



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

2014/15

Statement of Accounts 2014/15

Contents

	Page
Explanatory Foreword	2
Statement of Responsibilities	6
 Financial Statements	
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.....	7
Balance Sheet.....	8
Movement in Reserves Statement.....	9
Cash Flow Statement.....	12
Accounting Policies	13
Notes to Financial Statements	20
 Supplementary Statements and Notes	
HRA Income and Expenditure Statement.....	56
Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement.....	57
Reconciling Items for the Statement of Movement on the HRA Balance.....	57
Notes to the Housing Revenue Account.....	58
Collection Fund Statement.....	63
Notes to the Collection Fund Statement.....	64
Glossary of Terms.....	69
Auditors Report to Charnwood Borough Council.....	70
Annual Governance Statement.....	73

Explanatory Foreword

1. The Accounts for 2014/15, set out on pages 7 to 68, have been prepared in accordance with the 'Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15, the 'Code', based on International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS'). The purpose of the published statement of accounts is to give electors, local taxpayers, members of the Council and other interested parties clear information about the Council's finances. The statements should inform readers of:

- The cost of services provided by the Council in the year 2014/15
- How services were paid for; and
- The Council's assets and liabilities at the year-end.

The following Core Financial statements are included: -

- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement which shows income and expenditure of all main services.
- Balance Sheet - sets out the overall financial position of the Council at 31st March 2015 showing its assets, liabilities and reserves.
- Movement in Reserves Statement, this statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and unusable reserves (ie those that cannot be used to fund expenditure).
- Cash Flow Statement summarises the movements of cash and cash equivalents into and out of the Council arising from transactions with third parties.
- Notes to the Core Financial Statements – explanation of key figures within the statements.

The following Supplementary Financial Statements and supporting notes are included:-

- Housing Revenue Account (HRA) - shows income and expenditure in respect of Council housing.
- Collection Fund Statement - shows the transactions in relation to the collection and distribution of Council Tax and National Non-domestic Rates ('NNDR').

2. Pension Fund Liability

Charnwood Borough Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme through which pension provision is made for those of its employees who wish to join the scheme. Under the Code, the Council must include its share of the net Pension Fund Liability as at 31st March 2015 and this amounted to a £75,215k deficit. This is an increase of £12,976k on the position at 31st March 2014. Although this liability appears in the Council's balance sheet it is offset by the Pensions Reserve and is not funded from Council Tax or Government Grants in the current year. However, it represents the amount that will need to be found from future budgets to pay for pension entitlements already incurred in delivering services. Actual employer's contributions to the pension scheme during the year are paid out of the Council's expenditure as funded by Government Grants, Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates (business rates).

3. Borrowing Facilities and Funding of Capital Expenditure

The Council has sufficient resources, through both the use of reserves and revenue, to fund General Fund capital expenditure without needing to borrow. It is not expected that this position will change in the short term and if the Council were to borrow then it would be able to obtain funds from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), which is part of Central Government, at relatively low rates compared to commercial borrowing. There is one old outstanding General Fund loan of £2m which is not due for repayment until 2024.

The HRA has external loans of £79.19m which arose from the change in the Housing Subsidy system in 2012. These are all with the PWLB and are repayable from 2024 to 2062 with fixed annual interest rates. The annual interest is covered by the HRA's rental income. In addition, the HRA has two 'internal' loans from the General Fund and should it need to borrow for capital expenditure then it would seek further internal loans, using available monies within the General Fund, or borrow from the PWLB.

Both the General Fund and HRA work within treasury parameters agreed each year by Council and these currently allow a further £14.81m of external borrowing.

4. General Fund Revenue Outturn Summary 2014/15

	Outturn £000	Original Budget £000	Variance £000
Net Service Expenditure	15,310	15,974	664
Revenue Contributions to Capital	191	360	169
Interest Paid	237	242	5
Council Tax Support Grant to Parishes	176	176	0
Less: Interest on Balances	(286)	(180)	106
Total Borough Expenditure	15,628	16,572	944
Contribution (from) Reinvestment Reserve	(57)	0	57
Contribution to/(from) Working Balance	93	(138)	(231)
Contribution to Growth Support Fund	49	150	101
Contribution to Other Revenue Reserves	(9)	0	9
Council Tax Freeze Grants	(70)	(70)	0
Contribution to Capital Plan Reserve	535	535	0
Precept Requirement	16,169	17,049	880
Revenue Support Grant	4,281	4,281	0
NNDR	3,493	3,493	0
Council Tax Receipts	5,249	5,249	0
Loughborough Special Levy	1,092	1,092	0
Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,089)	(1,089)	0
New Homes Bonus	2,910	2,896	14
General Government Grants/S31 compensation	233	1,127	(894)
Precept Income	16,169	17,049	(880)
<u>Working Revenue Balance at 1st April</u>	4,970	4,475	495
Transfer from General Fund	94	(138)	232
Balance at 31 March	5,064	4,337	727
<u>Reinvestment Reserve Balance at 1st April</u>	1,058	1,005	53
Transfers (to) General Fund	(57)	0	(57)
Funding of Capital Expenditure	(42)	0	(42)
Balance at 31 March	959	1,005	(46)
<u>Capital Plan Reserve Balance at 1st April</u>	3,969	0	3,969
Transferred from General Fund	535	535	0
Funding of Capital Expenditure	(967)	(396)	(571)
Balance at 31 March	3,537	139	3,398
<u>Growth Support Fund Balance at 1st April</u>	285	295	(10)
Transfer From General Fund	49	150	(101)
Funding of Capital Expenditure	(100)	0	(100)
Balance at 31 March	234	445	(211)
<u>Other Revenue Reserves at 1st April</u>	411	400	11
Transferred from General Fund	(10)	0	(10)
Balance at 31 March	401	400	1
TOTAL BALANCES	10,195	6,326	3,869

The main purpose of the General Fund Revenue Outturn Summary is to compare the General Fund outturn figures to the budget set for 2014/15. This provides an easier indication as to how the Council spent its money during the year. Please note that the table is for information only and does not form part of the formal Statement of Accounts.

The Council's General Fund, which relates to all its activities except Housing Revenue Account, spent £944k less than the Total Borough Expenditure budget of £16,572k. This was primarily due:

- Net Service Expenditure being £664k (4%) lower than budget at £15,310k mainly due to higher income levels, especially in Planning.
- Revenue Contribution to Capital being £169k less than budget due to £93k of property expenditure being treated as revenue and £76k not being required to fund other general schemes.
- Interest on balances being £106k (59%) higher than budget, mainly due to larger amounts being available for investment than had been anticipated in the budget as a result of the surplus in 2013/14 and lower levels of capital expenditure.

5. Capital Expenditure

For the financial year 2014/15 the Council's capital spending, on an accruals basis, totalled £9,221k compared with a final Capital Plan budget of £11,424k. The net underspend of £2,203k represented 19% of the programme. Budgets on committed schemes worth £649k will be carried forward to 2015/16 in order to complete the schemes in that year.

The 2014/15 Capital Expenditure was financed, on an accruals basis, as follows:	£'000	%
Capital Expenditure	9,221	100
Financed by:		
Major Repairs Reserve	3,227	35
Revenue Contributions - General Fund	1,300	14
Revenue Contributions – HRA	3,907	43
Capital Receipts – HRA	127	1
Net Capital Grants and Contributions	660	7
	9,221	100

6. Major Items in the 2014/15 Accounts

There are no major changes to the way the accounts have been compiled in 2014/15, but there are some major differences in the Income & Expenditure Account between the figures for 2013/14 and 2014/15, these being:

- Cultural & Related Services shows net expenditure to be £2.7m higher than 2013/14 at £4.1m and this is mainly due to a £2m upwards property revaluation in 2013/14, following reinstatement of the Loughborough Leisure Centre, and a £0.3m property impairment in 2014/15.
- Planning & Development Services net costs are £1.2m higher in 2014/15 at £1.8m. Of this £0.3m is in respect of increased grants made under the Growth Support Fund, £0.5m is due to increased costs regarding work on the Core Strategy and £0.3m relates to lower fees income and a reduction in the level of a specific government grant.
- The net income of Housing Services (HRA) has increased by £6.9m to £19.7m. This is mainly due to the property revaluation which occurred during the year which showed a net revaluation gain for the HRA of £6.1m.
- General Government Grants have decreased by a net £1.1m between 2013/14 and 2014/15, primarily due to the Council Tax Support Grant being rolled in to the Revenue Support Grant and there being a reduction of £1.4m plus falls in the Council Tax Freeze Grant and Other Grants amounting to £0.4m, partially offset by a £0.7m increase in the New Homes Bonus.
- Income from net National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) increased by £2.9m due to the actual NNDR to be retained for 2014/15 rising by £0.4m and a switch on the Collection Fund, which acts to apportion amounts collected to the various receiving parties, from a deficit of £1.3m in 2013/14

to a surplus of £1.2m in 2014/15. This was due to the NNDR collected for 2013/14 being worse than budget because of changes to some large NNDR valuations whilst, having made especially prudent assumptions for 2014/15 to correspond to the 2013/14 amounts, the latter year's outturn was better than budget. This demonstrates the volatility of this income stream.

7. Provisions

A provision of £0.4m in respect of Housing Benefits Claims has been written back this year as the Council has not had to utilise all or part of it since its inception in 2011/12. A provision for backdated appeals regarding NNDR has been reduced by £0.4m to £0.2m following a recalculation in the light of improved information from the relevant government agency.

8. The Council's Finances

The Council has been able to set balanced budgets for both 2014/15 and 2015/16 and whilst the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to the end of March 2018 anticipates deficits in both 2016/17 and 2017/18, these could both easily be covered from the Council's reserves. At the time of writing the intentions of the new government regarding local authority funding are not clear and these will be considered, if known, when the next MTFS to 31st March 2019 is prepared in late 2015.

9. Statement of Authorisation

The Statement of Accounts were authorised for presentation on 10th June 2015 by Simon Jackson, Director of Corporate Services and S.151 Officer. All financial events up to and including 10th June 2015 have been considered in these accounts.

10. Preparation of Accounts

I would like to thank all staff who have been involved in the preparation of these accounts.

11. Further Information

Further information regarding the accounts may be obtained from:

The Head of Finance & Property Services,
Charnwood Borough Council,
Southfield Road,
Loughborough,
LE11 2TU.

12. Members of the public have a statutory right to inspect the accounts on deposit for audit purposes and the availability of the accounts for inspection is advertised in the local press and on the Council's web site at www.charnwood.gov.uk

John Casey
Head of Finance & Property Services
Charnwood Borough Council

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Director of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer.
- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

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

In preparing this statement of accounts, the Chief Financial Officer has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the local Council code.

The Chief Financial Officer has:

- Kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the reporting date and of its expenditure and income for the year ended 31st March 2015.

Certified by the S151 Officer:

Simon Jackson
Director of Corporate Services

15th September 2015

In accordance with 8(3) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 No 817 the Statement of Accounts shall be signed and dated by the Chairman of the Audit Committee who presided at the meeting at which approval was given.

Signed by the Chairman of the Audit Committee

15th September 2015

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

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

Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure		Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
2013/14	2013/14	2013/14		2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
			Central Services to the Public			
34	0	34	Emergency Planning	42	0	42
225	(260)	(35)	Local Land Charges	383	(248)	135
1,678	(576)	1,102	Local Tax Collection	1,212	(1,035)	177
400	(19)	381	General Grants, Bequests and Donations	450	(18)	432
172	(32)	140	Elections	363	(197)	166
			Cultural, Environmental, Regulatory & Planning Services			
2,675	(1,290)	1,385	Cultural & Related Services	5,589	(1,495)	4,094
9,331	(3,026)	6,305	Environmental Services	9,519	(2,910)	6,609
3,533	(2,995)	538	Planning & Development Services	4,317	(2,538)	1,779
874	(909)	(35)	Highways/Transportation	1,345	(885)	460
9,809	(22,596)	(12,787)	Housing Services – HRA	3,401	(23,065)	(19,664)
35,551	(33,880)	1,671	Housing Services - General Fund	35,233	(32,771)	2,462
745	(576)	169	Children's and Education Service	605	(440)	165
2,298	(155)	2,143	Corporate & Democratic Core	2,708	(96)	2,612
(205)	0	(205)	Non-Distributed Costs	(35)	0	(35)
1,011	(965)	46	Rechargeable Service Units (Note 7)	943	(927)	16
68,131	(67,279)	852	Cost of Service	66,075	(66,625)	(550)
361	(454)	(93)	Trading Operations (Note 25)	612	(451)	161
2,602	0	2,602	Parish Precepts	2,701	0	2,701
826	0	826	Contribution to Housing Pooled Capital Receipts	580	0	580
665	0	665	(Gains)/Loss on Disposal Fixed Assets	244	0	244
0	(22)	(22)	Capital Receipt not related to Asset Disposal	0	(194)	(194)
0	(66)	(66)	Adjustment to Impairment on Investments	0	0	0
4,454	(542)	3,912	Other Operating Expenditure	4,137	(645)	3,492
2,942	0	2,942	Interest Payable and similar charges	3,021	0	3,021
2,147	0	2,147	Net Pensions Interest Costs and Expected Returns on Assets	2,671	0	2,671
0	(170)	(170)	Interest and Investment Income	0	(310)	(310)
(116)	0	(116)	Investment Properties Change in Fair Values (Note 9)	640	0	640
4,973	(170)	4,803	Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure	6,332	(310)	6,022
0	(8,248)	(8,248)	General Government Grant (Note 28)	0	(7,167)	(7,167)
0	(78)	(78)	Capital Grants and Contributions (Note 28)	0	(4)	(4)
0	(3,083)	(3,083)	National Non Domestic Rates (Note 28)	0	(6,029)	(6,029)
0	(8,920)	(8,920)	Collection Fund (Note 28)	0	(8,075)	(8,075)
0	(20,329)	(20,329)	Taxation and non-specific Grant Income	0	(21,275)	(21,275)
77,558	(88,320)	(10,762)	(Surplus)/Deficit on provision of services	76,544	(88,855)	(12,311)
0	(893)	(893)	(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of Fixed Assets	1,824	0	1,824
12,387	0	12,387	Actuarial (gains)/losses on pension assets/liabilities	10,481	0	10,481
12,387	(893)	11,494	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	12,305	0	12,305
89,945	(89,213)	732	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	88,849	(88,855)	(6)

