based on the bid's strengths in each of the following key areas:

- Delivery of the Strategic Objective (Out of 10) 5.6
- Alignment with the investment criteria of the capital strategy (Out of 40) 30.4
- Achievability, quality of evidence base, rational evaluation and challenge of options, financial viability and risk (Out of 40) 26.0
- Sustainability, climate change and environmental impact (Out of 10) 8.2

Total Score 70.2

3.2 General Feedback

Generally any bid evaluated by the panel which receives a score above 65% is considered a strong bid, this is true for the Transforming Nuneaton – Highways project. However, in percentage terms the third key area falls exactly on 65% (26/40) when considered separately, this is a result of two key themes the panel kept returning to throughout their evaluation:

1) The risk of external funding not being secured meaning the full project cost being funded from WCC resources and whether this amount of capital resource should be dedicated to one specific area.

2) The need for supporting evidence of whether an investment of this scale is still required given the numerous unknown impacts of the pandemic.

This two themes are covered in the Panel's detailed feedback below.

3.3 Funding

The panel noted that further Department for Transport funding is potentially available with an expression of interest submitted for the scheme, however it was not confirmed how much this funding could be. The bid could have benefitted from quantifying this potential funding to understand the absolute minimum requirement on the Capital Investment Fund.

The bid stated that the MHCLG’s FHSF and Towns funds are currently unsecured. Before approving this project there needs to be more certainty over the external funding from these sources. If WCC was to invest the full £21 million from its own resources this would be a significant opportunity cost of other potential projects across the county which would then not have financing available.

Investing £21 million funded from external borrowing into Nuneaton when WCC's financial position could potentially worsen as a result of the economic downturn is a large risk. It locks the council into a long term liability which could be challenged if some or all of the expected benefits do not arise as a result of the numerous unknowns surrounding the project.

3.4 Timing

Given the numerous unknowns around delivery and benefits of the scheme as a result of the pandemic and probable changes to people’s travel behaviours in future, the panel felt the bid could have been clearer on why there was an urgency to approve this funding now. Given the significant investment requested the panel noted that it may be prudent to delay making investment decisions on some elements of the scheme and revisit these elements in 12 months’ time once the world returns to some semblance of normality.

To support this point, the panel noted that there is potential to delay approval and utilise the investment in equipment from the evidence based decision making' CIF bid submitted by the Communities service which is being considered elsewhere on this agenda, prior to approving the budget for this project. This other project is intended to inform decision making in light of a changing world. The panel therefore felt it may be wasteful to approve this Transforming Nuneaton bid at the same time as the evidence based decision making scheme and so not use its findings to support investment in one of the largest schemes in the capital programme.

The panel noted the interdependencies and benefits of delivering these schemes as a joined up project. However the panel raised the point of whether, given the uncertainties raised above, some of this work could be undertaken without the external funding as a reduced allocation from the CIF, or at least before this funding has been confirmed as secured. This approach could help WCC control strategic risks arising from the changing world which could impact on the project.

3.5 Delivery

The panel noted that potential impacts of COVID-19 have been considered within the contingency costs of the project but these are as yet unknown. More could have been included in the project’s risk register to address the risks of COVID-19 impacting on the previously anticipated benefits around the wider Transforming Nuneaton project.

The panel queried if the datasets the scheme is based on have been updated to reflect traffic forecasts post COVID-19 and if changing habits mean some elements of the scheme can change. The panel felt more could have been included in the bid to demonstrate this is still a good project in light of the potential changing behaviours around road use as it is expected that more people will continue to work from home on a more regular basis in future.

The panel's view was that taken individually the highways improvements elements of the bid are sensible schemes and make a strong case for developing sustainable transport capabilities within Nuneaton, especially if this infrastructure is required to accommodate the increase in housing development taking place in the local area. If just a highways scheme then we could be more confident of the benefits – but the lack of data on the other benefits of improving highways to boost economic regeneration adversely impacted the scoring.

On this basis the panel suggest it would be useful to consider at this stage whether the project can concentrate solely on delivering some of the 'green impact' elements of the scheme for delivery now at a lower cost, with investment in the increased road usage infrastructure once refreshed data becomes available or is collected.

The bid notes the desire to provide suitable active travel infrastructure which has been emphasised further given social distancing guidelines from the government and the reduction in public transport capacity that has resulted. However the panel stress that social distancing is a temporary measure - any investment in making permanent adjustments to highways (such as widening pavements) should be carefully thought through as social distancing will not last forever.

3.6 Risk

There is significant risk in approving funding of £21 million when a number of future unknowns from the pandemic exist. However this project does stand up as a purely highways scheme, especially if it is not anticipated that both COVID-19 and any economic hit on Nuneaton as a result of the recession will significantly change the frequency of road use.

4. Environmental Implications

4.1 A key driver behind the scheme is the environmental improvements anticipated around Nuneaton Town Centre as a result, whilst simultaneously supporting the declaration of the Climate Change Emergency and the two Air Quality Management Areas.

4.2 The proposed scheme promotes the use of more sustainable modes of transport by new and improved pedestrian and cycling facilities both between the train station and town centre, and to the wider town area.

4.3 Objective 1 in the (draft) Nuneaton town Transport Strategy which identifies the proposed mitigation schemes is:

Objective 1: To build a sustainable transport system that supports WCC's Carbon Neutral Action Plan

- To reduce the environmental impact of transport in and around Nuneaton Town Centre and improve local air quality.
- To ensure that new developments are located where access by sustainable modes can be promoted and access by private vehicles can be limited.
- To create a network of high quality, well connected walking and cycling routes that provide access to and within Nuneaton Town Centre.

4.4 An assessment of tail pipe impact from the scheme proposed in the two AQMAs within Nuneaton has been undertaken, which shows an improvement in both of these areas. This is to be expected on the basis that travel time savings and reduced congestion are achieved with the proposed scheme, particularly at the A444 /

Corporation St junction which is located within AQMA2. This quantifiably demonstrates the schemes substantial support in achieving WCC's climate change, environmental and sustainability objectives.

5. Supporting Information

5.1 The objectives of the Transforming Nuneaton Highways Improvement Project have been formed on the basis of those established in the wider Transforming Nuneaton masterplan study, aligned with the draft Nuneaton Town Centre Transport Strategy and linked to the council core outcome of ensuring that ***Warwickshire's economy is vibrant and supported by the right jobs, training, skills and infrastructure***, as well as noting the importance of the council's Climate Change Emergency Declaration. These objectives are detailed below.

