



Cabinet

**A meeting of the Cabinet will be held at The Forum, Towcester, NN12 6AF
on Tuesday 20 December 2022 at 6.00 pm**

Agenda

| Public Session | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. | Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members |
| 2. | Declarations of Interest Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. |
| 3. | Minutes (Pages 5 - 12) To confirm the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 6 th December 2022. |
| 4. | Chair's Announcements To receive communications from the Chair. |
| 5. | Urgent Business The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any items of urgent business being admitted to the agenda. |
| 6. | Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – recommendations in respect of the Children’s Trust Budget (Pages 13 - 16) |
| 7. | Revenue Monitoring - Quarter 2 - Financial Year 2022-23 (Pages 17 - 52) |
| 8. | Quarter 2 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Monitoring Report 2022-23 (Pages 53 - 72) |

| | |
|-----|--|
| 9. | Treasury Management Update Quarter 2, 2022-23 (Pages 73 - 84) |
| 10. | Progress Update Transformation and Local Government Reform (Pages 85 - 130) |
| 11. | 2023-24 Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (Pages 131 - 252) |
| 12. | Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Plan (Pages 253 - 280) |

Catherine Whitehead
Proper Officer
12 December 2022

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Jonathan Nunn (Chair)

Councillor Adam Brown (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Fiona Baker

Councillor Rebecca Breese

Councillor Matt Golby

Councillor Mike Hallam

Councillor Phil Larratt

Councillor Daniel Lister

Councillor Malcolm Longley

Councillor David Smith

Information about this Agenda

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence and the appointment of substitute Members should be notified to democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax

must declare that fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

If a continuous fire alarm sounds you must evacuate the building via the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the assembly area as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

If you have any queries about this agenda please contact Sofia Neal-Gonzalez, Democratic Services via the following:

Email: democraticservices@westnorthants.gov.uk

Or by writing to:

West Northamptonshire Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton
NN1 1ED

This page is intentionally left blank



Cabinet

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held at The Forum, Towcester, NN12 6AF on Tuesday 6 December 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Present Councillor Jonathan Nunn (Chair)
 Councillor Adam Brown (Vice-Chair)
 Councillor Fiona Baker
 Councillor Matt Golby
 Councillor Mike Hallam
 Councillor Phil Larratt
 Councillor Daniel Lister
 Councillor Malcolm Longley
 Councillor David Smith

Also Present: Councillor Dermot Bambridge
 Councillor Sally Beardsworth
 Councillor Pinder Chauhan
 Councillor Alison Eastwood
 Councillor Nigel Hinch
 Councillor Rosie Humphreys
 Councillor Charles Manners
 Councillor Bob Purser
 Councillor Wendy Randall
 Councillor Emma Roberts
 Councillor Danielle Stone

Officers Anna Earnshaw, Chief Executive
 Rebecca Peck, Assistant Chief Executive
 Martin Henry, Executive Director - Finance (Section 151 Officer)
 Catherine Whitehead, Director of Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer)
 Paul Hanson - Democratic Services and Elections Manager
 Sofia Neal-Gonzalez - Democratic Services Officer
 Jane Carr, Director of Communities & Opportunities
 Stuart Lackenby, Executive Director - Adults Communities and Wellbeing
 Sarah Reed, Executive Director - Corporate Services
 Stuart Timmiss, Executive Director - Place and Economy
 Belinda Green, Assistant Director, Revenues and Benefits
 Jed Scoles, Political Assistant – Labour Group

102. Apologies

Councillor Rebecca Breese sent her apologies.

103. **Declarations of Interest**

None

104. **Minutes**

RESOLVED: That the minutes from the Cabinet meeting on the 8th November 2022 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

105. **Chair's Announcements**

None

106. **Urgent Business**

None

107. **Report of Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Tree Policy and Strategy**

At the Chair's invitation the report was presented to Cabinet by Councillor Pinder Chauhan. Members were advised that there had had input from 7 councillors and the report had taken 6 months to complete. Various groups had been involved in the work, including the Woodland Trust and the Queens green canopy project. Work was being done to fill the role of Tree Strategy and Project Officer.

In his capacity as chair of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor Dermot Bambridge advised that this had been the first major piece of work undertaken by the task and finish group. Its importance with regards to environmental assets was also discussed.

Councillors made the following comments.