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2015

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

31st March 2014 £'000		Note	31st March 2015 £'000	31st March 2015 £'000
180,481	Council Dwellings	8	191,491	
39,699	Other Land & Buildings	8	35,805	
1,047	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	8	1,035	
104	Infrastructure Assets	8	58	
3,543	Community Assets	8	3,030	
54	Assets Under Construction	8	847	
68	Surplus Assets Not Held for Sale	8	96	
224,996	Property, Plant and Equipment Total			232,362
229	Heritage Assets	11		229
2,708	Investment Property	9		1,952
271	Intangible Assets	10		297
5	Long-Term Debtors	12		2
228,209	Long-Term Assets (Sub-total)			234,842
14,000	Short-Term Investments	12		18,000
6	Surplus Assets held for Sale	16		53
81	Inventories	13		78
10,233	Short-Term Debtors	14		7,726
(2,535)	Provision for Bad/Doubtful Debts	14		(2,975)
6,347	Cash and Cash Equivalents	15		15,227
28,132	Current Assets (Sub-Total)			38,109
(460)	Bank Overdraft	15		(436)
(1,049)	Provisions	18		(240)
(10,530)	Short-Term Creditors	17		(14,921)
(12,039)	Current Liabilities (Sub-Total)			(15,597)
(81,190)	Long-Term Borrowing, over 12 Months	12		(81,190)
(62,239)	Defined Benefit Pension Scheme	33		(75,215)
(1,238)	Asset/(Liability)			(75,215)
(1,238)	Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	28		(1,308)
(144,667)	Long-Term Liabilities Total			(157,713)
99,635	Net Assets Total			99,641

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2015

31st March 2014 £'000		Note	31st March 2015 £'000	31st March 2015 £'000
(4,294)	Capital Receipts Reserve	19		(5,515)
(1)	Major Repairs Reserve	6		(2,919)
(4,665)	Revenue Reserves	6		(4,172)
(1,058)	Reinvestment Reserve	6		(959)
(570)	Capital Grants Unapplied	19		(371)
(4,970)	General Fund Balance			(5,064)
(1,344)	HRA Fund Balance			(1,003)
(16,902)	Usable Reserves Total			(20,003)
1,094	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	20		(1,425)
(5)	Deferred Credits (Deferred Capital Receipts)	20		(1)
(129,656)	Capital Adjustment Account	20		(139,013)
62,239	Pension Reserve Deficit	20		75,215
(16,714)	Revaluation Reserve	20		(14,707)
309	Accumulated Absences Account	20		293
(82,733)	Unusable Reserves Total			(79,638)
(99,635)	Total Reserves			(99,641)

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Council's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance and the Housing Revenue Account for council tax setting and dwellings rent setting purposes. The Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the statutory General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

Movement in Reserves Statement 2014-15	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Housing Revenue Account Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening Balance at the beginning of the period	(4,970)	(5,723)	(1,344)	(1)	(4,294)	(570)	(16,902)	(82,733)	(99,635)
(Surplus)/Deficit on provision of Services (accounting basis)	4,049	0	(16,360)	0	0	0	(12,311)	0	(12,311)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,305	12,305
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	4,049	0	(16,360)	0	0	0	(12,311)	12,305	(6)
Adjustments Primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:									
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	127	0	127		
Cash Proceeds	0	0	0	0	(1,348)	0	(1,348)		
Adjustments Primarily involving the Capital grants Unapplied Account:									
Application of Grants to Capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	0	0	0	0	0	204	204		
Transfer to General Fund	(13)	0	0	0	0	13	0		
Capital grants unapplied adjustment and Contributions Applied	0	0	0	0	0	(18)	(18)		
Adjustments Primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:									
Depreciation credited to MRA	0	0	0	(6,145)	0	0	(6,145)		
Use of the Major Repair Reserve to finance new Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	3,227	0	0	3,227		
Subtotal	(13)	0	0	(2,918)	(1,221)	199	(3,953)	3,953	0
Adjustment between Accounting basis and Funding basis under Regulations:									
Pension Fund Reserve	(2,500)	0	3	0	0	0	(2,497)		
Collection Fund Account	122	0	0	0	0	0	122		
Accumulated Absences Account	13	0	3	0	0	0	16		
NNDR and Renewable Energy	2,397	0	0	0	0	0	2,397		
HRA and GF for revaluations	151	0	(151)	0	0	0	0		
Capital Adjustment Account -Upward Revaluation	2,172	0	15,688	0	0	0	17,860		
- Downward Revaluation	(5,137)	0	(2,302)	0	0	0	(7,439)		
-Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Fixed Assets	218	0	(461)	0	0	0	(243)		
-Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital	(1,168)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,168)		
- Depreciation	(1,179)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,179)		
Capital Expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	1,300	0	3,907	0	0	0	5,207		
Capital Grants and Contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	18	0	0	0	0	0	18		
Application of Grants to Capital Adjustment Account	443	0	14	0	0	0	457		
Capital Receipts Reserve	(388)	0	0	0	0	0	(388)		
Sub Total Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(3,538)	0	16,701	0	0	0	13,163	(13,163)	0
Net (Increase)/Decrease before transfers to earmarked reserves	498	0	341	(2,918)	(1,221)	199	(3,101)	3,095	(6)
Transfers to/(from) earmarked reserves	(592)	592	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total (increase)/decrease in the year	(94)	592	341	(2,918)	(1,221)	199	(3,101)	3,095	(6)
Balance at the end of the period	(5,064)	(5,131)	(1,003)	(2,919)	(5,515)	(371)	(20,003)	(79,638)	(99,641)

Movement in Reserves Statement 2013-14	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Housing Revenue Account Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Opening Balance at the beginning of the period	(4,620)	(1,900)	(1,685)	(358)	(3,501)	(560)	(12,624)	(87,743)	(100,367)
(Surplus)/Deficit on provision of Services (accounting basis)	(1,785)	0	(8,977)	0	0	0	(10,762)	0	(10,762)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,494	11,494
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(1,785)	0	(8,977)	0	0	0	(10,762)	11,494	732
Adjustments Primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:									
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0	47	0	47		
Cash Proceeds	0	0	0	0	(840)	0	(840)		
Adjustments Primarily involving the Capital grants Unapplied Account:									
Application of Grants to Capital financing transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account	0	0	0	0	0	35	35		
Capital grants unapplied adjustment and Contributions Applied	0	0	0	0	0	(45)	(45)		
Adjustments Primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:									
Reversal of Major Repairs allowance credited to the HRA	0	0	0	(288)	0	0	(288)		
Use of the Major Repair Reserve to finance new capital Expenditure	0	0	0	645	0	0	645		
Sub Total	0	0	0	357	(793)	(10)	(446)	446	0
Adjustment between Accounting basis and Funding basis under Regulations:									
Pension Fund Reserve	(2,094)	0	(8)	0	0	0	(2,102)		
Collection Fund Account	(1,065)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,065)		
Accumulated Absences Account	41	0	11	0	0	0	52		
Financial Instruments Account	0	0	236	0	0	0	236		
Capital Adjustment Account -Upward Revaluation	2,202	0	5,525	0	0	0	7,727		
- Downward Revaluation	0	0	(49)	0	0	0	(49)		
-Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Fixed Assets	422	0	(1,087)	0	0	0	(665)		
-Revenue Expenditure Funded from capital	(986)	0	0	0	0	0	(986)		
- Depreciation	(1,539)	0	(288)	0	0	0	(1,827)		
Capital Expenditure charged against General Fund and HRA balances	981	0	4,866	0	0	0	5,847		
Capital Grants and Contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	9	0	35	0	0	0	44		
Application of Grants to Capital Adjustment Account	450	0	77	0	0	0	527		
Capital Receipts Reserve	(809)	0	0	0	0	0	(809)		
Sub Total Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(2,388)	0	9,318	0	0	0	6,930	(6,930)	0
Net (Increase)/Decrease before transfers to earmarked reserves	(4,173)	0	341	357	(793)	(10)	(4,278)	5,010	732
Transfers to/(from) earmarked reserves	3,823	(3,823)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total (Increase)/decrease in the year	(350)	(3,823)	341	357	(793)	(10)	(4,278)	5,010	732
Balance at the end of the period	(4,970)	(5,723)	(1,344)	(1)	(4,294)	(570)	(16,902)	(82,733)	(99,635)

Cash Flow Statement

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

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(10,762)	Net (Surplus)/Deficit on the provision of services	(12,311)
	Adjustments for non-cash movements	
741	Depreciation and Impairment of Fixed Assets	2,430
(927)	(Increase)/Decrease Provision for Bad Debt	369
(2,102)	Net Charges made for retirement benefit	(2,495)
(6)	Increase/(Decrease) in Inventories	(3)
895	Increase/(Decrease) in Debtors	557
994	(Increase)/Decrease in Creditors	(1,724)
66	Profit on Investments	0
(2)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	0
(1,282)	NNDR Adjustment Account	2,498
52	Holiday Accrual	16
78	Deferred Capital Grant and Contributions	5
290	HRA Recharge Income	276
(1,203)	Adjustments to net Surplus/Deficit for non-cash movements	1,929
	Adjustments for items that are Investing or Financing Activities	
(643)	Other Capital Receipts and (Gains)/Loss on Sale Fixed Assets	(50)
(12,608)	Net Cash outflows/(inflows) from Operating Activities(Note 21)	(10,432)
12,768	Net Capital Activities	3,984
(1,838)	Net Change in Investments	4,000
10,930	Net Cash outflows/(inflows) from Investing Activities (Note 22)	7,984
(3,226)	Net Cash outflows/(inflows) from Financing Activities (Note 23)	(6,456)
(4,904)	Net (Increase)/Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(8,904)
983	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	5,887
5,887	Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the period (Note 15)	14,791
(4,904)	(Increase)/Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(8,904)

Accounting Policies

1. General Principles

This Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2014/15 financial year and its position at 31st March 2015 year end. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audits Regulations 2011. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 (the Code) and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15, issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). The Accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

2. Accruals of Income and Expenditure

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

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption; they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest 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.

Debtors and Creditors

The Council's revenue accounts are maintained on an accruals basis in accordance with the Code. That is, sums due to or from the Council during the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received or paid in the year. An exception to this principle relates to repayments of NNDR which are made on a cash basis in the year that the Council is notified of the necessity to refund and, although the amount is outside of the Council's control, a provision has been established to cover the Council's share of such possible refunds.

Interest on balances

General Fund interest for the year is accrued and accounted for in the accounts in the relevant period to which it relates. Interest is credited to the Housing Revenue Account based on an average rate of interest earned on the Council's investments during the year.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash Equivalents are investments that mature in no more than 3 months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. In the cash flow, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of debit amounts with banks that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

4. Provisions and Contingent Liabilities

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by transfer of economic benefits and where a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are charged to the appropriate service revenue account in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties. When payments are eventually made they are charged to the provision carried in the balance sheet. Estimated settlements are

reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will not now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service revenue account.

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

5. Employee Benefits

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

6. Retirement Benefits

Most employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme (the 'Scheme'), administered by Leicestershire County Council, which provides defined benefits to members, earned as employees work for the Council.

The liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, staff turnover etc and projections of projected earnings for current staff. Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 3.2% based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds as measured by the yield on iBoxx Sterling Corporate Index, AA over 15 years, at the IAS 19 valuation date. (The corresponding figure for 2013/14 was 4.3 %).

The change in the net pension liability is analysed into seven components:

- Current service cost, which is the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year and is allocated in the Income and Expenditure Statement to the revenue accounts of services for the relevant employees.
- Past service cost, which is the increase in liabilities arising from decisions in 2014/15 which affect years of service earned in earlier years and this is debited to the Net Cost of Services in the Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs.
- Interest cost, which is the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year and is debited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Expected return on assets is the annual investment return on the Scheme's fund based on the average of the expected long-term return and is credited to the Net Operating Expenditure in the Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Gains/losses on settlements and curtailments which result from actions to relieve the Council of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees. This is debited or credited, as appropriate, to the Net Cost of Services as part of Non Distributed Costs.
- Actuarial gains and losses change the net pension liability and arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation, or because those assumptions have been updated, and these are debited to the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses.
- Contributions paid to the Scheme as the employer's contributions.

Statutory provisions limit the Council to raising council tax to cover the amounts payable to the Scheme in the year. This results in appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve in the Movement in Reserves

Statement to remove the notional debits and credits and replace them with debits for cash paid and payable to the Scheme in the year.

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

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

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effects of transactions, other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively, unless stated otherwise, by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy has always been applied. Should any material errors be discovered in prior period figures they are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

8. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial Liabilities are initially measured at fair value and are carried in the Balance Sheet at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Income & Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying value of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest) and interest charged to the Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the loan in the agreement.

Gains or losses arising on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowings are debited to Net Operating Expenditure in the Income & Expenditure Statement in the year of repurchase/settlement. Where, however, the repurchase of borrowing has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is respectively deducted or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write-down to the Income and Expenditure Statement is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

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

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into two types:

- Loans and receivables – assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market
- Available for Sale assets - assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments.

Loans and receivables are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially valued at fair value. They are subsequently measured and carried on the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Annual credits to the Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the Council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Income and Expenditure Statement. The impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the revised future cash flows discounted at the investment's original effective interest rate.