- Provide a scheme to regenerate and repurpose the town centre environment to meet today's need
- Attract economic investment into Nuneaton Town Centre, thus maximising the rate of employment, business growth and skill levels in Warwickshire.
- To improve access and connectivity to, and within the town centre by all modes, focusing on delivering sustainable transport infrastructure
- Accommodate for increased transport demand through Local Plan growth and the implementation of the Transforming Nuneaton masterplan
- To support WCC's Climate Change Emergency declaration
- To deliver improvements which encourage low-carbon, sustainable modes

5.2 The Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Plan includes an additional 14,000 residential dwellings and over 100 ha of employment land in the local plan area. Furthermore, the adjacent borough, North Warwickshire, includes over 1,200 dwellings and 42 ha in its Borough Plan, some of which is located close to the Nuneaton and Bedworth boundary. These sites will increase the number of trips into Nuneaton Town Centre, adding to the already congested ring road, and provide challenges in terms of meeting the climate change agenda.

5.3 The Transforming Nuneaton programme is a strategic package of projects aimed at delivering the overarching vision of the programme over the next 10 - 15 years and aims to address the following key challenges faced by Nuneaton Town Centre:

- Low business density;
- Lack of town centre living;
- Reliance on traditional retail;
- Lack of leisure facilities;
- No national restaurant chains in the town centre;
- Limited local services for local needs;
- Poor skills and qualifications of the local population;
- Limited quality business space; and
- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough will experience significant growth over the next 15 years.

5.4 The Transforming Nuneaton Highways Programme provides the infrastructure necessary to facilitate the regeneration of Nuneaton town centre and growth across the wider borough area. Nuneaton does not attract the same level of investment from the private sector as other areas of the County. Land values and market conditions mean that private investors are not choosing the town as a location for development. Public sector intervention is required to stimulate the market and attract wider investment; by investing in the infrastructure it removes a barrier to investment and lays the foundation for the private sector to build upon.

5.5 The junction designs, of those identified for the CIF investment, have been progressed to an outline feasibility level in order for the funding applications to be submitted. On allocation of funding for these projects the designs will undergo further development in order to identify and resolve any issues in regard to alignment, land ownership, utilities and subject to review and approval through progress to detailed design in preparation for procurement. This process may result in minor amendments to the designs shown in this report.

5.6 A full options appraisal has been carried out and is summarised in Appendix 1; the options were all assessed within the new Nuneaton transport model and assessed against future growth and development scenarios.

5.7 The schemes will contribute a significant part of the wider mitigation package for the town and to the wider suite of changes proposed within the Nuneaton Transport Strategy, which is currently being progressed, and will be available to view in due course . Ultimately, the mitigation package aims to accommodate increased transport demand of all types and therefore transform Nuneaton into a prosperous town centre where people choose to live, do business, shop and visit.

5.8 The **expected benefits** of the Proposed Scheme are

Benefits	Measurement and Metric of Benefits
Reduction in congestion	Improvement in journey times Enhancement of journey time reliability
Attract economic investment and regeneration	Increase in employment in Nuneaton Town Centre Increase in trip generators to Nuneaton Town Centre
Increase the use of active travel	Increase in walking and cycling in town centre Reduction in car usage
Enhanced public realm	Increase in trip generators to Nuneaton Town Centre Reduction in car usage
Cater for increased transport demand anticipated through the Borough Plan and Transforming Nuneaton masterplan	Improvement of journey times Enhancement of journey time reliability Reduction in car usage
Maximise opportunities from wider network improvements at Nuneaton rail station	Increased footfall at Nuneaton rail station Ticket revenue uplift at station
Improved air quality	Monitoring of air quality in AQMAs

5.9 **Assessed Economic Benefits of Proposed Scheme:** An economic appraisal of the overall Transforming Nuneaton mitigation package was undertaken to assess the present value of benefits of the scheme using latest DfT Transport User Benefit Appraisal (TUBA) software. The TUBA assessment shows the scheme will result in a total of £51.06M in user benefits over a 60-year appraisal period, assuming a 2.5% modal shift from private car to public transport results from the wider masterplan mitigation package. The scheme therefore results in a BCR of 2.34, which represents **high value for money**.

5.10 **Additionality -** Additionality is the extent to which something happens as a result of an intervention that would not have occurred in the absence of the intervention.

Following the guidance in the Homes and Communities Agency Additionality Guide (2014), these scheme form part of an overall package that will facilitate and stimulate new developments within Nuneaton Town Centre. The significant improvement to the pedestrian and cycling infrastructure as part of the scheme will enable a transformation of travel within the area, resulting in displacement, with a reduction in vehicle trips and a 'step change' to active modes created as a result. In the absence of intervention, the masterplan cannot be delivered with the current highway capacity constraints and therefore the transformation in travel as detailed above unable to be realised.

5.11 The delivery of the proposed schemes will have a positive impact for the community and provide better designed access to the town. An equality impact assessment has been completed for the programme to ensure that no one group is adversely impacted. As each project moves into detailed design further work will take place to ensure opportunities are maximised.

5.12 A full risk assessment has been carried out, including a risk workshop, and this has been developed into a risk register for the project. It has identified a number of high level risks which the programme manager will oversee and monitor in conjunction with the established project board. Key risks include

5.12.1 Tender prices will come in higher than expected: This will be mitigated by regular of estimates to ensure that the most up-to-date prices are used to ensure a full understanding of the prices as the project develops. A significant contingency has been incorporated into the cost estimates.

5.12.2 Significant disruption during construction: This will be mitigated by the communication plan that details the process for informing users of the upcoming works. This will be constantly monitored and updated to ensure that the information is fully disseminated to the public.

5.12.3 Restrictions will be required due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, if social distancing is still in place when construction commences, this will have an effect on both tender prices and timescales, meaning higher costs and potential reputational damage. This is to be mitigated by the robust contingency and risk costs within the budget.

6. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

The timeline is as robust as can be expected at this stage of the programme. Realistic timescales have been included for items outside of WCC control, such as planning permission which will involve public consultation.

Schemes A & B Newtown Rd / Corporation St / Abbey St & Queens Rd (Major)

Activity	Start	Completion
Land Acquisition	N/A	N/A
Planning Permission	N/A	N/A
Design	Autumn '20	Autumn '21
Tender	Autumn '21	Winter '21
Construction	Winter '22	Spring '23

Scheme C Wheat St (Major)

Activity	Start	Completion
Land Acquisition	Spring '20	Spring '21
Planning Permission	N/A	N/A

Design	Spring '21	Spring '22
Tender	Spring '22	Summer '22
Construction	Autumn '22	Summer '23

Scheme D Railway Station Gyratory (Major)

Activity	Start	Completion
Land Acquisition	Spring '20	Spring '22
Planning Permission	Spring '22	Autumn '22
Demolition	Autumn '22	end of Winter '23
Design	Autumn '22	Autumn '24
Tender	Autumn '24	Jan '25
Construction	Spring '26	Winter '27

Appendices
1. TN Junction Upgrades Preferred Options – Summary
2. TN Programme Spend ProfileOverview

Background Papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Daniel Cresswell, Catherine Marks	danielcresswell@warwickshire.gov.uk, catherinemarks@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	David Ayton-Hill and Scott Tompkins	davidaytonhill@warwickshire.gov.uk scotttompkins@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Strategic Director for Communities	markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning	cllrclarke@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): Cllr Sargeant, Cllr Clarke,
Other members: Cllr Golby & Cllr Shilton

APPENDIX 1.1

Highway Improvement – Preferred Options

The following preferred options are subject to change throughout the detailed design process. Thus far, they have not been approved by the Engineering Design Services design team.

Fig 1. A444 / Corporation St / Powell Way

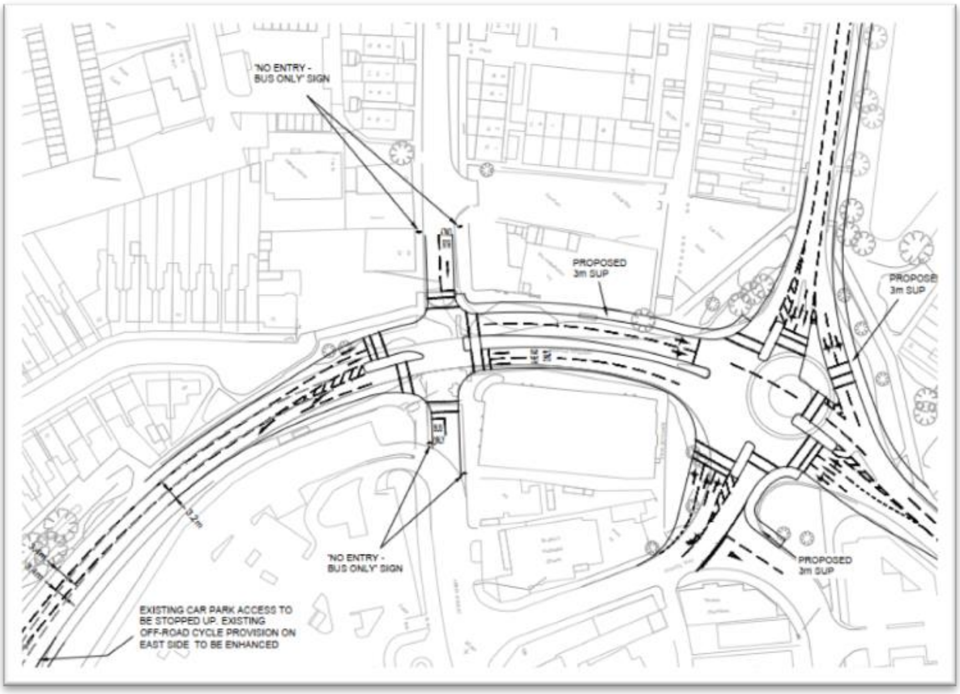


Fig 2. A444 / Leicester Rd / Back St / Bond St / Regent St

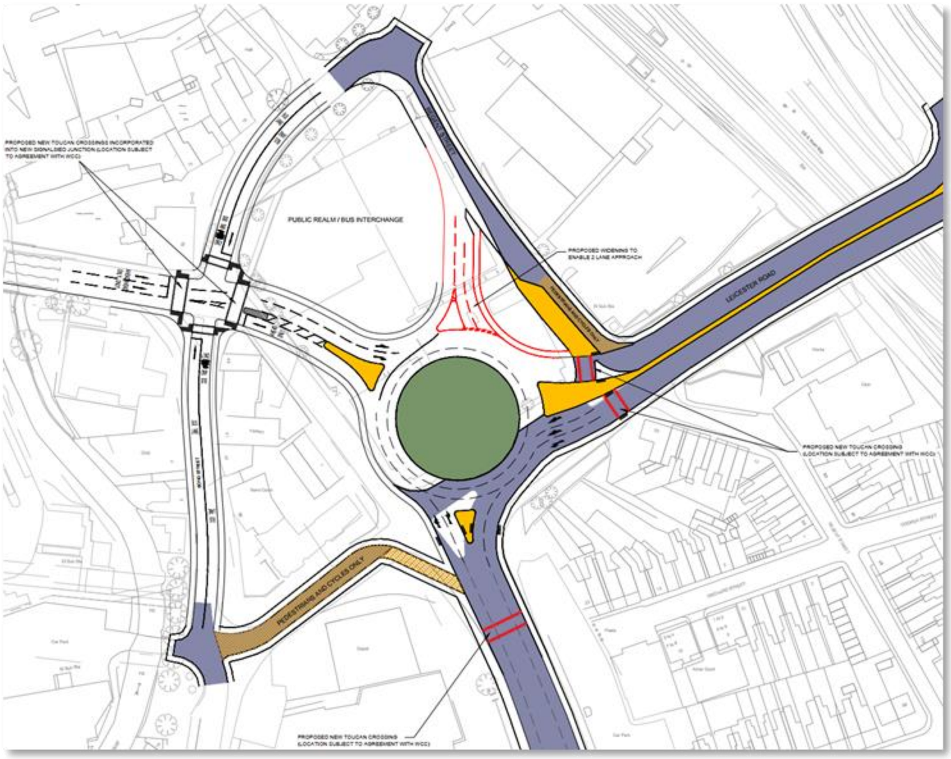


Fig 3. A444 / Wheat St

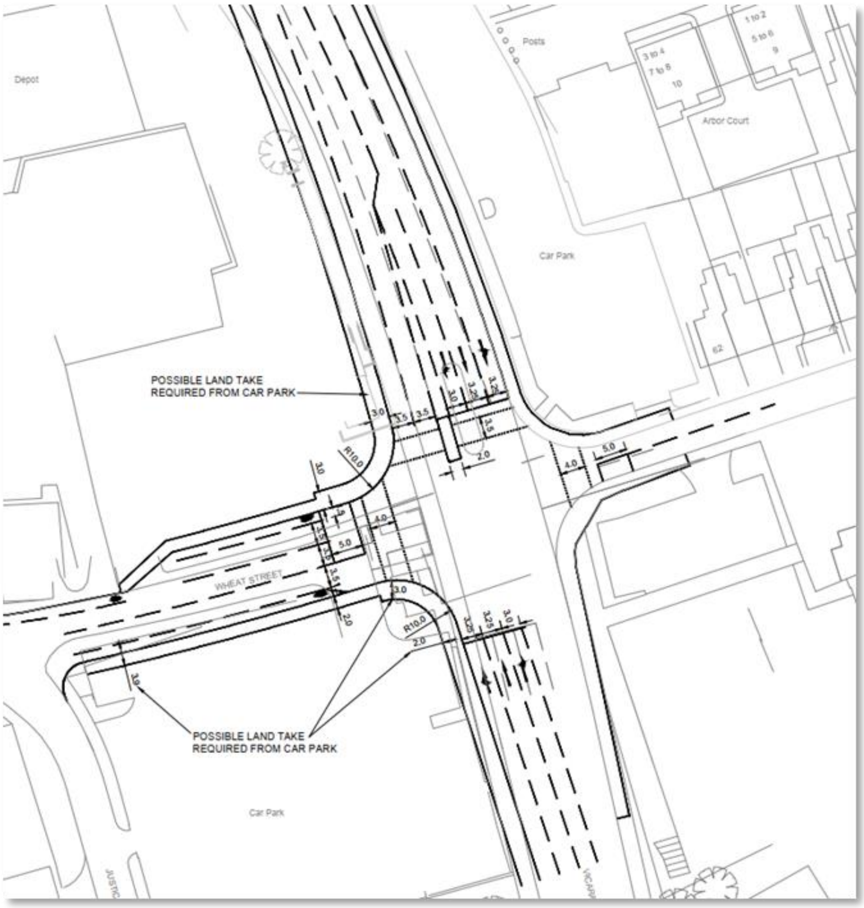
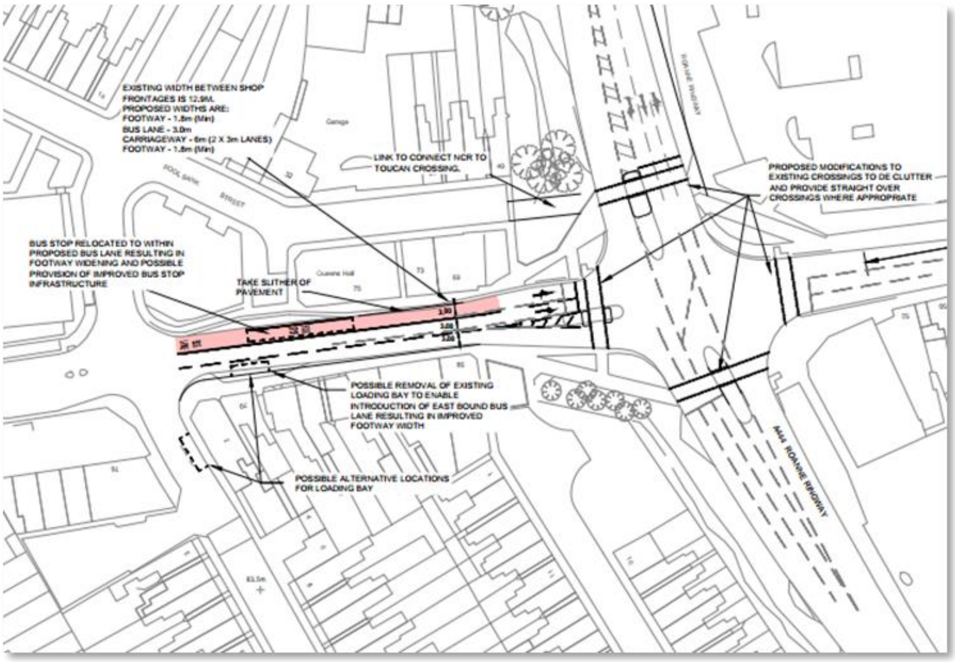


Fig 4. A444 / Queens Rd



APPENDIX 2.1

Capital Spend Profile

	2020/21 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	Total £'000
Site Investigation								
Detailed Scheme Design (Station Gyratory Scheme)			721	721	722			2164
Land Acquisition	6000							6000
Detailed Scheme Design (Corporation St)	294	293						587
Detailed Scheme Design (Wheat St)		180	11					191
Detailed Scheme Design (Queens Rd)	17	30						47
Detailed Scheme Design (Coton Rd)		14	430					444
Detailed Scheme Design (Weddington Terrace)	100	27						127
Construction & Supervision (Station Gyratory scheme)						123	4200	4323
Construction & Supervision (Corporation St scheme)		320	3200	100				3620
Construction & Supervision (Wheat St scheme)			636	600				1236
Construction & Supervision (Queens Rd scheme)		16	280	10				306
Construction & Supervision (Coton Rd scheme)		370	2140	360				2870
Construction Supervision (Weddington Terrace N&S)		747						747
Station Area temp public realm							430	430
Improved Cycling Facilities			434	2805				3239
Bus infrastructure				430				
Risk		466	466	466	466	466	470	2800
TOTAL CIF BID								**21704**
Total Capital Cost	**6417**	**2562**	**8318**	**5492**	**1188**	**589**	**5100**	**29561**

Council

13 October 2020

Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Proposed Revisions to Terms of Reference

Recommendation

Council is **recommended** to:

1. **AGREE** to amend the scope of the health scrutiny powers delegated to the Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to allow scrutiny of a masterplan for the Horton General Hospital and pursuit of associated capital investment.

2. **AGREE** to nominate Councillor …………………. as the Council's representative on the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Health Services have a legislative duty to consult a local authority's heath overview and scrutiny committee about any proposals they have for a substantial development or variation in the provision of health services in their area. When these substantial developments or variations affect a geographical area that covers more than one local authority, the local authorities are required to appoint a joint health overview and scrutiny committee (JHOSC) for the purposes of the consultation.