Any gains and losses on de-recognition of an asset are credited or debited directly to the Income and Expenditure Statement.

Available for sale assets are recognised when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially valued at fair value in the Balance Sheet. Changes in fair value are balanced by an entry in the Available for Sale Reserve and the gain/loss is recognised in the surplus or deficit on Revaluation of Available for Sale Financial Assets. Any gains/losses on de-recognition are taken directly to the Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any accumulated gains or losses previously recognised in the Available For Sale Reserve.

The Council also holds a very small amount of Government stock. This is treated as an Available for Sale asset under the Code. However, these are held at cost in the Balance Sheet as the difference between this and their market value is immaterial to the Council as a whole.

The notes to the financial statements, on pages 20 to 55 show this information, where relevant, relating to the appropriate class of assets and liabilities.

9. Government Grants and Contributions

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

- the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

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

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

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

10. Intangible Assets

Expenditure on assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it will bring benefits to the Council for more than one financial year. The balance is amortised to the relevant revenue account over the economic life of the investment to reflect the pattern of consumption of benefits.

11. Heritage Assets

The authority owns heritage assets such as civic regalia, statues, paintings and sculptures. Those valued at £10k or more are included on the Balance Sheet as Heritage Assets. The actual assets are situated in Council premises, parks and squares in Loughborough. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the policies on property, plant

and equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to Heritage Assets in that heritage items are reported in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation.

12. Inventories and Long-Term Contracts

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Any Long term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

13. Investment Property

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

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's length. Properties are not depreciated. Gains and losses on revaluation and disposal are posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

14. Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. No finance leases have been identified and currently all the Council's leases are classified as operating leases.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the service benefitting from the use of the leased property, plant or equipment.

15. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Service revenue accounts, including support services and trading accounts, are debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non current assets during the year:

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

The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, impairment or amortisation and therefore these are reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement on the General Fund Balance.

16. Overheads

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those that benefit from the supply or service in accordance with the costing principles of the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15. The total absorption costing principle is used - the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

- Corporate and Democratic Core - costs relating to the Council's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation.
- Non Distributed Costs – the cost of discretionary benefits awarded to employees retiring early and any depreciation and impairment losses chargeable on non-operational properties.

17. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accrual basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure on routine repairs and maintenance of non current assets that does not enhance the asset or extend its useful economic life is charged directly to service revenue accounts. The de-minimus level for accounting for property, plant and equipment is £10,000.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising of 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 by management.

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

- Infrastructure assets, community assets and assets under construction are included in the balance sheet at depreciated historical cost.
- Council dwellings have been valued using the 'Beacon valuation' method, whereby a sample of each category of dwelling is valued and then these valuations are applied to all similar dwellings to arrive at a gross valuation. They are valued at fair value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH).
- Land, operational properties and other operational assets are included in the balance sheet at existing use value, market value or depreciated replacement cost.

Non-specialised operational properties are valued at either existing use or market value. Depreciated replacement cost is used for specialised operational properties and market value for investment properties and surplus assets.

Revaluations of fixed assets take place at five yearly intervals, although material changes to valuations will continue to be adjusted for in the interim period, as they occur. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains, unless the increase is reversing a previous revaluation decrease charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services on the same asset.

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

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

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

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain community assets) and assets under construction.

Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over either the remaining life of the asset or the following periods:

Buildings (where appropriate)	5 - 80	years
Infrastructure	20	years
Plant, vehicles and equipment (excluding computers)	7	years
Computers and software licences	5	years

The Housing Revenue Account is charged with the depreciation of its assets. Dwellings are depreciated over 60 years. Garages are depreciated over 49 years and shops are depreciated over 50 years using the straight-line method.

No item of Property, Plant and Equipment has been identified as having major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item; therefore no separate depreciation calculations are required.

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

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is devalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Depreciation is not charged to Assets Held for Sale. Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

Receipts from disposals are part of the gain or loss on disposal line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the assets at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as a capital receipt. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals are payable to the Government. The balance of receipts is credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

18. Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Expenditure to be funded from a reserve is charged to the appropriate service revenue account and reflected in the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The relevant amount is then transferred back into the General Fund Balance so that there is no net charge to council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council. These reserves are explained elsewhere in these Accounting Policies.

19. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

This is expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions, but does not result in the creation of a non current asset for the Council. This is charged as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the year. The cost of this expenditure is met from existing capital resources and a transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged in the Movement in Reserves Statement so there is no impact on the level of council tax.

21. Value Added Tax

Income and expenditure excludes any amounts related to VAT, as all VAT collected is payable to HM Revenue & Customs and all VAT paid is recoverable from them.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1. Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

There have been no substantial changes to the Council's accounting policies in 2014/15 and, whilst there have been some changes to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), these have either been incorporated in the Financial Statements or they do not apply to the Council.

Note 2. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in pages 13 to 19 the Council has 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 the high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government and changes to National Non-Domestic Rates processes, reliefs and rules. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be materially impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and/or reduce levels of service provision.

Note 3. Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, we do not consider that the actual results will be materially different from the assumptions and estimates. Major estimates are pensions, depreciation and provisions in respect of NNDR which are identified in notes 4, 6 and 17 to the Accounting Policies.

Note 4. Exceptional Items of Income & Expenditure

There are no Exceptional Items for 2014/15.

Note 5. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for presentation by the S151 Officer on 10th June 2015. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31st March 2015, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

The Chancellor announced in his 2015 summer budget that rents in social housing are to be reduced by 1% a year from April 2016 for the next four years. The Council will need to consider the impact that the rent reductions may have on its Housing Revenue Account and revise its HRA plan accordingly.

Note 6.

Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2014/15.

	Balance at 31st March 2014 £'000	Transfers Out £'000	Transfers in £'000	Balance at 31st March 2015 £'000
Revenue Reserves				
Reinvestment Reserve	(1,058)	99	0	(959)
Growth Support Fund	(285)	51	0	(234)
Capital Plan Reserve	(3,969)	432	0	(3,537)
Other	(411)	10	0	(401)
Total General Fund	(5,723)	592	0	(5,131)
Total HRA Major Repairs Reserve	(1)	0	(2,918)	(2,919)

Reinvestment Reserve

The purpose of this reserve is to fund items that produce a payback to the Council, to fund costs that lead to appreciable service improvements and to fund one off costs. The following transfers to/from the reinvestment reserve are detailed below:

2013/14			2014/15	
£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	(1,350)	Balance at 1st April		(1,058)
2		Added Years Costs	0	
40		Redundancy Payments	1	
121		Customer Services Strategy Programme	20	
10		Public Conveniences Service Review Costs	0	
24		Outsourcing Green Spaces and Engineering Procurement and Legal Advice	3	
0		Multi-Agency Co-Location Programme	33	
0		Capital Allocation – DWP Co-Location	32	
4		Capital Allocation – Town Hall Soundproofing Victoria Room	0	
5		Capital Allocation – Office Accommodation Refurbishment	0	
28		Capital Allocation – Lagan Upgrade	0	
33		Capital Allocation – Midland Trent Payroll System Upgrade	10	
15		Capital Allocation – Replacement Franking Machine	0	
10		Capital Allocation – FMS Upgrade	0	
	292	Total Expenditure in the Year		99
	0	Transfer from Working Balances		0
	(1,058)	Balance at 31st March		(959)

Note 7 Other Income & Expenditure

Other income and expenditure included within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Cost of Service are Loughborough Special Expenditure, Building Control Account and Rechargeable Service Units, and details are as follows:-

Loughborough Special Expenses

Loughborough Special Expenses is the town precept comparable to parish precepts. These costs are included within specific service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

There was a debit balance of £5k in 2013/14. However, £151k was adjusted in the setting of the special expenses levy for 2015/16, leaving a credit balance of £146k to be adjusted for in future years. The 2014/15 credit balance of £192k will be adjusted in the setting of the special expenses levy for 2016/17.

Loughborough Special Expenses 2013/14 Budget £'000	Loughborough Special Expenses 2013/14 Actuals £'000	Debit Balance £'000		Loughborough Special Expenses 2014/15 Budget £'000	Loughborough Special Expenses 2014/15 Actuals £'000	Credit Balance £'000
1,274	1,279	5	Total Levy	1,221	1,029	192
0	0	0	Adjustments from Year 2012/13	63	63	0
16	16	0	Adjustments from Year 2011/12	0	0	0
(43)	(43)	0	Council Tax Freeze Grant	(43)	(43)	0
(175)	(175)	0	Council Tax Support Grant	(150)	(150)	0
1,072	1,077	5	Amended Total Levy	1,091	899	192

Building Control Account

The Building (Local Council Charges) Regulations 2010 (SI 2010/404) requires the disclosure of information regarding the setting of charges for the administration of the building control function. However the Building Control Unit cannot charge for building work solely required for disabled persons. The overriding objective is to ensure the chargeable account recovers costs for chargeable functions.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
317	Chargeable Work Expenditure	276
(417)	Income	(305)
(100)	(Surplus)/Deficit	(29)
259	Non-Chargeable Work Expenditure	223
(29)	Income	(22)
230	(Surplus)/Deficit	201

Rechargeable Service Units

This Service heading includes £927k (2013/14 £965k) of external income generated in Rechargeable Service Units. The balance of £16k relates to shared services costs on the Harborough District Council Contact Centre contract.

Note 8. Property, Plant and Equipment

Movements in 2014/15	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets under Construction	Total Plant, Property and Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1st April 2014	180,994	39,978	6,279	1,461	3,543	68	54	232,377
Additions	6,495	235	393	0	0	0	847	7,970
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(154)	(2,173)	0	0	(88)	30	0	(2,385)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Provision of Services	6,098	(2,548)	0	0	(49)	(1)	0	3,500
Derecognition – disposals	(1,861)	0	(14)	0	0	0	0	(1,875)
Asset Reclassification	(53)	391	0	0	(375)	1	(54)	(90)
At 31st March 2015	191,519	35,883	6,658	1,461	3,031	98	847	239,497
Accumulated Depreciation and impairment								
At 1st April 2014	(513)	(279)	(5,232)	(1,357)	0	0	0	(7,381)
Depreciation charge	(6,137)	(638)	(405)	(46)	(1)	(2)	0	(7,229)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	0	562	0	0	0	0	0	562
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	6,622	277	0	0	0	0	0	6,899
Derecognition – other	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	14
At 31st March 2015	(28)	(78)	(5,623)	(1,403)	(1)	(2)	0	(7,135)
Net Book Value at 31st March 2015	191,491	35,805	1,035	58	3,030	96	847	232,362
Net Book Value at 31st March 2014	180,481	39,699	1,047	104	3,543	68	54	224,996

Comparative Movements in 2013/14	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant , Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets under Construction	Total Plant, Property and Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1st April 2013	170,660	37,919	8,743	1,461	3,543	68	63	222,457
Additions	11,624	202	134	0	0	0	32	11,992
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	193	(71)	0	0	0	0	0	122
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Provision of Services	826	1,928	0	0	0	0	0	2,754
Derecognition – disposals	(2,309)	0	(2,598)	0	0	0	0	(4,907)
Asset Reclassification	0	0	0	0	0	0	(41)	(41)
At 31st March 2014	180,994	39,978	6,279	1,461	3,543	68	54	232,377
Accumulated Depreciation and impairment								
At 1st April 2013	(34)	(176)	(7,372)	(1,285)	0	0	0	(8,867)
Depreciation charge	(5,236)	(929)	(458)	(72)	(28)	0	0	(6,723)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	107	636	0	0	28	0	0	771
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	4,650	190	0	0	0	0	0	4,840
Derecognition – other	0	0	2,598	0	0	0	0	2,598
At 31st March 2014	(513)	(279)	(5,232)	(1,357)	0	0	0	(7,381)
Net Book Value at 31st March 2014	180,481	39,699	1,047	104	3,543	68	54	224,996
Net Book Value at 31st March 2013	170,626	37,743	1,371	176	3,543	68	63	213,590

Impairment Losses

The code requires disclosure by class of assets of the amounts for impairment losses and impairment reversals charged to the surplus or deficit on the provision of services and to other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

These disclosures are consolidated in notes 8 and 10 reconciling movement over the year in the Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Asset balances.

Capital Commitments

At 31st March 2015, the Council had entered into a number of contracts and capital commitments for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment, as well as certain capital grants and contributions in 2015/16. Similar commitments at 31st March 2014 were £12,533k with future years budgets being £14,202k. The current major commitments are:

	31st March 2015 £'000
Lagan Upgrade (Customer Services Programme)	116
Community Shop	120
Community Facilities Grants	207
Fit for Life – Rawlins Academy	147
Hallam Fields Community Hall	350
Loughborough University Science & Enterprise Park	425
DWP Co-Location	749
Private Sector Housing and Disabled Facilities Grants	810
Decent Homes and Neighbourhoods	10,355
	13,279

Revaluations

There was a full revaluation of the Council's Operational and Non-Operational non housing stock (Land and Property), on 1st April 2014. The valuation report was prepared by G S C Harbord MA MRICS IRRV (Hons) RICS Registered Valuer of Wilks Head and Eve LLP, Fairgate House, 78 New Oxford Street, London (the "Valuer"). The valuations were made in accordance with RICS Valuation Standards the Red Book UK Appendix 5 – Valuation of Local Authority Assets. Each land parcel and property has been assessed for the most appropriate method of valuation. The valuation categories used are – open market value, existing use value and depreciated replacement cost. Where the parcel includes a property this has been valued separately. The value of the site is the sum of the land value and the value of the property. Life expired buildings or infrastructure are given a notional value of one pound. The valuation included an inspection of all assets

The operational Housing Revenue stock comprising dwellings, shops, garages and a store were valued as at 1st April 2014. The valuations were made by the Valuer in accordance with RICS Valuation Standards the Red Book UK Appendix 5 – Valuation of Local Authority Assets. The dwellings were valued using the beacon approach. This valuation included:

- an inspection of each beacon property for each archetype group
- research on sales of directly comparable property which took place during the financial year.
- information at local level showing house price movements
- regional and national Indices
- a review of the existing asset groups and archetypes

The dwellings, store, shops and garages are valued on an existing use value.