1.2 On 15 May 2018 Council approved recommendations for the establishment of the Horton JHOSC. Its remit was to consider proposed changes involving closure of consultant-led maternity services at the Horton General Hospital (HGH).

1.3 The body had fulfilled its original remit on the review of obstetric services, so the appointment of Councillor Redford as the authority's representative was not renewed at Annual Council this July. The revision to the terms of reference to look at the masterplan for the Hospital will involve the reconvening of this joint body and a nomination of the Council's member to serve on it.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 None

3. Environmental Implications

3.1 None

4. Supporting Information

Background

Health scrutiny powers

4.1 Health scrutiny powers are held by local upper tier authorities. Chief among these are the ability to:

a) Require officers of NHS bodies to attend committee meetings.
b) Require the local NHS to provide information about the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area.
c) Make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies.
d) Refer proposals for substantial changes to health services to the Secretary of State for decision if the committee believes the consultation has been inadequate, if there were inadequate reasons for not consulting, or if the proposals would not be in the interests of the local health service.

4.2 The NHS is obliged to consult the JHOSC on any substantial changes it wants to make to local health services, in addition to its wider responsibility to involve and consult the public.

Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.3 The 'Horton JHOSC' was formed in 2018 following a recommendation from the Secretary of State. The Committee's current remit is therefore solely in relation to the issue of consultant-led obstetric services at the HGH. It has not had any wider remit to scrutinise any other health or wellbeing issues.

4.4 This is a joint committee of nine non-executive voting members and one co-opted non-voting member. Having due regard to the patient flow for the Horton Hospital, the committee has eight members from Oxfordshire, one from Northamptonshire and one from Warwickshire. Members are appointed to the committee from the respective local authorities and are reflective of the political balance accordingly.