Council HRA dwellings, shops, garages and stores along with the Council's Operational and Non-Operational non-housing stock (land and property) were revalued at the end of March 2015 on a 'desk top' basis by the Valuer to reflect their fair value as at that time.

Note 9 Investment Properties

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(81)	Rental Income from Investment Property	(80)
(81)	Total	(80)

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
2,624	Balance at the start of the year	2,708
84	Change in Fair Values	(640)
0	Other changes - Disposals	(116)
2,708	Balance at the end of the year	1,952

Note 10 Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its software purchases as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment. There is no internally generated software.

All software assets are given a finite useful life of 5 years. The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £95k was charged to revenue in 2014/15 and is analysed in the following table:

2013/14 £'000	Amortisation Charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	2014/15 £'000
2	Cultural and Related Services	4
138	Housing Services – HRA	6
73	Absorbed over service headings	85
213		95

Movement on Intangible Asset balances during the year is as follows:

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
	Balance at start of year:	
2,745	Gross carrying amounts	2,822
(2,445)	Accumulated amortisation	(2,551)
300	Net carrying amount at start of year	271
143	Additions: Purchases	83
(213)	Amortisation for the period	(95)
41	Asset Reclassification	38
(106)	Derecognition – disposals	(15)
106	Derecognition – depreciation written out	15
271	Net carrying amount at end of year	297
	Comprising:	
2,822	Gross carrying amounts	2,928
(2,551)	Accumulated amortisation	(2,631)
271		297

Note 11 Heritage Assets

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
229	Balance at the start of the year	229
0	Assets reclassified from Community Assets	0
0	Revaluations	0
229	Balance at the end of the year	229

Note 12 Financial Instruments

The following categories of financial instrument are carried in the Balance Sheet:

	Long-Term		Short-Term	
	31st March 2014 £'000	31st March 2015 £'000	31st March 2014 £'000	31st March 2015 £'000
Investments				
Loans and Receivables	0	0	14,000	18,000
Total Investments	0	0	14,000	18,000
Debtors				
Loans and Receivables	5	2	3,262	2,662
Total Debtors	5	2	3,262	2,662
Borrowings				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	81,190	81,190	0	0
Total Borrowings	81,190	81,190	0	0
Creditors				
Financial liabilities	0	0	6,502	8,561
Total Creditors	0	0	6,502	8,561

Whilst no amount is shown above there is one long-term 'Loans and Receivables' being:

Investment held on behalf of Newtown Linford Parish Council	Cost Price £	Nominal Value £
Common Investment Fund - High Yield Units	152	180

There is no current market value for this investment but the last time it was sold its value was £1,145.

In addition to the above, the Council holds 10.2% of the Ordinary Shares of the Great Central Railway (1986) plc. These cost £261k and the shares are fully paid-up and there is no further liability to pay any more to the company. The company is operated to re-create the best years of steam locomotives and experience mainline railway operation. The company made a profit after taxation of £12k in the year ended 1st February 2015 and had net assets of £1.776m at 1st February 2015. The audit opinion had no qualification for the year ended 1st February 2015. However, the company has a non-profit distribution status and its Memorandum & Articles of Association prohibits any distribution to shareholders. As such the shares have no current value and are shown at Nil as an Unquoted Equity Investment at amortised cost.

The £2k of Long Term Loans and Receivables classified as debtors is in respect of mortgages granted on Council House sales. Short-term Loans and Receivables relate to various classes of debtors, including sundry debtors plus tenants' rental accounts. This debtors figure is reduced by the Bad Debt impairment and except for this all debtors are shown at book value.

The Borrowing of £81.19m outstanding is classified as a 'Financial liability at amortised cost' under the Code and requires a fair value to be disclosed where this is different to the carrying amount stated in the Balance Sheet. £2m of these loans has been attributed a fair value of £3,568k at the date of the Balance Sheet. The reason for the value difference is that this loan is running at a high coupon, set at the original loan date in 1984, and although it carries a LOBO (Lender's Option, Borrower's Option) it is unlikely to be called in by the counterparty before the maturity date in 2024. This would only occur if the prevailing interest rate became consistently above 11.625%. Therefore the risk of replacement is slight. In this event the Council has access to the Public Works Loan Board funds, or could disinvest surplus cash.

The fair value of the remaining £79.19m is £84.6m and these loans were taken out to fund a repayment to the government in order to 'buy out' the Council's participation in the old Housing Subsidy system. All the loans are at fixed rates of interest maturing between 9 and 46 years' time and the loan interest will be serviced from housing rental income. The Council does not currently intend to pay off any of these loans

early and they are therefore held at their face value, which is the same basis as in previous years when the fair value was less than the book value.

The fair value of all the loans is determined by calculating the Net Present Value (NPV) of future cash flows which provides an estimate of the value of payments in the future. The discount rate used in the NPV calculation should be equal to the current rate in relation to the same instrument from a comparable lender or the new loan rate in respect of the £79.19m of PWLB loans. The discount/new loan rates were evaluated at between 2.36% and 3.08% by Capita Asset Services Ltd, the Council's treasury adviser.

These will be the rates applicable in the market on the date of valuation for an instrument of the same duration, i.e. equal to the outstanding period from valuation date to maturity. The structure and terms of the comparable instrument should be the same. Total Interest of £2,929k a year is payable in two instalments on the loans each year and is charged directly to the Income and Expenditure Statement.

Financial Liabilities in Creditors are in respect of various trade creditors and accruals which are classified as financial instruments and are shown at cost.

Heritable Bank investment

With the exception of the Council's investment with Heritable Bank Plc ('Heritable'), at the Balance Sheet date it is not considered that any of the above assets are impaired in any way and there has been no history of failure to repay on the due dates by any counterparty with whom the Council has transacted business.

In October 2008, the Icelandic bank Landsbanki ceased trading and its UK subsidiary, Heritable, went into administration. The Council had deposited £1m with Heritable on 30th January 2008, with a maturity date of 28th January 2009 and interest rate of 5.52%. Up to 31st March 2015 £976k has been received from the administrator and the remaining amount had been written off. Following notification from the administrator in May 2015 it is now expected that at least a further £41k should be repaid in due course following an out of court settlement between the administrator and Landsbanki. Due to the degree of uncertainty and the fact that no date has been set for this potential payment these accounts do not include a debtor for this amount.

Other Short-Term Investments

Short-term lending is carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost at the Balance Sheet date. Therefore the material accrued interest at 31st March 2015 is included in the above value for Balance Sheet purposes. Interest received during the year is credited to the Income and Expenditure Statement. There are no costs associated with these transactions.

Income, Expense, Gains and Losses on Financial Instruments

	2013/14			2014/15		
	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables £'000	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Costs £'000	Total £'000	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables £'000	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Costs £'000	Total £'000
Interest Expense	0	2,929	2,929	0	2,929	2,929
Total expense in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	0	2,929	2,929	0	2,929	2,929
Interest Income	(154)	0	(154)	(222)	0	(222)
Total income in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(154)	0	(154)	(222)	0	(222)
Gain on Revaluation	(66)	0	(66)	0	0	0
Surplus/deficit arising on revaluation of financial assets in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(66)	0	(66)	0	0	0
Net (Gain)/Loss for the Year	(220)	2,929	2,709	(222)	2,929	2,707

Note 13 Inventories

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
62	Work Stocks on Site	55
11	Franking Machines	11
8	Other	12
81		78

Note 14 Short-Term Debtors

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
	<u>Amounts falling due in one year:</u>	
139	Government Departments	0
619	HM Revenue and Customs	1,148
860	Housing Rents	893
1,423	Reserved Debtors	1,236
3,514	Sundry Debtors	3,508
315	Net Share of Council Tax Debtors	332
692	Other Preceptors Share of Collection Fund	0
289	NNDR Leicestershire County Council	0
1,615	NNDR Central Government	0
32	NNDR Combined Fire Authority	0
281	NNDR Leicestershire Pool	0
432	CBC Share of NNDR Pool	487
22	Other	122
10,233		7,726

Most Debtors are considered to be Financial Instruments and are classified as Loans and Receivables. Statutory debts such as Council Tax and National Non-Domestic Rates are not Financial Instruments. Those that are Financial Instruments are measured at amortised cost at Balance Sheet date. In effect that is the initial amount less any repayments or accrued interest. The Council does not routinely charge interest on the debtor accounts and impairment is dealt with as set out below. The impairment of these assets is considered in depth when calculating the provision for doubtful debts and appropriate provision is made which is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. There is a general provision for doubtful debts of £2,975k (2013/14 £2,535k).

Bad Debt Provision

The Bad Debt provision is analysed as follows:-

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(20)	Bed and Breakfast	(38)
(1,613)	Housing Benefits	(1,906)
(123)	General Fund	(107)
(702)	HRA Rents	(760)
(77)	CBC Share of NNDR Bad/Doubtful Debt	(164)
(2,535)		(2,975)

Note 15 Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the following elements:

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
237	Cash held by the Council Short-term deposits with approved institutions	137
6,110		15,090
6,347		15,227
(460)	Bank Overdraft	(436)
(460)		(436)
5,887	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	14,791

Note 16 Surplus Assets Held for Sale

2013/14 Current Assets £'000		2014/15 Current Assets £'000
6	Balance outstanding at start of year	6
0	Revaluation losses	(5)
0	Asset Reclassification	52
6	Balance outstanding at year end	53

Note 17 Short-Term Creditors

31st March 2014		31st March 2015
£'000		£'000
556	HM Revenue and Customs	487
105	Government Departments	814
92	Leicestershire County Council	169
363	Housing Rents	356
2,307	Other Sundry Creditors	2,339
3,832	Reserved Creditors	5,866
1,596	Section 106 Monies	1,657
154	CBC Share of Overpaid Council Tax	159
309	Provision for Accumulated Absences	293
0	Council Tax Cash Due To Preceptors	98
249	NNDR - Prepayments	275
125	NNDR – Leicestershire County Council	319
828	NNDR - Central Government	2,054
14	NNDR - Combined Fire Authority	35
10,530		14,921

Creditors are regarded as financial instruments for accounting purposes except those in respect of items such as NNDR and payments due to certain government departments. All such items regarded as financial instruments are valued at fair value as at 31st March 2015.

Note 18 Provisions

The Code requires that the accounts clearly differentiate the provisions from the reserves of the Council. Provisions are required for any liabilities of uncertain timing or amounts that have been incurred.

	£'000	£'000
Provision at 1st April 2014		
Housing Benefit Claims	(391)	
NNDR Backdated Appeals	(658)	
		(1,049)
Changes to Provision:		
Write Back of Provision	391	
Reduction in Provision NNDR Backdated Appeals	418	
		809
Balance at 31st March 2015		(240)

Note 19 Usable Reserves

Movements in the Council's Usable Reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement on page 10 and below as follows:-

General Fund Balance

Purpose of Reserve: Resources available to meet future running costs for non-housing services. The guideline used by the Council requires a balance to be maintained of at least £2m.

Housing Revenue Account

Purpose of Reserve: Resources available to meet future running costs for council houses. See page 10 Statement of Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Balance.

Usable Capital Receipts Reserve

Purpose of Reserve: proceeds of fixed asset sales available to meet future capital investment.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(3,501)	Balance at 1st April	(4,294)
(840)	General Fund amounts receivable	(1,314)
0	HRA amounts receivable	(34)
47	Amounts applied to finance new capital investments	127
(4,294)	Balance at 31st March	(5,515)

Usable Capital Grants and Contributions Reserve

Purpose of Reserve: proceeds of grants and contributions to meet future capital investment and specific revenue expenditure.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(560)	Balance at 1st April	(570)
35	Amounts applied to finance new capital investments	204
(45)	Amounts transferred to/(from) revenue	(5)
(570)	Balance at 31st March	(371)

Note 20 Unusable Reserves

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
1,094	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(1,425)
(5)	Deferred Credits (Deferred Capital Receipts)	(1)
(129,656)	Capital Adjustment Account	(139,013)
62,239	Pension Reserve Deficit	75,215
(16,714)	Revaluation Reserve	(14,707)
309	Accumulated Absences Account	293
(82,733)		(79,638)

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property. 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 1st April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000	2014/15 £'000
(16,297)	Balance at 1st April		(16,714)
(1,081)	Upward revaluation of assets	(6,800)	
188	Downward revaluation of assets & impairment	8,624	
(893)	Surplus or Deficit on Revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services		1,824
476	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	183	
476	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account		183
(16,714)	Balance at 31st March		(14,707)

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment 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 set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement. The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1st April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000	£'000
(119,812)	Balance at 1st April		(129,656)
	Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:		
(1,395)	Charges for depreciation and impairment on non-current assets	(9,843)	
49	Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	5,827	
213	Amortisation of intangible assets	95	
986	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	1,168	
2,309	Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,978	(775)
2,162			
(117,650)	Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year		(130,431)
	Capital financing applied in the year:		
(47)	Use of Capital Receipts to finance new capital expenditure	(127)	
(5,466)	Use of Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(3,227)	
(527)	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(457)	
(35)	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(204)	
(5,847)	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(5,207)	
(11,922)			(9,222)
(84)	Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		640
(129,656)	Balance at 31st March		(139,013)

Pensions Reserve

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

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
47,750	Balance at 1st April	62,239
12,387	Actuarial (gains) or losses on pension assets and liabilities	10,481
4,766	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	5,267
(2,664)	Employers Pension Contributions in the year	(2,772)
62,239	Balance at 31st March	75,215

Deferred Credits (Deferred Capital Receipts) Reserve

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

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
(10)	Balance at 1st April	(5)
5	Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	4
(5)	Balance at 31st March	(1)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

Purpose of Reserve: A separate fund is maintained by billing authorities for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and NNDR of which, in-year surpluses and deficits are due to/from precepting authorities in future years. This shows the amount owed (to)/from the Council towards the current Collection Fund balance. See page 63 and Notes to the Collection Fund Statement.