Scope of the Horton HOSC

4.5 Throughout the twelve months from September 2018, an extensive process was undertaken by the Horton JHOSC to examine and scrutinise obstetric services at the HGH. Following this, a decision was made by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) in September 2019 to:

a) Confirm an earlier decision made in August 2017 to create a single specialist obstetric unit for Oxfordshire (and its neighbouring areas) at the John Radcliffe Hospital and establish a midwife led unit at the HGH, for the foreseeable future.
b) Work closely with Oxford University Hospitals (OUH) and local stakeholders to further develop the masterplan for the HGH, ensuring it includes high quality, flexible clinical space that could be used for different services over time, including obstetric services if circumstances demand.
c) Actively pursue with OUH the need for significant capital investment in the Horton Hospital, in clear recognition that this can improve recruitment and ensures the site is fit for its future as a thriving 21st century hospital for the whole of North Oxfordshire and beyond.

4.6 The Horton JHOSC responded to this decision by making a referral to the Secretary of State on the following grounds:

a) The Horton JHOSC was not satisfied with the adequacy of the content of the consultation (Regulation 29(9)(a)).
b) The Horton JHOSC believed the proposal would not be in the interests of the health service in this area (the latter being the cross-boundary area represented by the Horton JHOSC) (Regulation 23(9)(c).

4.7 To date, there has not been a response by the Secretary of State to the Horton JHOSC's referral.

4.8 The JHOSC accepted that partners were working to improve HGH and agreed that it would be beneficial if the JHOSC could continue meet to hold OUH and OCCG and others to account in the development and implementation of the positive vision for the future of the HGH (through the masterplan). To achieve this, it requires Warwickshire County Council and its counterpart authorities in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire to amend the scope of the delegated health scrutiny powers. Scrutiny of all other issues remains with the respective, established health scrutiny committees.

4.9 Council is therefore asked to approve the recommendation that health scrutiny powers are delegated to the Horton JHOSC in regard to:

- Development of the masterplan for the HGH, ensuring it includes high quality, flexible clinical space that could be used for different services over time, including obstetric services if circumstances demand.
- The active pursuit of significant capital investment in the HGH.

4.10 A copy of the previous report to Council on 15 May 2018 is available here.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

5.1 Council decisions have immediate effect.

Appendices

1. Revised terms of reference for the Horton JHOSC are attached in Appendix A. Changes to the original terms of reference are highlighted for ease of reading.

Background Papers

None

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Paul Spencer	paulspencer@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: 01926 418615
Assistant Director	Sarah Duxbury	sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Strategic Director for Resources	
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health	

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): N/A
Other members: N/A

APPENDIX A

Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire) AMENDED Terms of Reference

July 2020

Rationale

1. Health Services are required to consult a local authority's Heath Overview and Scrutiny Committee about any proposals they have for a substantial development or variation in the provision of health services in their area. When these substantial developments or variations affect a geographical area that covers more than one local authority, the local authorities are required to appoint a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) for the purposes of the consultation.

2. In response to the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's proposals regarding consultant-led maternity services at the Horton General Hospital, the Secretary of State and Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) advised a HOSC be formed covering the area of patient flow for these services. This was formed in 2018, across the area of patient flow for obstetric services at the Horton General Hospital covers Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

3. A decision was made by Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) in September 2019 to:

   a) Confirm an earlier decision made in August 2017 to create a single specialist obstetric unit for Oxfordshire (and its neighbouring areas) at the John Radcliffe Hospital and establish a Midwife Led Unit (MLU) at the Horton General Hospital, for the foreseeable future.
   b) Work closely with Oxford University Hospitals (OUH) and local stakeholders to further develop the masterplan for the Horton General Hospital, ensuring it includes high quality, flexible clinical space that could be used for different services over time, including obstetric services if circumstances demand.
   c) Actively pursue with OUH the need for significant capital investment in the Horton Hospital, in clear recognition that this can improve recruitment and ensures the site is fit for its future as a thriving 21st century hospital for the whole of North Oxfordshire and beyond.

4. Following this decision, the Horton HOSC Terms of Reference were amended to allow its further scrutiny of the development of a Horton General Hospital masterplan [N.B This sentence to be inserted pending Council agreement].

5. These terms of reference set out the arrangements for Oxfordshire County Council, Northamptonshire County Council and Warwickshire County Council to operate a Joint HOSC Committee in line with the provisions set out in legislation and guidance to allow it to operate as a mandatory committee.

Terms of Reference

6. The new Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will operate formally as a mandatory joint committee i.e. where the councils have been required under Regulation 30 (5) Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Well-being Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 to appoint a joint committee for the purposes of the specified health partner's consultation on:

   i. Development of the masterplan for the Horton General Hospital, ensuring it includes high quality, flexible clinical space that could be used for different services over time, including obstetric services if circumstances demand.
   ii. Active pursuit of significant capital investment in the Horton Hospital.

7. The purpose of the mandatory Horton Joint HOSC across Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire is to:

   a) Make comments on the proposal consulted on
   b) Require the provision of information about the proposal
   c) Require the member or employee of the relevant health service to attend before it to answer questions in connection with the consultation.
   d) Refer to the Secretary of State only on the development of a masterplan for the Horton General Hospital where it is not satisfied that:
      - Consultation on any proposal for a substantial change or development has been adequate in relation to content or time allowed (NB. The referral power in these contexts only relates to the consultation with the local authorities, and not consultation with other stakeholders)
      - That the proposal would not be in the interests of the health service in the area
      - A decision has been taken without consultation and it is not satisfied that the reasons given for not carrying out consultation are adequate.

8. The response to the consulting health service will be agreed by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and signed by the Chairman.

9. With the exception of proposals to develop a masterplan for the Horton General Hospital, responsibility for all other health scrutiny functions and activities remain with the respective local authority Health Scrutiny Committees.

10. No matter to be discussed by the Committee shall be considered to be confidential or exempt without the agreement of all Councils and subject to the requirements of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Timescales & Governance

11. The Horton Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee operates as a mandatory Committee only while the proposed service changes that affect the relevant areas are considered. This period is from the point at which the relevant health body notifies the Joint HOSC of the formal consultation timetable and the point at which a decision is taken.

12. Meetings of the Joint HOSC are conducted under the Standing Orders of Oxfordshire County Council (i.e. the Local Authority hosting and providing democratic services support).

Membership

13. Membership of the Joint HOSC is appointed by Oxfordshire County Council, Northamptonshire County Council and Warwickshire County Council from the membership of their Scrutiny Committees that have responsibility for discharging health scrutiny functions.