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
29	Balance at 1st April	1,094
	Amounts which were credited to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement are different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements:	
(96)	Council Tax	(122)
1,161	Business Rates	(2,397)
1,094	Balance at 31st March	(1,425)

Accumulated Absences Account

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

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
361	Balance at 1st April	309
	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	
(52)	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	(16)
309	Balance at 31st March	293

Note 21 Cash Flow Statement – Operating Activities include the following within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:-

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(124)	Interest Received	(217)
2,937	Interest Paid	2,934
2,813	Cash (Inflow)/Outflow	2,717

Note 22 Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
14,647	Purchase of Property, Plant, Equipment, Investment property and intangible assets	6,152
142	Other payments for investing activities	83
(1,706)	Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant, Equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(1,976)
(1,838)	Proceeds of short-term and long-term investments	4,000
(315)	Other Receipts for investing activities	(275)
10,930	Cash (Inflow)/Outflow	7,984

Note 23 Cash Flow Statement – Financing Activities

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(2,196)	Net NNDR Cash (Inflow)/Outflow	(4,823)
(1,030)	Net Council Tax Cash (Inflow)/Outflow	(1,633)
(3,226)	Cash (Inflow)/Outflow	(6,456)

Note 24 Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of Directorates income and expenditure relate to a subjective analysis of the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Directorate Analysis For the year ended 31st March 2015

	General Fund Directorates			General Fund Total	Housing Revenue Account	Grand Total
	Housing, Planning, Regeneration & Regulatory	Neighbourhoods & Community Wellbeing	Corporate Services			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employee Related Costs	3,882	2,918	5,338	12,138	3,482	15,620
All Other Controllable Costs	1,700	9,224	37,440	48,364	4,792	53,156
Controllable Income	(3,640)	(4,778)	(35,124)	(43,542)	(22,991)	(66,533)
Total	1,942	7,364	7,654	16,960	(14,717)	2,243

Directorate Analysis For the year ended 31st March 2014

	General Fund Directorates			General Fund Total	Housing Revenue Account	Grand Total
	Housing, Planning, Regeneration & Regulatory	Neighbourhoods & Community Wellbeing	Corporate Services			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employee Related Costs	3,716	3,706	4,991	12,413	3,364	15,777
All Other Controllable Costs	1,457	8,333	37,784	47,574	4,988	52,562
Controllable Income	(4,192)	(4,842)	(35,649)	(44,683)	(22,596)	(67,279)
Total	981	7,197	7,126	15,304	(14,244)	1,060

Reconciliation of Directorate Income and Expenditure to Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000
Net Expenditure within Directorate Analysis	1,060	2,243
Amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement not reported to management in the Analysis	(301)	(2,632)
Amounts included in the Analysis not included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	93	(161)
Cost of Services in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	852	(550)

Reconciliation to Subjective Analysis 2014/15	Service Analysis £'000	Not Reported to Management £'000	Not Included in I&E £'000	Net Cost of Services £'000	Corporate Amounts £'000	Total £'000
Fees, Charges and Other Service Income	(34,056)			(34,056)		(34,056)
Interest and Investment Income					(310)	(310)
Income from Council Tax					(8,075)	(8,075)
NNDR					(6,029)	(6,029)
Government Grants and Contributions	(32,569)			(32,569)	(7,169)	(39,738)
Total Income	(66,625)	0	0	(66,625)	(21,583)	(88,208)
Employee Expenses	15,620			15,620		15,620
Other Service Expenses	53,248	(708)		52,540		52,540
REFCUS		698		698		698
Accumulated Absences		(16)		(16)		(16)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment		(2,430)		(2,430)		(2,430)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Accounts			(161)	(161)	161	0
Interest Payments					3,021	3,021
Precepts & Levies					2,701	2,701
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool					580	580
Net Pension Interest		(176)		(176)	2,671	2,495
Investment Properties					640	640
Change in Fair Value						
Other Income: Capital Receipts					(195)	(195)
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets					243	243
Total Operating Expenses	68,868	(2,632)	(161)	66,075	9,822	75,897
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	2,243	(2,632)	(161)	(550)	(11,761)	(12,311)

Reconciliation to Subjective Analysis 2013/14	Service Analysis £'000	Not Reported to Management £'000	Not Included in I&E £'000	Net Cost of Services £'000	Corporate Amounts £'000	Total £'000
Fees, Charges and Other Service Income	(34,040)			(34,040)		(34,040)
Interest and Investment Income					(222)	(222)
Income from Council Tax					(8,920)	(8,920)
NDR					(3,083)	(3,083)
Government Grants and Contributions	(33,239)			(33,239)	(8,248)	(41,487)
Total Income	(67,279)	0	0	(67,279)	(20,473)	(87,752)
Employee Expenses	15,777			15,777		15,777
Other Service Expenses	52,562	(234)		52,328		52,328
REFCUS		492		492		492
Accumulated Absences		(52)		(52)		(52)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment		(741)		(741)		(741)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Accounts			93	93	(93)	0
Interest Payments					2,994	2,994
Provision for Bad Debt		279		279		279
Precepts & Levies					2,602	2,602
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool					826	826
Net Pension Interest		(45)		(45)	2,147	2,102
Investment Properties					(116)	(116)
Change in Fair Value					(66)	(66)
Profit/loss on Investments					(22)	(22)
Other Income: Capital Receipts					(78)	(78)
Capital Grants & Contributions					665	665
Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets						
Total Operating Expenses	68,339	(301)	93	68,131	8,859	76,990
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	1,060	(301)	93	852	(11,614)	(10,762)

Note 25 Trading Operations

The Council's trading operations include Loughborough Market, Shepshed Market and Woodgate Chambers. The 2014/15 expenditure figure includes impairment of Fixed Assets of £194k (2013/14 £15k credit).

Trading Operations 2013/14 £'000		Trading Operations 2014/15 £'000
(454)	Income	(451)
361	Expenditure	612
(93)	(Surplus)/Deficit	161

Note 26 Members Allowances

Charnwood Borough Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year. Members Allowances exclude employer's National Insurance and include employer's superannuation, as this is an accrued benefit earned by the Member.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
360	Salaries/Allowances	359
15	Expenses	12
375	Total	371

Note 27 Officers' Remuneration

Details of the numbers of Council staff, whose remuneration is greater or equal to £50,000 per annum, grouped in rising bands of £5,000. Remuneration for these purposes includes all sums paid to or receivable by an employee, including expenses allowances, loss of office payments, compensation pay and the money value of any other benefits, but excluding employer's normal pension contributions and any special pension contributions payable due to loss of office.

There are no employees within this category who work part time but whose full time annualised salary is £50,000 or above. Only relevant remuneration bands are shown.

Total Number of Employees 2013/14	Remuneration Band	Total Number of Employees 2014/15
6	£50,000 - £54,999	5
3	£55,000 - £59,999	4
2	£65,000 - £69,999	0
3	£70,000 - £74,999	3
1	£115,000 - £119,999	1

Details of Remuneration

The Chief Executive and the Directors are shown below and their remuneration is also included in the previous table for completeness. There are no exit packages relating to senior officers in 2014/15.

Total Remuneration including Pension Contribution 2013/14 £	Post Holder Information (Post Title)	Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Expense Allowances £	Total Remuneration excluding Pension Contribution 2014/15 £	Employers Pension Contribution £	Total Remuneration including Pension Contribution 2014/15 £
142,652	Chief Executive	115,631	0	115,631	29,609	145,240
91,292	Director of Neighbourhoods & Community Wellbeing	74,828	0	74,828	18,134	92,962
91,190	Director of Housing, Planning & Regeneration & Regulatory Services	74,735	0	74,735	18,135	92,870
91,219	Director of Corporate Services	74,762	0	74,762	18,135	92,897
416,353	Total	339,956	0	339,956	84,013	423,969

Note 28 Grant Income

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2013/14 £'000	Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	2014/15 £'000
(8,920)	Council Tax Income	(9,042)
(3,083)	National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR)	(6,029)
(4,881)	Revenue Support Grant	(4,281)
(78)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(4)
(242)	Council Tax Freeze Grant	(70)
(2,196)	New Homes Bonus	(2,910)
(776)	Council Tax Support Fund	0
(153)	Other Government Grants	94
0	Collection Fund Deficit	1,089
0	Council Tax Adjustment Account	(122)
(20,329)	Total Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	(21,275)
	Benefit Grants Credited to Services	
(19,987)	Rent Allowance Subsidy	(19,536)
(12,346)	Rent Rebate Subsidy	(12,008)
447	Council Tax Rebate Subsidy	0
(835)	Housing Benefit Administration Subsidy	(594)
	Other Grants Credited to Services	
(549)	Supporting People	(497)
(77)	Crime and Disorder Partnership	(68)
(550)	Local Partnership	(405)
(275)	Localisation of Council Tax	(306)
(182)	Leicestershire County Council Sports, Active and Young Persons	(146)
(19)	Staying Healthy Grant	(18)
(494)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(470)
(300)	Local Plans	(125)
0	Arts Policy - Ladybird	(105)
(64)	Other Government Grants	(86)
(35,231)	Total Revenue Grants credited to Services	(34,364)

The Council has received a number of capital grants and contributions that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year end are as follows:

31st March 2014	Capital Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance	31st March 2015
£'000		£'000
(1,225)	Developer's Contributions	(1,277)
(13)	Other Capital Grants and Contributions	(31)
(1,238)	Total	(1,308)

The Council has a number of revenue grants and contributions that have not yet been recognised as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year end are as follows:

31st March 2014	Revenue Grants and Contributions – Receipts in Advance	31st March 2015
£'000		£'000
(198)	Developer's Contributions	(193)
(254)	Other Revenue Grants and Contributions	(294)
(452)	Total	(487)

Note 29 External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and statutory inspections and to non-audit services provided by the Council's external auditors. The Council's external auditors are KPMG.

Restated 2013/14		2014/15
£'000		£'000
73	Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor	73
0	Fees payable in respect of Statutory Inspections	0
17	Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year	13
0	Fees payable in respect of other services	0
90		86

The fees payable for external audit services of £73k in 2013/14 exclude a £10k credit rebate received from the Audit Commission for 2012/13. The fees payable for external audit services of £73k in 2014/15 exclude a £7k credit rebate received from the Audit Commission for 2013/14. In addition to the above, the fees paid in 2013/14 included £14K related to the consideration by the Auditors of an objection to the 2012/13 Statement of Accounts.

Note 30 Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government

Central Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides a significant proportion of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (eg council tax bills, housing benefits). Grants received from government departments and other grants received in advance are set out in Note 28.

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2014/15 is shown in Note 26. No members of the council or senior officers undertook any material related party transactions requiring disclosure during 2014/15.

Leicester and Leicestershire Business Rates Pool

Under the Local Government Finance Act 2012 local authorities are able to retain a proportion of the business rates generated in their area and rather than paying certain amounts to central government, they can create a 'pool' locally.

The Council along with Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority and all other Leicestershire District Councils agreed to operate a pooling agreement for business rates levies and safety net payments for 2013/14, the Leicester and Leicestershire Pool (LLP). The County Council was the lead authority for the LLP. The Pool was based on a "no better, no worse" position, with District Councils paying any levies into the Pool and any safety net payments being made from the Pool.

The LLP partners decided not to continue with the Pool in 2014/15 but it has been started again for the 2015/16 financial year.

Other Public Bodies

Local Government Pension Schemes are set out in Note 33 (page 49).

Precepts collected on behalf of other local authorities and bodies are shown in the Collection Fund Statement (page 63).

Note 31. 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 in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the Council, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
80,639	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	81,839
0	Impairment charge for non-dwelling HRA assets chargeable to HRA Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(666)
	Capital Investment	
11,992	Property, Plant and Equipment	7,970
143	Intangible Assets	83
986	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	1,168
	Sources of Finance	
(47)	Capital receipts	(127)
(6,027)	Government grants and other contributions	(3,888)
	Sums set aside from revenue:	
(5,847)	Direct revenue contributions	(5,206)
81,839	Closing Capital Financing Requirement	81,173
	Explanation of movements in year	
1,200	Increase in underlying need to borrowing (unsupported by government financial assistance)	0
0	Impairment charge for non-dwelling HRA assets chargeable to HRA Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(666)
1,200	Increase/(decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	(666)

Note 32 Termination Benefits

The Council agreed to terminate the contracts of two employees in 2014/15, incurring liabilities totalling £4k, (nine employees in 2013/14 £104k). None of these employees were Directors. One officer, from Leisure & Cultural Services received a compensation payment for loss of hours and the other officer, from Customer Services received a settlement agreement.

Note 33 Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

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

Charnwood Borough Council participates in a defined benefit scheme administered by Leicestershire County Council in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 1997, as amended. This is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The cost of retirement benefits is reported in the cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and HRA via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	Local Government Pension Scheme 2013/14 £'000	Local Government Pension Scheme 2014/15 £'000
Current Service cost	2,604	2,596
Past Service cost / (gain)	15	0
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	2,147	2,671
Net Pensions Interest costs and Expected return on scheme assets		
Total Post Employment Benefit charge to the (Surplus)/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	4,766	5,267
Movement in Reserve Statement		
Reversal of net charges made to the (Surplus)/Deficit for the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the code	(2,102)	(2,495)
Actual amount charged against the General fund balance for pension in the year	2,664	2,772
Actuarial Gains and (Losses) in the year	(12,372)	(10,485)

The actuarial Gains/(Losses) identified above are directly from the Leicestershire County Council Pension Valuation Report. However, there is a £4K reconciling item in 2014/15, being Charnwood Borough Council's higher pension contributions in year compared to Leicestershire County Council's Valuation Report.