14. Appointments to the Joint Committee have regard to the proportion of patient flow for ~~consultant-led obstetric services at~~ the Horton General Hospital. ~~Using latest figures available from 2015/16, of the 1466 births at the Horton General Hospital, 4% came from women with Warwickshire post codes and 14% from Northamptonshire post codes~~ (removed as the committee will scrutinise more than obstetric services). The membership of the Joint Committee will therefore be ten Councillors, consisting of eight from Oxfordshire, one from Northamptonshire and one from Warwickshire.

15. Appointments by each authority to the Joint Committee will reflect the political balance of that authority.

16. The quorum for meetings will be five members, comprising at least one member from either Northamptonshire or Warwickshire.

Committee support

17. The work of the Joint Horton HOSC will require support in terms of overall co-ordination, setting up and clerking of meetings and underpinning policy support and administrative arrangements.

18. Meetings of the committee are to be held near to the Horton General Hospital (or virtually according to relevant regulations) and associated administrative support and costs to be borne by Oxfordshire County Council.

19. Should a press statement or press release need to be made by the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, this will be drafted by Oxfordshire County Council on behalf of the Committee and will be agreed by the Chairman.

Agenda Item 8

County Council

13 October 2020

Local Pension Board: Terms of Reference

Recommendation

That the Council approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board as set out in the appendix.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Local Pension Board was setup in 2015 to assist the Warwickshire Pension Fund in ensuring that it is complying with relevant laws and regulations in the governance and operation of the Fund. The operations of the Local Pension Board are guided by Terms of Reference which should be reviewed and updated from time to time.

1.2 This review of the Terms of Reference has regard to relevant guidance issued by the Scheme Advisory Board for the Local Government Pension Scheme, and the draft has been reviewed and commented upon by the Local Pension Board and the Staff and Pensions Committee.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 None

3. Environmental Implications

3.1 None

Supporting Information

3.2 The key changes to the document are highlighted below:

Section	Change
3.9	Protocol introduced for employer representatives if an employer leaves the fund
3.10	Protocol introduced for identifying and selecting employer and member representatives
4.2	Protocol introduced for chairing the board if the Chair is not in attendance

7	Additional clarification around roles of officers and advisers
7.4	Protocol introduced for setting the terms of reference of sub groups
9.1	Meeting frequency updated to quarterly
9.2	Annual schedule of meetings must now include a forward plan of future agenda items
9.4	Protocol introduced for meeting location and timing
9.5	Protocol introduced for exempt / confidential reports
9.6	Protocol introduced for calling special meetings
10.2	Code of conduct updated in respect of County Councillor responsibilities
14.3	Reference for added training costs
14.4	Protocol introduced for claiming expenses
14.5	Protocol introduced for setting budget for Board costs
16	Scope of the reporting breaches section broadened to encompass breaches or wider concerns, including specification for reporting to the Scheme Administrator, pension fund committees, and scheme members and employers

4. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

4.1 Following approval by the County Council the Terms of Reference will be fully adopted and published.

Appendix

Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board.

Background Papers

None

	Name	**Contact Information**
Report Author	Victoria Moffett, Chris Norton	victoriamoffett@warwickshire.gov.uk, chrisnorton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Andrew Felton	andrewfelton@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Director	Rob Powell	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Customer & Transformation, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property	peterbutlin@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was not circulated to t members prior to publication.

Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board of Warwickshire Pension Fund

Reviewed and Updated February 2020 - Draft

1) Introduction

1.1 The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 (the ‘2013 Act’) requires the establishment of a Pension Board with responsibility for assisting the Scheme Manager in securing compliance with all relevant pensions laws, regulations and directions and the Pension Regulator’s codes of practice.

1.2 This document sets out the terms of reference for the Local Pension Board of the Warwickshire Pension Fund (the ‘Pension Board’).

2) Role and Responsibilities of the Pension Board

2.1 The role of the Pension Board (as defined by sections 5 (1) and (2) of the 2013 Act) is to –

2.1.1 Assist the Scheme Manager –

a. to secure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for the Warwickshire Pension Fund by effectively and efficiently complying with the code of practice on the governance and administration of public service pension schemes issued by the Pension Regulator;

b. to secure compliance with the LGPS regulations and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS;

c. to secure compliance with requirements imposed in relation to the LGPS by the Pensions Regulator; and d. in such other matters as the LGPS regulations may specify.

2.1.2 Provide the Scheme Manager with such information as it requires to ensure that any member of the Pension Board or person to be appointed to the Pension Board does not have an inappropriate conflict of interest.

2.1.3 Produce an annual report to the Scheme Manager outlining the work of the Board throughout the scheme year.

2.2 The Pension Board shall meet sufficiently regularly to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

2.3 The Pension Board will not have decision making powers in relation to the Warwickshire Pension Fund save as to refer issues to the Scheme Adminstrator, Pension Fund Committees, or the Pension Regulator. It will have the ability to hear disputes employers may have with the Fund.

3) Membership

3.1 The membership of the Pension Board shall consist of seven (7) members to include –

a. Scheme Member Representatives x 3

b. Employer Representatives x 3

c. Independent Representative x 1

3.2 Scheme Member Representatives nominated by Scheme employers need to ensure a broad representation of scheme membership - for example to include deferred and active pensioner representation.

3.4 Employer representatives nominated by categories of employers to include:

a. 1 x Elected Member (acting for WCC)

b. 1 x Precepting Employer

c. 1 x non-precepting employer.

3.5 The Independent Representative shall be appointed by the Scheme Manager following a recruitment and selection process involving role specification, application form, shortlisting and interviews accordance with current Warwickshire County Council's policy and procedure.

3.6 The Chair of the Pension Board shall be the Independent Representative.

3.7 Attendance is expected of Board members at all meetings; no substitution is allowed.

3.8 In the event of consistent non-attendance, or failure to achieve and maintain the required level of knowledge and skills by any Board member, then the tenure of that member should be reviewed by the Chair in liaison with the Scheme Manager. The Scheme Manager will have the final decision on whether to remove the Board member.

3.9 Other than by ceasing to be eligible as set out above, a Board member may only be removed from office during a term of appointment by the Scheme Manager:

1. after consultation with the Board members

2. in the case of an Elected Member of Warwickshire County Council acting as a Board Member, ceasing to hold office as an Elected Member.

3. in the case of other employer representatives in the case of the employer no longer being in the pension fund.

3.10 The Scheme Administrator will be responsible for identifying and evaluating employer representatives from the pool of employers, and scheme members from the membership. The Scheme Administrator, after consulting with the Chair of the Board, may determine and undertake an evaluation process to ensure that potential new Local Pension Board members understand and are able to undertake the role.

4) Quorum

4.1 3 members of the Pension Board will represent a quorum for Board meetings to go ahead.

4.2 In the absence of the Chair of the Board at a meeting, the meeting may be chaired by a senior officer of the Scheme Administrator. Officers may not chair the meeting whilst presenting agenda items.

5) Conflicts of Interest

5.1 The 2013 Act requires that members of the Pension Board do not have conflicts of interests. As such all members of the Pension Board will be required to declare any interests and any potential conflicts of interests in line with legal requirements in the Act and the Pension Regulator’s code. These declarations are required as part of the appointment process, as well as at regular intervals throughout a member’s tenure to the Scheme Manager’s satisfaction.

5.2 A Conflicts of Interest policy with which Local Pension Board Members must comply is included at Annex A to these Terms of Reference.

6) Board Review Process

6.1 The Board will undertake each year a formal review process to assess how well it and the members are performing with a view to seeking continuous improvement in the Board’s performance.

7) Role of Officers and Advisers

7.1 The Pension Board will receive appropriate reports, information, and advice from fund officers in support of meeting its objectives.

7.2 The Pension Board will have access to pension fund officers, the Fund’s Section 151 Officer, and the Fund’s Legal Adviser as required to carry out its duties.

7.3 The Pension Board may be supported in its role and responsibilities through the appointment of professional advisers and shall (subject to any applicable regulation and legislation from time to time in force) consult with such advisers to the Board and on such terms as it shall see fit to help better perform its duties.

7.4 This will be done on an ‘as required’ basis; any advisor attending a Board meeting is not a Board member and does not have a vote. Professional advisers will be commissioned by the Scheme Manager. If required, sub-groups may be established to assist the Board. The terms of reference for sub groups will be set by the Local Pension Board in consultation with the Scheme Manager.

7.5 Officer and professional advisers shall support the Pension Board in delivering the Board’s responsibilities by;

a. providing advice as requested by the Board;

b. having regard for the need to ensure the effective and efficient governance and administration of the scheme;;

c. having regard for the need to secure compliance with, requirements imposed by the Pensions Regulator, the LGPS regulations, and any other legislation relating to the governance and administration of the LGPS;

d. notifying the Board of any matter which they decide the Board may need to know to carry out its responsibilities; and

e. providing the Board with access to information necessary to perform its functions;

8) Knowledge and Skills

8.1 Members of the Pension Board must have full capacity to act and will be expected to have good sound knowledge of the LGPS rules and administration adopted by the Warwickshire Pension Fund, pension law and regulations.

8.2 The performance of Board members will be assessed on a periodic basis by the Scheme Manager to ensure that all members are adequately meeting their duties. Poor performance will result in corrective action being taken, and in exceptional circumstances the removal of the Board member.

8.3 Pension Board members must be able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding and to refresh and keep their knowledge up to date. Board members are therefore required to maintain a written record of relevant training and development.

8.4 Board members will comply with the Scheme Manager’s training policy.

8.5 Board members will undertake a personal training needs analysis undertaken on behalf of the Scheme Manager and regularly review their skills, competencies and knowledge to identify gaps or weaknesses.

9) Board Meetings

9.1 The Pension Board will meet quarterly with meetings timed to follow after the pension fund executive committee meetings so that the Local Pension Board can review and scrutinise Pension Fund activity in a timely way. The Scheme Administrator may from time to time review this arrangement to ensure that it provides sufficient capacity to enable the delivery of the Board’s key responsibilities.

9.2 The Scheme Manager will undertake the committee secretariat functions for the Board and will ensure that:

a. facilities are available to hold meetings;

b. an annual schedule of meetings and forward plan of agenda items is organised and shared with members;

c. suitable arrangements are in place to hold additional meetings if required - ensuring adequate notice;

d. papers are distributed at least 5 clear working days before each meeting except for exceptional circumstances;

e. a formal record of meetings is maintained; and

f. following the approval of the minutes by the Chair, they are circulated to all Board members.

9.3 Meetings will be open for Scheme members and employers to observe.

9.4 Board meetings may be held at the Scheme Manager offices in Warwick, or remotely, with the specific location or meeting method published with the agenda. Meetings will be held during normal office hours.

9.5 Agenda items will normally be public papers. However an agenda item may meet the criteria to be exempt from publication and be heard in private session. Reports must meet the Council Council's standards for being made exempt. Local Pension Board Members must maintain the confidentiality of exempt reports and discussions.

9.6 Additional special meetings of the Local Pension Board may be convened at the request of the Scheme Administrator or by the Local Pension Board through a majority vote.

10) Standards of Conduct

10.1 The role of Pension Board members requires the highest standards of conduct and the "seven principles of public life" will be applied to all Pension Board members and embodied in their code of conduct. These are

a. Selflessness;

b. Integrity;

c. Objectivity;

d. Accountability;

e. Openness;

f. Honesty; and

g. Leadership.

10.2 Any elected Member scheme representative is also responsible for adhering to the County Council Member code of conduct.

11) Decision Making and Voting

11.1 The Pension Board is expected to operate on a consensus basis; however each Scheme Member Representative and Employer Representative member will have individual voting rights. The Independent Member shall have no voting rights. In the event that consensus cannot be reached, a vote will be taken. The Chair should report to the Scheme Manager when a decision is reached in this manner.

11.2 It will be the role of the Chair to ensure that all members of the Board show due respect for process, that all views are fully heard and considered and to determine when consensus has been met.

12) Publication of Pension Board information

12.1 Scheme members and other interested parties will want to know that Warwickshire Pension Fund is being efficiently and effectively managed. They will also want to be confident that the Pension Board is properly constituted, trained and competent in order to comply with Scheme regulations, the governance and administration of the Scheme and requirements of the Pension Regulator.

12.2 Up to date information will be posted on the Warwickshire Pension Fund website showing –

- a. The names of the Pension Board members;
- b. How the Scheme members are represented on the Pension Board;
- c. The responsibilities of the Pension Board as a whole;
- d. The full terms of reference and policies of the Pension Board and how they operate;
- e. The Pension Board appointment process;
- f. Who each individual Pension Board member represents; and
- g. Any specific roles and responsibilities of individual Pension Board members.

12.3 The Pension Board papers, agendas and minutes of meetings will be published on the Warwickshire Pension Fund website. These may at the discretion of the Scheme Manager be edited to exclude items on the grounds that they would either involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act and/or they represent data covered by the Data Protection Act 2018.

12.4 The Scheme Manager will also consider requests for additional information to be published or made available to individual scheme members to encourage scheme member engagement and promote a culture of openness and transparency.

13) Accountability

13.1 The Pension Board will be collectively, and members individually, accountable to the Scheme Manager. The Board will also be given the opportunity to present its findings at the Fund's annual meeting.

14) Remuneration and Expenses

14.1 Remuneration for Board members will be limited to a refund of actual expenses incurred in attending Board meetings. The Chair's remuneration will be agreed on appointment and reviewed every three years.

14.2 The expenses of the Board are to be regarded as part of the administration costs of the Pension Fund.

14.3 Training and associated costs will be met by the Pension Fund.

14.4 Any costs / expenses must be claimed within 3 months of being incurred.

14.5 The Scheme Manager will set a budget each year for Local Pension Board costs including expenses, remuneration, training, professional advice, and costs incidental to conducting the business of the Board.