Pension Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet.

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

	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000
Fair Value of Employer Assets	80,713	91,844
Present Value of Funded Liabilities	(141,410)	(165,493)
Net (Under)/Over funding in Funded Plans	(60,697)	(73,649)
Present Value of Unfunded Liabilities	(1,542)	(1,566)
Net Asset/(Liability) in Balance Sheet	(62,239)	(75,215)

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

The basis for estimating assets and liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. County Council's Fund Liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP, an independent firm of actuaries.

Charnwood Borough Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme through which pension provision is made for those of its employees who wish to join the scheme. Under the Code, the Council must include its share of the net Pension Fund Liability as at 31st March 2015 and this amounted to £75,215k. This is an increase of £12,976k on the position at 31st March 2014. Although this liability appears in the Council's Balance Sheet, it is offset by the Pensions Reserve and is not funded from Council Tax or Government Grants. Actual employer's contributions to the pension scheme during the year are paid out of the Council's expenditure as funded by Government Grants and Council Tax.

31st March 2014 % Per Annum	Financial Assumptions:	31st March 2015 % Per Annum
2.8%	Rate of Inflation/Pension Increase Rate	2.4%
4.6%	Salary Increase Rate	4.3%
4.3%	Discount Rate	3.2%

Mortality Assumptions:	Males	Females
<u>Longevity at 65 for pensioners</u>		
Current Pensioners	22.2 years	24.3 years
Future Pensioners	24.2 years	26.6 years

Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Plan Assets, Defined Benefit Obligation and Net Liability for Year 31st March 2015

	Assets	Obligations	Net(Liability)
	£'000	£'000	/Asset £'000
Fair Value of employer assets	80,713		80,713
Present value of funded liabilities		(141,410)	(141,410)
Present value of unfunded liabilities		(1,542)	(1,542)
Opening Position as at 31st March 2014	80,713	(142,952)	(62,239)
Current Service Cost		(2,596)	(2,596)
Total Service Cost	0	(2,596)	(2,596)
Interest Income on plan assets	3,434		3,434
Interest Cost on defined benefit obligation		(6,105)	(6,105)
Total Net Interest	3,434	(6,105)	(2,671)
Total Defined Benefit Cost Recognised in Profit or (Loss)	3,434	(8,701)	(5,267)
Cashflows			
Plan Participants Contributions	711	(711)	0
Employers contributions	2,663		2,663
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	113		113
Benefits paid	(4,972)	4,972	0
Unfunded Benefits Paid	(113)	113	0
Total Cashflows	(1,598)	4,374	2,776
Expected Closing Position	82,549	(147,279)	(64,730)
Remeasurements			
Changes in financial assumptions		(21,146)	(21,146)
Other experience		1,366	1,366
Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	9,295		9,295
Total Measurements recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	9,295	(19,780)	(10,485)
Total Expected Closing Position	91,844	(167,059)	(75,215)
Fair Value of employer assets	91,844		91,844
Present value of funded liabilities		(165,493)	(165,493)
Present value of unfunded liabilities		(1,566)	(1,566)
Closing Position as at 31st March 2015	91,844	(167,059)	(75,215)

Value of Employers Assets	31st March 2014 £'000	% of Total Assets	31st March 2015 £'000	% of Total Assets
Equity Securities:				
Other	2,965	4%	2,850	3%
Debt Securities:				
UK Government	999	1%	5,039	6%
Other	5,770	7%	3,777	4%
Private Equity	3,167	4%	3,485	4%
Real Estate – UK Property	7,546	9%	8,703	10%
Investment Funds & Unit Trusts:				
Equities	40,694	51%	46,308	50%
Bonds	5,311	7%	8,555	9%
Hedge Funds	2,758	3%	3,986	4%
Commodities	3,656	5%	3,858	4%
Infrastructure	1,831	2%	2,165	2%
Derivatives	0	0%	513	1%
Other	4,185	5%	1,685	2%
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,831	2%	920	1%
Closing Balance at 31st March	80,713	100%	91,844	100%

Sensitivity Analysis	Approximate % Increase to Employer Liability	Approximate Monetary Amount £'000
0.5% Decrease in Real Discount Rate	10%	16,736
1 Year Increase in Member Life expectancy	3%	5,012
0.5% Increase in the Salary Increase Rate	3%	4,744
0.5% Increase in the Pension Increase Rate	7%	11,660

The Sensitivity Analysis above has been determined based on reasonable possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all other assumptions remain constant. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, ie on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis did not change from those used in the previous period.

Scheme History	2014/15 £'000	2013/14 £'000	2012/13 £'000	2011/12 £'000	2010/11 £'000
Fair Value of Employer Assets	91,844	80,713	72,586	58,296	59,411
Present Value of Defined Benefit Obligation	(167,059)	(142,952)	(120,336)	(98,132)	(87,879)
Surplus/(Deficit)	(75,215)	(62,239)	(47,750)	(39,836)	(28,468)

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has, in the long run, to pay retirement benefits. The total liability of £75,215k has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the balance sheet. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy.

The deficit of the Local Government Scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the scheme actuary.

The total employers contributions expected for 2016 will be approximately £2,854k (2014/15 were approximately £2,649k)

Note 34 Trust Funds

The Council administers one trust fund which is excluded from Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Balance Sheet. This Trust Fund is used for the maintenance of the Carillon Tower flood lights and commemorative plaque which is situated in Queens Park, Loughborough.

31st March 2014		31st March 2015
£'000		£'000
(11)	Van Nievelt Legacy – for Carillon Tower	(10)
(11)		(10)

Note 35 Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets

As at 31st March 2015 the Council had the following material contingent liability:

- There are claims from residents regarding noise related to the Loughborough Eastern Gateway Scheme. The Council believe these claims are without foundation but there is a potential cost of £300k should they be successful.

Note 36 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a number of risks the main ones being:

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

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by the central Finance team, under policies approved by the Council in the annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement. The Council provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as borrowing strategy, investment policy, creditworthiness policy and investment strategy.

Credit Risk

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

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet minimum credit criteria. The Council has a contract with Capita Asset Services Ltd ('CAS') who advise on investment policy and supply credit ratings for use on the day to day management of investments. These criteria are based on such factors as:

- Credit ratings of counter parties, plus
- Credit watches and credit outlooks from credit rating agencies, plus
- Credit Default Swaps spreads to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings, and
- Sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries.

These ratings will alter throughout the year and various limits are set on the type of investments which can be made. These are based on Specified and Non-Specified investments for local authorities and further inner limits are set and periodically reviewed as between investments of the same type, such as banks with a similar credit rating. Short term investments are typically rated F1 and amounts with each institution, or group, was limited to a maximum of £8m.

Appropriate checks are made on customers for goods and services based on the size and/or length of contract with them. The Council's maximum exposure in relation to its investments in banks and other financial institutions can rise to over £40m during the year and it cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments and repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. There is always a potential risk of not recovering investments and this applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at 31st March 2015 that this was likely to crystallise.

The Council does allow credit for some types of service and amounts that are due, but not impaired, included as part of sundry debtors are as follows:

31st March 2014		31st March 2015
£'000		£'000
939	Less than three months	847
46	Three to six months	79
63	Six months to one year	96
18	More than one year	38
1,066		1,060

Liquidity Risk

The Council needs to manage cash flow to have sufficient funds to pay debts when due. This it does by investing surplus cash when available and by arranging investments to cover the expected liability dates. The Council works to a balanced budget in accordance with legislation with a reserve of revenue balances to manage the cash flow. This is continually changing during the year as creditors and debtors accounts mature. The Council always has access to borrowing through the Public Works Loan Board. Council borrowing, if required, is secured on the revenues of the Council. The Council, through its counterparty policy, also seeks to ensure that each counterparty is of sufficient size to be able to repay the amounts loaned on the due date.

All trade and other payables are due to be paid within less than one year.

Market Risk

The Council is exposed to changes in the interest rate on one of its borrowings. This £2m borrowing is at a high interest rate and it is not anticipated that interest rates will reach this level in the short to medium term, so effectively rendering this rate as fixed. The remainder of the Council's borrowings are at fixed interest rates and do not contain a market risk.

In-house lending is mainly for cash flow purposes and is all for under a year and therefore prevents the strategic longer term lending which would help to mitigate the variations in interest rates. The interest rates move in cycles and the Council clearly receives lower interest receipts at the bottom of the cycle. This is managed by having a Treasury Strategy in place that forecasts the movements in rates and therefore allows the budget to be informed of the expected interest receipts so that spending plans are not based on unrealistic interest receipt assumptions. Based on the Short Term investments at Balance Sheet date of £16m, a 1% change in interest rate would equate to £160k higher or lower receipt to the Council in revenue.

The Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and thus has no exposure to losses arising from movements in exchange rates.

Note 37 Subsidiary Holdings

The Council does not have any subsidiary holdings. Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing Limited, which managed the Council's housing stock and was a local authority controlled company, was struck off the register at Companies House on 8th July 2014. There were no transactions with that company during 2014/15.

Supplementary Statements and Notes

HRA Income and Expenditure Statement

The Housing Revenue Account reflects a statutory obligation under legislation to account separately for local Council housing provision. The Account is “ring-fenced” and has to be self-financing. The costs of HRA activities, not met by subsidy or other income, are met by the rents payable and deficits on the HRA cannot be made good by the council taxpayer.

The HRA Income and Expenditure Statement shows the economic cost in the year of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants. Authorities charge rents to cover expenditure in accordance with the legislative framework; this may be different from the accounting cost. The increase or decrease in the year, on the basis on which rents are raised, is shown in the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account.

2013/14 £'000		Notes	2014/15 £'000
	Expenditure		
4,780	Supervision and Management		4,394
4,845	Repairs and Maintenance		5,191
49	Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges		117
2	Rent Rebates	2	1
(79)	Depreciation/Revaluation increase/Impairment of non-current assets	3	(6,574)
16	Debt management costs		14
279	Movement in the allowance for bad debts (not specified by the Code)		258
9,892	Total Expenditure		3,401
	Income		
(21,005)	Dwellings	1	(21,430)
(337)	Non-dwelling rents		(344)
(1,079)	Charges for Services and Facilities		(1,021)
(84)	Contributions towards expenditure		(74)
(174)	Other Income		(196)
(22,679)	Total Income		(23,065)
(12,787)	Net cost of HRA Services as included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		(19,664)
101	HRA services' share of Corporate and Democratic Core		101
(12,686)	Net Cost for HRA Services		(19,563)
	HRA share of the operating income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
(112)	Capital grants and contributions receivable		(14)
1,087	Loss on disposal of HRA non-current assets		461
(15)	Interest and investment income		(24)
2,749	Interest Payable		2,780
(8,977)	Net cost/(income) of HRA Services		(16,360)

Movement on the HRA Statement

2013/14 £'000		Notes	2014/15 £'000
(1,685)	Balance on the HRA at the end of the previous year		(1,344)
(8,977)	(Surplus) or Deficit for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement		(16,360)
9,614	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute		16,698
637	Net (increase) or decrease before transfers to or from reserves		338
(296)	Transfers to/(from) reserves		3
341	(Increase) or decrease in year on the HRA		341
(1,344)	Balance on the HRA at the end of the current year		(1,003)

Reconciling Items for the Statement of Movement on the HRA Balance

2013/14 £'000		Notes	2014/15 £'000
	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute		
236	Difference between interest payable and similar charges including amortisation of premiums and discounts determined in accordance with the Code and those determined in accordance with Statute		0
4,866	Capital expenditure funded by the HRA		3,907
(1,087)	Loss on sale of HRA non-current assets		(461)
11	Accumulated Absences Account		3
112	Reversal of Capital Grants and Contributions		14
5,476	Reversal of Gain/(Loss) on Revaluation		13,386
0	Adjustment to recharges based on impairment of General Fund Asset		(151)
9,614			16,698
	Transfers (to) or from reserves		
(8)	HRA share of contributions to/(from) the Pension Reserve	8	3
(288)	Transfer to/(from) the Major Repairs Reserve		0
(296)			3

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

Note 1 Gross Rents

Gross rent due in the year, after allowance is made for empty properties, was £21,430k. The average percentage of void properties as at 31 March 2015 was 2.94% compared with 2.86% at 31 March 2014. The average rent for 2014/15 on a 52 week basis was £73.46 (2013/14 £70.01).

Rent Arrears		
2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
	Arrears at 31st March:	
432	Current Tenants	428
409	Former Tenants	408
5	Garages and Shops	1
846		837
4.00%	Dwelling Arrears as % of gross debit	3.91%
0	Court Costs	39
120	Rent Write-offs/irrecoverable	140
0	Rent Rebate Overpayment Write-off/irrecoverable	1
0	Rechargeable Repairs	45

The Council's Housing Management System was upgraded during 2014/15 and Court Costs are now separated from rent arrears. In 2013/14 they were included within rent arrears.

A Provision for Bad Debts has been made in the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the approved guidance. The provision includes an element in respect of rent rebate overpayments. Rent rebates were transferred to the General Fund on 1st April 2004. This provision relates to overpayments made prior to that date which were financed by the HRA. Landlord Services rechargeable repairs relates to a provision for bad debts where damage to HRA property has been recharged to its perpetrators.

Bad Debt Provision		
31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
591	Rent	641
74	Overpaid Rent Rebate	70
37	Landlord Services rechargeable repairs	49
702		760

Note 2 Rent Rebates

As at 31 March 2015 the outstanding balance of overpayments was £70k compared with £74k at 31st March 2014. Recoveries from ongoing benefit relating to housing benefit overpayments prior to 1st April 2004 totalling £1k were debited back to the Housing Revenue Account in 2014/15 compared with £2k in 2013/14.

Note 3 Depreciation Charge and Capital Credit

Total Capital Financing Charges of £14k was debited to the HRA in 2014/15 in accordance with the Item 8 determinations for the year, compared with £252k in 2013/14. The Depreciation Charge is analysed below: -

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
	Depreciation:	
5,129	Dwellings	6,106
108	Garages and Shops	31
22	Plant, Vehicles and Equipment	2
138	Intangibles	6
5,397		6,145
(5,476)	Net Revaluation increase of non-current assets	(12,719)
(79)		(6,574)

There were capital grants and contributions receivable totalling £14k.

Note 4 Housing Stock

The Council was responsible for managing 5,746 HRA dwellings as at 31st March 2015. This excludes one shared ownership dwelling, which is shared on a 50% equity basis. The stock was made up as follows: -

Number of Dwellings 31st March 2014		Number of Dwellings 31st March 2015
2,743	Flats/Maisonettes	2,732
3,041	Houses/Bungalows	3,014
5,784		5,746

The change in stock can be summarised as follows:-

Number of Dwellings 2013/14		Number of Dwellings 2014/15
5,820	Stock at 1st April	5,784
0	Add: New Properties, Acquisitions and Appropriations	1
(2)	Less: Conversions	0
(34)	Property Sales	(39)
5,784	Stock at 31st March	5,746

On 31st March 2015 there were 15 void properties withheld from letting (19 at 31st March 2014). This is for a number of reasons including major refurbishment and redevelopment. Two HRA properties are being used as community centres on a temporary basis. The figure of 5,746 represents the actual HRA dwelling stock the Council owns.

The dwellings are classified as operational assets within the Housing Revenue Account. In addition there were 806 garages in 2014/15 (807 in 2013/14), 17 shops and 1 store in 2014/15 (17 shops and 1 store in 2013/14), that were non-dwelling assets.

Note 5 Balance Sheet Value of Council's Housing Stock

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
175,132	Dwellings	186,993
	Other land & buildings	
4,051	Garages	3,145
1,298	Shops & Store	1,353
180,481	Net carrying amount at the end of year	191,491

Dwellings, Garages and Shops are all Operational Assets. There are no Non-Operational Assets.

Vehicles Plant and Equipment

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
	Balance at the start of the year	
26	Net carrying amounts	2
(24)	Amortisation	(2)
2	Net carrying amount at the end of year	0

Intangibles

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
	Balance at the start of the year	
139	Net carrying amounts	3
0	Asset Reclassification	38
(136)	Amortisation	(6)
3	Net carrying amount at the end of year	35

Assets under construction

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
6	Balance at the start of the year	38
32	Additions: Purchases	814
0	Asset Reclassification	(38)
38	Net carrying amount at the end of year	814

Assets held for sale

31st March 2014 £'000		31st March 2015 £'000
0	Balance at the start of the year	0
0	Asset Reclassification	53
0	Net carrying amount at the end of year	53

The Existing Use Value – Social Housing on at 1st April 2014 was £177,583k. The vacant possession value of dwellings as at 1st April 2014 was £522,303k. The difference between the vacant possession value and Balance Sheet value of dwellings within the Housing Revenue Account shows the economic cost to government of providing council housing at less than open market rents.

Note 6 Summary Total of Capital Expenditure and Receipts

Housing capital expenditure during the financial year was £7,309k.

Capital expenditure is shown as follows:-

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
11,656	Housing Capital Expenditure	7,309
	Financed By:	
5,466	Major Repairs Reserve	3,227
1,200	Borrowing	0
1	Other Capital Contributions	1
4,866	Revenue Contributions	3,907
76	Grants	12
0	Section 106	35
47	HRA Miscellaneous capital receipts	127
11,656		7,309

Total capital receipts from the sale of HRA assets were £1,782k as follows:-

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
1,663	Council House Sales	1,784
	Less	
(44)	Administration costs	(51)
1,619	Net Council House Sales	1,733
0	Miscellaneous Capital Receipts	34
8	Reclaimable Discount from Council House Sales	11
5	Mortgage Receipts	4
1,632		1,782

Note 7 Major Repairs Reserve

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
(358)	Balance at 1st April	(1)
(5,397)	Transfer to Major Repairs Reserve	(6,145)
288	Transfer from Major Repairs Reserves to HRA	0
5,466	Capital Expenditure funded from Major Repairs Reserve	3,227
(1)	Balance at 31st March	(2,919)

Note 8 Pension Fund

In accordance with IAS19, Accounting for Retirement Benefits, accounting adjustments have been made in the Housing Revenue Account to report pension liabilities. In 2014/15 this represented a reduction of £3k to net cost of service compared to a cost to net cost of service of £8k in 2013/14.

Collection Fund Statement 2014/15

Business Rates	Council Tax	Total		Note	Business Rates	Council Tax	Total
2013/14	2013/14	2013/14			2014/15	2014/15	2014/15
£'000	£'000	£'000			£'000	£'000	£'000
			Income				
0	(75,011)	(75,011)	Council Tax Receivable	2	0	(77,174)	(77,174)
(42,380)	0	(42,380)	Business Rates Receivable	3	(42,948)	0	(42,948)
(42,380)	(75,011)	(117,391)			(42,948)	(77,174)	(120,122)
			Expenditure				
			Apportionment of Previous Year Surplus/(Deficit)				
0	0	0	Central Government		(1,410)	0	(1,410)
0	(2)	(2)	Charnwood Borough Council		(1,128)	39	(1,089)
0	(15)	(15)	Leicestershire County Council		(254)	235	(19)
0	(2)	(2)	Leicestershire Police & Crime Commissioner		0	38	38
0	(1)	(1)	Combined Fire Authority		(28)	13	(15)
0	(20)	(20)			(2,820)	325	(2,495)
			Precept, Demands and Shares				
21,678	0	21,678	Central Government		19,872	0	19,872
17,342	8,827	26,169	Charnwood Borough Council	4	15,898	9,042	24,940
3,902	53,375	57,277	Leicestershire County Council		3,577	54,373	57,950
0	8,731	8,731	Leicestershire Police & Crime Commissioner		0	9,027	9,027
434	2,931	3,365	Combined Fire Authority		397	3,031	3,428
43,356	73,864	117,220			39,744	75,473	115,217
			Charges to the Collection Fund				
223	299	522	Less Write Offs of Non-Collectable Amounts	7	262	276	538
45	67	112	Less Increase/(Decrease) In Bad Debt Provision	6	218	82	300
1647	0	1,647	Less Increase/(Decrease) In Provision For Appeals		(1,047)	0	(1,047)
194	0	194	Less Cost of Collection		194	0	194
122	0	122	Less Disregarded Amounts		150	0	150
2,231	366	2,597			(223)	358	135
3,207	(801)	2,406	(Surplus)/Deficit arising during the year		(6,247)	(1,018)	(7,265)
0	242	242	(Surplus)/Deficit brought forward 1st April		3,207	(559)	2,648
3,207	(559)	2,648	(Surplus)/Deficit carried forward 31st March	8/9/11	(3,040)	(1,577)	(4,617)

Notes to the Collection Fund Statement

Note 1 General

This account reflects the statutory requirements for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund, which shows the transactions of the billing Council in relation to non-domestic rates and the Council Tax and illustrates the way in which these have been distributed to preceptors and the General Fund. The Collection Fund is consolidated with the other accounts of the billing Council. The transactions are prescribed by legislation and are prepared on an accruals basis.

The major items contained within the Fund are:

- Council Tax collected from Borough Residents
- Business Rates collected from businesses within the Borough
- Transitional Relief granted to Council Taxpayers
- Precepts, Demands and Shares on the collection fund paid out to:
 - Central Government
 - Charnwood Borough Council
 - Leicestershire County Council
 - Leicestershire Police & Crime Commissioner
 - Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority
- The cost of collection allowance for Business Rates retained by the Billing Authority
- Additional items, such as
 - Write offs of non-collectable amounts
 - Provision for possible bad and doubtful debts
 - Provision for appeals on NNDR bills
 - Other disregarded amounts
- The deficit or surplus relating to Council Tax. This is then distributed between billing authorities and precepting authorities on the basis of an estimate made on 15th of January in each year.
- The deficit or surplus relating to Business rates. This is distributed between billing authorities, precepting authorities and central government on the basis of an estimate made during January in each year.

Note 2 Council Tax

The basis of Council Tax is a property valuation. Properties are valued at April 1991 prices and included within eight bands. The standard Council Tax is calculated at Band D and all bands are expressed as a Band D equivalent to ascertain a total tax base for the Council. The 2014/15 base is shown below. Note that there is now a reduced 'Band A' for properties in 'A' that are reduced for those with approved Disabled Adaptations.

Valuation Band	Range of Values	Relationship to Band D	Number of Properties	Band D Equivalent
X	Reductions on Band A Up to and including	5/9	22.5	12.5
A	£40,000	6/9	9,985.00	6,656.7
B	£40,001 - £52,000	7/9	17,539.25	13,641.6
C	£52,001 - £68,000	8/9	15,927.50	14,157.8
D	£68,001 - £88,000	1	8,919.25	8,919.3
E	£88,001 - £120,000	11/9	5,681.75	6,944.4
F	£120,001 - £160,000	13/9	2,739.50	3,957.1
G	£160,001 - £320,000	15/9	1,732.25	2,887.1
H	More than £320,000	18/9	168.75	337.5
	Contributions in lieu			26.5
	Estimated growth in Band D equivalents			287.5
	Total (Tax Base)			57,829.4

The gross tax base, 57,829.4 as per the council tax resolution is adjusted for the Band D equivalent of dwellings receiving Council Tax Support. Finally an estimated collection rate of 98% for 2014/15, is then applied to the adjusted Band D figure producing a Council Tax Base of 51,150.5, which equates to £1,475.50 for a Band D property. This provides a total requirement of £75,473m.

The actual position is as follows:

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
85,771 (10,760)	Gross Council Tax due Relief, Exemptions and Transitional Relief Granted	87,941 (10,767)
75,011	Council Tax	77,174

Precepts of £75,473k (2013/14 £73,864k) have been paid against the net income to the Collection Fund of £76,898k (2013/14 £74,712k) giving a Surplus of £1,425k in 2014/15 (2013/14 Surplus of £848k).

Note 3 National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

NNDR is organised on a local basis. The Council is responsible for collecting rates due from ratepayers within the borough and the total amounts billed to business ratepayers are included within the Collection Fund, less the various relief and exemptions granted. This amount is paid, during the year, to the other precepting authorities and to central government based on their proportionate shares. The amounts paid over form part of the financing of the billing and precepting authorities General Fund.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
50,993 (8,620)	Gross Non-Domestic Rates due Reliefs and Exemptions	52,223 (9,377)
(1)	Interest on Refunds	0
0	Central Government Deferral Scheme from 2012/13	133
8	Transitional Protection Payment due to/(from) the Council	(31)
42,380	Net Business Rates Receivable	42,948

The Government specifies an amount (48.2p in 2014/15 and 47.1p in 2013/14) and, subject to the effects of transition arrangements, local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying their rateable value by that amount. The Rateable Value for the Council's area at 31st March 2015 was £113.75m (31st March 2014 £112.92m)

Note 4 Charnwood Borough Council Tax Precept

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
16,565	Charnwood Precept	15,922
2,602	Parish Precepts	2,701
0	Collection Fund Deficit/(Surplus)	1,089
19,167		19,712
(10,340)	RSG and NNDR Redistributed Pool	(10,670)
8,827		9,042

Note 5 Provision for Non-Payment**Council Tax**

There is a cumulative provision held as at 31st March 2015 amounting to £1,827k for doubtful debts, including costs. (31st March 2014 £1,696k)

NNDR

There is a cumulative provision held as at 31st March 2015 amounting to £407k for doubtful debts, including costs. (31st March 2014 £189k)

Note 6 Contributions to Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
67	Council Tax	82
45	NNDR	218
112		300

Note 7 Write off of Bad Debts

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
299	Council Tax	276
223	NNDR	262
522		538

Note 8 Council Tax (Surplus)/Deficit on Collection Fund

There was a Surplus balance on the Collection Fund at 31st March 2015 of £1,577k (Surplus 31st March 2014 £559k). This will be carried forward to 2015/16 and taken into account in the future calculation of charges to be met by Council Taxpayers. Further analysis is provided in Note 10 below. The net contributions paid out of £325k together with the Surplus brought forward of £559k and an Increase in Bad Debt Provision of £82k - reduce the in-year surplus of £1,425k to a surplus of £1,577k which is carried forward.

Note 9 Council Tax Collection Fund Balance

The Collection Fund is a statutory fund in which the Council records transactions for Council Tax. The balance on the fund has to be taken into account by the major precepting authorities in determining their respective requirements to be raised through Council Tax in future financial years. The surplus on the Collection Fund is apportioned as follows:

	Amounts accounted for in 2015/16 £'000	Amounts to account for in 2016/17 £'000	Total £'000
Leicestershire County Council	991	145	1,136
Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner	165	24	189
Charnwood Borough Council	165	24	189
Combined Fire Authority	55	8	63
Total Surplus	1,376	201	1,577

Note 10 Council Tax Accounting for the Collection Fund Balance

On the basis that surpluses and deficits on the Collection Fund are shared with Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner, Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority and the Borough Council pro-rata to the precepts levied, the Council accounted for the Collection Fund Balance in the 2014/15 accounts as follows:

In the Balance Sheet at 31st March 2015, the Council included an overall Surplus of £1,577k (31st March 2014 Surplus £559k) of which £1,388k relates to Preceptors share of Surplus (31st March 2014 £492k – Preceptors share of Surplus) in the proportions shown below and the balance of £189k (31st March 2014 - £67k) relate to Charnwood Borough Council's share of the Collection Fund Surplus.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
404	Leicestershire County Council	1,136
66	Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner	189
22	Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority	63
492	Total	1,388

Note 11 Business Rates (Surplus)/Deficit on Collection Fund

Shares of non-domestic rating income to major preceptors and billing authorities are paid out of the collection fund and credited to the comprehensive income and expenditure statements of precepting and billing authorities. However the transactions presented in the collection fund statement are limited to the cash flows permitted by statute for the financial year, whereas each authority will recognise income on a full accruals basis, ie sharing out in full the (surplus) or deficit on the collection fund at the end of the year, even though it will be distributed to or recovered by the authorities in subsequent financial years.