15) Tenure

15.1 Tenure period for Board members will be for a 3 year period on a rolling appointment basis - up to a maximum of 9 years.

15.2 The term of office for the Chair will also be for a three (3) year period at which point it will be the decision of the Scheme Manager to confirm re-appointments.

15.3 Resignation of Board members will be documented in writing to the Chair. A suitable notice period must be given which is no less that one (1) month.

16) Reporting Breaches and Concerns

16.1 Any breach brought to the attention of the Pension Board whether potential or actual shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in the policy document.

16.2 The Local Pension Board may report concerns to the Scheme Administrator and may report concerns to decision making pension committees.

16.3 Breaches and concerns will be documented and made available to scheme employers and scheme members with the published Board papers, except where a report is exempt.

17) Review

17.1 These Terms of Reference may be reviewed and amended at any time by the Scheme Manager, in consultation with the Board, and any changes communicated to the Pension Board in advance of the next Board meeting.

18) Definitions

18.1 The undernoted terms shall have the following meaning when used in this document:

“Pension Board” or “Board” Means the local Pension Board for the administering authority for the Warwickshire Pension Fund as required under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013

”Scheme Manager” Means Warwickshire County Council as administering authority of the Warwickshire Pension Fund.

“Chair” Reference to duties to be performed, or authority exercised, by the Chair.

“LGPS” The Local Government Pension Scheme as constituted by the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 and The Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations2009.

“Scheme” Means the Local Government Pension Scheme as defined under “LGPS”

19) Interpretation

19.1 Any uncertainty or ambiguity or interpretation required relating to any matters contained in this document shall be resolved by reference to the Scheme Manager.

Annex A to Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board for the Warwickshire Pension Fund

Conflicts of Interest Policy

Introduction

The Public Sector Pensions Act 2013 requires that members of the Local Pension Board (the Board) do not have conflicts of interests. As such all Board Members (Members) will be required to declare any interests and any potential conflicts of interests in line with legal requirements in the Act and the Pension Regulator's code. These declarations are required as part of the appointment process, as well as regular intervals throughout a Member's tenure to the Scheme Manager's satisfaction.

Conflict of Interests – General Principles

A conflict of interest is defined as a financial or other interest which is likely to prejudice a person's exercise of functions as a member of the Board. The basic principle in relation to conflicts of interest can be found in the High Court case of Re Thompson's Settlement [1986] where the Court held that:

'…a man must not put himself in a position where duty and [personal] interest conflict or where his duty to one conflicts with his duty to another unless expressly authorised'

Conflicts of interest may arise for Members and their advisers. This simply reflects the fact that individual Members and their advisers will have a variety of other roles and responsibilities outside the Board.

Members and their advisers must be able to identify potential conflicts of interest and have procedures in place to manage them. This document outlines the procedure the Members have adopted to do this.

Procedure

For this procedure to work the Members have agreed that they must:

• declare any actual or potential conflict of interest they may have;

• be open with each other on any conflicts of interest they may have;

• provide information reasonably requested to assess whether there is any actual or potential conflict of interest;

• adopt practical solutions; and

• plan ahead and agree on how they will manage any conflicts of interest which arise.

With these objectives in mind the Members have adopted the following procedure:

1. Maintaining a register of Members' interests which could give rise to a conflict.

2. Maintaining a register of interests which could give rise to a conflict covering the Members’ advisers.

3. Each Member and adviser will sign an annual return confirming that their information contained in the register of interests is correct. The updated register will then be circulated to all Members and the Scheme Manager. These two events will be added to the Members’ calendar of events distributed with each set of Member meeting papers.

4. The Board’s Administration Manager is to identify any potential or actual conflicts of interest and to advise the Chair. The Chair in conjunction with the Scheme Manager is to decide on the action required and to advise the Members of any actions taken.

5. Any Member who feels that they, another Member or adviser has a conflict of interest must seek early advice from the Administration Manager.

6. Any member or advisor must withdraw from a Board meeting if they have a conflict of interest. The conflict of interest and the action taken must be recorded in the minutes.

7. If a conflict is identified outside of a Board meeting the Chair shall consult with the other Members prior to making a decision. The conflict of interest and the action taken must be recorded.

Management of Confidential Information

With regard to Members sharing confidential information received by them in their capacity as a Board Member with other parties, it is important to remember that each Member has a fundamental responsibility to act on behalf of the Board and this duty should not be compromised by acting on behalf of other groups.

Advisors

There may be circumstances where advisors are asked to give advice to the Board but this can only happen where there is no conflict of interest. All of the Board’s advisors have a professional responsibility to advise the Members if any circumstances arise in which they feel they are conflicted. These responsibilities and guidelines for dealing with actual or potential conflicts of interest are covered by rules of their respective professional bodies.

Agenda Item 9

Council

13 October 2020

Appointment of Scheme Member Representative to LGPS Local Pension Board

Recommendation

That Council approve the appointment of Mr Sean McGovern, Coroner for Warwickshire, as a Scheme member representative on the Local Pension Board.

1.0 Key Issues

1.1 Following a call for expressions of interest to members within the fund and a robust selection and interview process involving officers and the Chair of the LPB, Mr Sean McGovern, Coroner for Warwickshire has been identified as the new Scheme member representative on the LGPS Local Pension Board.

1.2 This appointment requires ratification by Council in accordance with the terms of reference of the Local Pension Board

2.0 Basis and Makeup of the Board

2.1 The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 requires the establishment of a Local Pension Board with responsibility for assisting the Scheme Manager in securing compliance with all relevant pensions laws, regulations and directions and the Pension Regulator's codes of practice

2.2 The Local Pension Board was set up in 2015 to assist the Warwickshire Pension Fund in ensuring that it is complying with relevant laws and regulations in the governance and operation of the Fund. The operations of the Local Pension Board are guided by a Terms of Reference which are approved by Council.

2.3 Pursuant to those Terms of Reference, the membership of the Local Pension Board is to consist of seven (7) members to include –

i) Scheme Member Representatives x 3
ii) Employer Representatives x 3
iii) Independent Representative x 1

2.4 The appointment of Mr McGovern as a Scheme Member representative arises from a robust process of assessment that considered suitability for the role followed by an interview panel led by the Chair of the Local Pension Board. Mr McGovern's appointment will mean that the Board is fully constituted.

3.0 Environmental Implications

3.1 None

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Timescales Associated with the Decision and Next Steps

5.1 If agreed the decision would have immediate effect.

Background papers

None

	Name	**Contact Information**
Report Author	Nichola Vine	nicholavine@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: 01926 736379
Head of Service	Sarah Duxbury	sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Rob Powell	robpowell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kam Kaur	

The report was not circulated to members prior to publication