2013/14 £'000		2014/15 £'000
1,283	Charnwood Borough Council	(1,217)
289	Leicestershire County Council	(273)
32	Leicestershire Combined Fire Authority	(30)
1,603	Central Government	(1,520)
3,207	Deficit/(Surplus) - Balance as at 31st March	(3,040)

Glossary of Terms

Accounting Period - The period of time covered by the accounts, normally 12 months commencing on 1st April for local authorities.

Accruals - Sums included in the final accounts to cover income or expenditure attributable to the accounting period but for which payment has not been made/received at the balance sheet date.

Capital Charges - Charges made to service revenue accounts based on the value of the assets they use and comprising depreciation.

Capital Expenditure - Expenditure on new assets such as land and buildings, or on enhancements to existing assets which significantly prolong their useful life or increase their value.

Capital Financing Costs - The annual cost of borrowing (principal repayments and interest charges), leasing charges and other costs of funding capital expenditure.

Capital Receipt - Income from the sale of capital assets such as council houses, land or other buildings.

Creditors - Amounts owed by the Council at 31st March for goods received or services rendered but not yet paid for.

Current Assets - Assets which can be expected to be consumed or realised during the next accounting period.

Current Liabilities - Amounts which will become due or could be called upon during the next accounting period.

Debtors - Amounts owed to the Council, which are collectable or outstanding at 31st March.

Depreciation - The estimated losses in value of an asset, owing to age, wear and tear, deterioration, or obsolescence.

Finance Lease - These are lease payments to acquire an asset, these are classified as assets on the Balance Sheet.

Government Grants - Payments by central government towards local Council expenditure. They may be specific or general.

Non Current Asset - Assets which can be expected to be of use or benefit to the Council in providing its services for more than one accounting period.

Operating Lease - A lease under which the ownership of the asset remains with the lessor; for practical purposes it is equivalent to contract hiring.

Precepts - The amount which local authorities cannot charge a council tax directly to the public (for example a County Council) and requires Charnwood Borough Council to collect on its behalf.

Reserves - Amounts set aside in the accounts for the purpose of meeting particular future expenditure. A distinction is drawn between reserves and provisions, which are set up to meet known liabilities.

Revenue Expenditure - Spending on day-to-day items including employees' pay, premises costs and supplies and services.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS) - Expenditure of a capital nature but for which there is no tangible asset, for example renovation grants.

Revenue Support Grant - The main grant paid by central government to a local Council towards the costs of its services.

Abbreviations used in the accounts:

CNH – Charnwood Neighbourhood Housing Limited	CIPFA - Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
FMS – Financial Management system	HRA - Housing Revenue Account
FRS - Financial Reporting Standard	MRA - Major Repairs Allowance
IFRS – International Financial Reporting Standard	NNDR - National Non-domestic Rates
MRP - Minimum Revenue Provision	VAT – Value Added Tax

Independent auditor's report to the members of Charnwood Borough Council

We have audited the financial statements of Charnwood Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2015 on pages 7 to 68. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Authority, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Authority, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Chief Financial Officer; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Explanatory Foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2015 and of the Authority's expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been prepared properly in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

The Code of Audit Practice 2010 for Local Government Bodies requires us to report to you if:

- the annual governance statement which accompanies the financial statements does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007; or
- the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is not consistent with the financial statements; or
- any matters have been reported in the public interest under section 8 of Audit Commission Act 1998 in the course of, or at the conclusion of, the audit; or
- any recommendations have been made under section 11 of the Audit Commission Act 1998; or
- any other special powers of the auditor have been exercised under the Audit Commission Act 1998.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Conclusion on Charnwood Borough Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Authority's responsibilities

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

Auditor's responsibilities

We are required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission in October 2014, as to whether the Authority has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, the Authority had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission in October 2014, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Charnwood Borough Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of Charnwood Borough Council in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice 2010 for Local Government Bodies issued by the Audit Commission.

Tony Crawley

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Appointed Auditor

*Chartered Accountants
St Nicholas House
Park Row
Nottingham
NG1 6FQ*

Date: 28th September 2015

Annual Governance Statement 2014/15

1. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

Charnwood Borough Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and which includes arrangements for the management or risk.

The Council has 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'.

This statement explains how the Council has complied with the code, and also meets the requirements of regulation 4[3] and 4[4] of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The governance framework comprises the systems and process, and culture and values, by which the Council is directed and controlled and the activities through which it accounts to, engages with, and leads the community. It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The governance framework has been in place for the year ended 31 March 2015, and up to the date of the approval of the annual report and accounts.

3. THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The key elements of the Council's governance framework are as follows: -

To ensure we focus on the purpose of the Council and on outcomes for the community and that we create and implement a vision for the local area:

- ◆ The Council's objectives are set out in the Corporate Plan and this is reviewed through Cabinet and wider consultation with local partners and the community. The achievement of the plan is monitored through performance management and review processes carried out by Cabinet, Scrutiny committees and officers.
- ◆ A rigorous and robust annual service delivery and team planning process is in place that includes consultation with service users where appropriate, and which ensures that resources and budgets are aligned to the corporate objectives set out in the Corporate Plan, as well as providing for a controlled and objective means of identifying efficiency savings and opportunities for investment to improve service delivery.
- ◆ Policies determined during the financial year are approved by Council or Cabinet as appropriate following thorough consultation with key stakeholders and the local community where appropriate.
- ◆ A corporate complaints procedure is in operation, and is appropriately publicised via the Council's website and other means. All complaints are investigated and corrective action taken to improve processes and

procedures where appropriate. The complaints procedure has been subject a scrutiny review, and recommendations for improvements have been implemented.

- ◆ A sound system of internal controls is in place to ensure value for money is obtained and that funds and resources are used appropriately. This includes detailed Financial Regulations, and supporting Financial Procedures, which are reviewed and updated periodically.

To ensure members and officer work together to achieve a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles:

- ◆ The Council's constitution sets out the terms of reference for all member committees, including executive and decision making functions, and the scrutiny function.
- ◆ A member/officer protocol is in place which sets out the expectations and processes that are in place to ensure effective and constructive working relationships.
- ◆ A scheme of delegation has been approved and is regularly updated, which clearly sets out which responsibilities have been delegated to officers, and how these delegations should operate and be recorded.

To promote values for the Council and to demonstrate that the values of good governance are demonstrated by high standards of conduct and behaviour:

- ◆ Codes of conduct are in place for members and officers, which clearly specify the required standards of conduct and behaviour, and which require the declaration of any personal interests which may conflict with the interests of the Council.
- ◆ Registers are maintained to record any declarations of interest made by members or officers.
- ◆ A 'whistle-blowing' policy is in place for any members, officers or other parties to report suspicions of fraud or other irregularities, and all such reported instances are investigated thoroughly.
- ◆ A Member Conduct Committee is in place to oversee the process for any allegations relating to the behaviour or conduct of members.
- ◆ A Code of Corporate Governance is in place which sets out the Council's approach towards, and requirements for achieving good corporate governance.

To ensure that informed and transparent decisions are taken which are subject to effective scrutiny and that risks are managed:

- ◆ All Cabinet reports recommending decisions include details of any relevant financial and legal implications, and contain a risk management section which sets out any identified risks together with their likelihood and impact, and actions planned to manage the risks.
- ◆ A scrutiny function is in place which has the right to call-in any executive decisions for comment and challenge.
- ◆ A risk management framework has been established under which strategic risks which may cause the Council to be unable to operate or provide key services leading to a significant adverse effect on public wellbeing are identified on an annual basis, are approved by Cabinet, and subsequently monitored on a quarterly basis by senior managers and by the Audit Committee. Lower level corporate and operational risks are identified by the annual service delivery planning process and are monitored on an ongoing quarterly basis, with any exceptions or significant concerns being escalated to senior managers and to the Audit Committee.

To develop the capacity and capability of members and officers to be effective:

- ◆ A regular personal review is undertaken for all officers, which includes the identification of training and development needs, which are then considered and built into a service level and corporate training programme where appropriate.

- ◆ A Member Development Strategy has been approved and there is an ongoing programme of training courses for councillors. An intensive induction programme is in place for new councillors.
- ◆ Thorough and rigorous recruitment and selection processes for officers are in place, and workforce succession planning is undertaken to ensure capacity and continuity issues are identified and addressed.

To engage with local people and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability:

- ◆ The scrutiny function consists of a Scrutiny Management Board, an Overview Scrutiny Group, a Policy Scrutiny Group, and a Performance Scrutiny Panel. Other scrutiny panels are set up to examine issues on a task and finish basis.
- ◆ The Audit Committee has responsibility for overseeing the production of the annual statement of accounts, and for the work of Internal Audit. The committee aims to fulfil the core functions of an audit committee as recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, and is chaired by an independent person who has appropriate experience and qualifications.
- ◆ The Council has an Internal Audit function which operates in accordance with appropriate requirements and guidance, and which is responsible for providing assurance on the adequacy of internal control and risk management arrangements.
- ◆ The Council has identified all of its significant partnerships, and has undertaken a risk assessment for all of these partnerships, including ensuring appropriate governance arrangements are in place.
- ◆ Appropriate employment policies and procedures are in place to ensure responsibilities to staff are met and that employment legislation is complied with. These include disciplinary and capability policies.
- ◆ Appropriate mechanisms are in place to measure quality of service to users, including use of the 'Govmetric' satisfaction monitoring tool for all major access channels.
- ◆ Compliance with internal policies and procedures is ensured by various means, including management checks and the work of Internal Audit.

4. CONFORMANCE WITH THE GOVERNANCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CIPFA STATEMENT ON THE ROLE OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

The Chief Financial Officer of the Council is the Strategic Director of Corporate Services. This role is one of four that comprise the Council's senior management team and reports directly to the Chief Executive. These arrangements, both in design and in day to day practice, enable the financial aspects of material business decisions to be given due weight.

The Council maintains an effective system of financial control which is clearly set out within the Council's financial regulations and procedure rules. Control and oversight is facilitated by an effective internal audit function and underpinned by a strong culture of careful management of public money demonstrated by all managers. The efficacy of the control environment can be evidenced through the Council's recent history of financial outturns, and the timeliness and quality of its financial statements and other financial returns.

The Chief Financial Officer is the Council's Section 151 Officer (from section 151, Local Government Act 1972) and in accordance with the statutory requirements covering this role has an appropriate accountancy qualification. Both the Council's Section 151 Officer and Deputy Section 151 Officer (who is the Council's Head of Finance and Property) are members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales and have significant experience in local government. In the opinion of the Chief Financial Officer, the Council's finance function is considered adequately resourced and contains a mix of staff with appropriate levels of professional qualifications and experience.

In the opinion of the Chief Financial Officer the authority's financial management arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the *CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2010)* as set out in the Application Note to *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework*.

5. REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the senior managers within the Council who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the annual Internal Audit report, and also by comments made by the external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates.

The Council's statutory officers consist of the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive), the Monitoring Officer (Head of Strategic Support), and the s.151 Officer (Strategic Director – Corporate Services). These officers fulfil the required statutory duties associated with their roles, including ensuring that the Council's activities are in accordance with the law and legislative requirements, and that financial budgets are set appropriately and are monitored regularly.

The Council's Internal Audit service operates according to an annual audit programme which is developed using a risk based approach designed to ensure that key financial systems, strategic risk counter measures, and significant Council services are audited at appropriate frequencies so that sufficient assurance on adequacy of the internal control environment and risk management arrangements can be provided.

The Audit & Risk Manager (the Council's Head of Internal Audit) has produced an annual report for 2014/15 which concluded that the Council's overall framework of governance, risk management and internal control is adequate and effective.

Internal Audit identified two areas of limited assurance during the year, but concluded that the issues raised were not significant enough to impact adversely on the Council's overall internal control arrangements.

Senior managers, and the Audit Committee and Performance Scrutiny Panel are responsible for receiving and considering regular monitoring reports in respect of the risk management framework, the performance management framework, and the work of Internal Audit. The Audit Committee also receive and consider any reports arising from the work of the external auditors.

These arrangements and processes ensure that the Council's corporate governance and internal control arrangements are kept under regular and ongoing review throughout each financial year.

Additionally, as part of the process to produce the Annual Governance Statement, a comprehensive review of all sources of evidence, including external review, audit and inspection work undertaken during the year, has been undertaken.

This review indicates that the Council's corporate governance and internal control arrangements are adequate and effective. Although some areas for further improvement have been identified during the year, none of these are in respect of significant concerns or issues.

The annual audit letter issued by the Audit Commission for 2013/14 did not identify any significant internal control issues, and no recommendations were made.

6. SIGNIFICANT GOVERNANCE ISSUES

No significant governance issues have been identified.

7. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The Chancellor announced in his 2015 summer budget that rents in social housing are to be reduced by 1% a year from April 2016 for the next four years. The Council will need to consider the impact that the rent reductions may have on its Housing Revenue Account and revise its HRA plan accordingly.

Geoff Parker
Chief Executive
15th September 2015

Cllr David Slater
Leader of the Council
15th September 2015