- This report was a great example of good scrutiny.
- It was noted that it was important to have the right trees planted in the right places.
- Ancient Woodland had compiled an inventory of ancient trees, many of these were found in West Northants.
- It was hoped that the March deadline would be enough time.
- It was queried whether distance to woodland would be aligned with the Council's active travel strategy.
- How would the authority deal with any issues of tree disease?
- The council did have a legacy obligation to properly maintain trees.
- It was noted that the grading and salary of the Tree Strategy and Project Officer role needed to be looked at as it was not sufficient.

Councillor Adam Brown queried how this new policy would affect trees on NPH land.

Councillor Phil Larratt agreed that the project had been a major piece of work and welcomed the recommendations, however, concern was shown at the tightness of the March deadline. It was hoped that WNC would work in partnership with NPH regarding any trees on their land.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet welcomed the recommendations of the Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Tree Policy and Strategy and undertook to review the recommendations and respond with detailed proposals at a future meeting

108. **Corporate Plan Performance Report - 2022-23 Q2**

At the Chair's invitation councillors made the following comments.

- With regards to priority 2, did the council differentiate between full and part time work?
- There had been no target or description of works carried out by highways.
- There had been a delay with some of the new council houses, could there be an update?
- With regards to school complaints, it was queried whether councillors could be given a number and not a percentage.
- It was noted that fly tipping figures had continued to rise despite campaigns. How much had this cost the Council so far?
- The amount of social housing being provided was still small. There were currently 4000 people on the waiting list for one.
- Recognition was given to the re-settlement teams working with people from Ukraine and Afghanistan. It was queried how many families had actually been resettled in the area.
- It would be helpful to see how WNC compares to other authorities on apprenticeships, and how many of these were existing employees.
- It was queried how the Council planned to re-coup the 90 day overdue debt.

Councillor Adam Brown noted that the housing delays caused by snagging had since been completed, specifically related to Beaumont House.

Councillor Matt Golby noted that there had been good performance throughout the Public Health department.

Councillor Mike Hallam advised that customer service satisfaction was at 91%, the number of complaints could be added to future reports.

Councillor Phil Larratt noted that the quarter discussed in the report was covered by the old contract and that scrutiny would have more of a role going forward. It was noted that the cost of clearing fly tipping was part of the overall contract.

Councillor Malcolm Longley advised that he was happy to discuss the debt with councillors should they wish to.

RESOLVED: Cabinet noted the content of the appendix covering the second quarter of 2022-23.

109. **Draft Integrated Care Northamptonshire Live Your Best Life Strategy**

At the Chair's invitation councillors made the following comments.

- It was noted that the strategy would require serious funding.
- The home education figures were high, but there had been no information given as to why.
- There had not been a reference made within the report to the 'real living wage'.
- More information was required on how residents could access out of hours health and social care help.
- It was queried how deliverable this strategy would be.
- The voluntary sector had been acknowledged but it was noted that this area was very under resourced.
- It was noted that equality impact assessments were no longer provided with reports, could this practice be restarted.
- Could there be more follow up of SEND students who were being educated at home.

Councillor Matt Golby advised that he viewed this strategy as a big opportunity and presented the report to Cabinet. The following comments were made;

- It was advised that the strategy was a 10 year plan with lots of the work being undertaken involving local partnerships and communities.
- It was noted that funding would always be an issue.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet;

1. **Reviewed and considered the draft ICN Strategy and endorse the system direction of travel, vision, ambitions and outcomes.**
2. **Provided comments and feedback to the Place Director (People Directorate) on fundamental points of difference.**
3. **Endorsed plans to build upon the West Northants Health & Wellbeing Strategy and ensure alignment with the adopted ICN Strategy going forward.**
4. **Recommended the adoption of the ICN Strategy to the Integrated Care Partnership on 1st December 2022**
5. **Supported the further alignment of the WNC Corporate Strategic Plan with that of the ICN strategy and outcomes framework particularly in relation to how WNC work with partners in Local Area Partnerships**
6. **Agreed to receive an annual report on the progress of the ICN strategy and outcomes framework.**

110. **Procurement of a WNC Fleet management contract**

At the Chair's invitation Councillor Malcolm Longley presented the report and noted that where technology allowed the council would push towards electric travel.

RESOLVED: Cabinet gave approval to procure a new fleet management contract.

111. **Homecare Services Commissioning Intentions including extension to existing framework**

At the Chair's invitation councillors made the following comments.

- It was noted that there had not been enough detail in economy of scale.
- The Ethical Care Charter should be at the centre of the service.

Councillor Matt Golby presented the report to Cabinet and noted that the council had a best value obligation to ensure that needs were met.

The Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing noted that this was a significant report and that it was important to have a good continuity of care. Levels of efficiency should increase.

RESOLVED:

- **A new framework for the purchasing of commissioned home care services be introduced from July 2023.**
- **Duration of the framework would be four years with an inclusive option to extend for a further period of 12 months; resulting in a framework for a maximum duration of 5 years**
- **Applicants' admission to the framework would be determined via competitive tenders.**
- **The existing homecare framework is extended until 01 October 2023 (with a recognition that it will cease before 01 October 2023 to coincide with the commencement of the new framework)**
- **The Executive Director for People Services in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health is authorised to take all operational decisions necessary to implement the above recommendations**

112. **Extended photovoltaic system for One Angel Square**

At the Chair's invitation Councillor Malcolm Longley presented the report and its contents to Cabinet.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet;

1. **Approved a capital budget of £102k in 2022/23 to extend the photovoltaic array and install a green roof at One Angel Square.**
2. **Authorise the procurement of services and works and entering of contracts to facilitate the works**

113. **Procurement and implementation of Children's Social Care Case Management System**

At the Chair's invitation Councillor Fiona Baker presented the report and its contents to Cabinet.

RESOLVED: Approved by Cabinet and then on to Council for approval due to the financial value:

- A. **Agreed to proceed with the replacement of the Case Management System for the Children's Social Care across Northamptonshire, which will be operated by Northants Children's Trust (NCT), with a financial contribution by WNC of £1.573m as outlined in section 6.**
- B. **Delegated authority to the Lead Member for Children, Families, Education and Skills, in liaison with the Executive Director of People Services, to take any further decisions and actions required to implement the Case Management System and award contracts in relation to this.**
- C. **Recommended to Council that a budget change is made as set out in the report, and that it delegates authority to the Cabinet Member for Finance in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance to access and utilise appropriate funding for the Case Management System for Children's Social Care.**

114. **Revenues and Benefits Single Software System**

At the Chairs invitation Councillor Malcolm Longley presented the report and its contents to Cabinet.

Councillor Adam Brown noted how glad he was so see transformation and unity in action.

RESOVLED: That Cabinet;

- A. **Noted the contents of this report**
- B. **Approved the procurement, purchase, and implementation of a single software system for Revenues and Benefits.**
- C. **Gave delegated authority to the Executive Director for Finance to take any further decisions and actions required to procure and implement the new system in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance**

115. **Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) - Annual Report 2021 - 2022**

At the Chair's invitation councillors made the following comments.

- It would be interesting to compare performances between WNC and NNC.
- It was noted that 87% of enquiries had noted the provider of a service as the cause of the risk, which was worrying.
- It was queried whether the council had the resources to fund the assessments.
- Were there any patterns to concerns raised, were there any differences based on ethnicity.
- The Council works closely with the police force, had the impact of racism and misogyny within it been looked at.

Councillor Matt Golby presented the report to Cabinet and advised that any suggestions would be taken away and looked at.

Councillor Adam Brown advised that it is possible for councillors to challenge the Commissioner with any issues at the Police, Fire and Crime Panel meetings.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet received the Annual Report of Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board 2021 – 2022 (Appendix A) and noted the findings

116. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

117. **Old Black Lion Lease Arrangements**

Minutes are exempt

The meeting closed at 7.51 pm

Chair: _____

Date: _____

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

CABINET MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE – COUNCILLOR MALCOLM LONGLEY

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Report Title | Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee – recommendations in respect of the Children’s Trust Budget |
| Report Author | Tracy Tiff, Deputy Democratic Services Manager, tracy.tiff@westnorthants.gov.uk 01604 837408 |

| Contributors/Checkers/Approvers | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------|
| MO | Catherine Whitehead | 6/12/2022 |
| S151 | Martin Henry | 8/12/2022 |
| Communications Lead/Head of Communications | Becky Hutson | 9/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

None

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the recommendations of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee in respect of potential overspend of the Children’s Trust budget 2022/2023.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 As part of its work programme, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee (the Committee) scrutinises the Council’s Revenue Monitoring Reports. When considering the Revenue Monitoring Report at its meeting in October, the Committee was advised that the Council was, at that time, projecting an overspend of £7.6m, which represented a forecast variance of 2.2% of

the total net budget of £342.3m. The Committee acknowledged the Council, like many other local authorities, had seen a significant impact on its finances due to increased demand and inflation.

- 2.2 At the time the Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) was forecasting an overspend of £7.93m against the approved contract sum of £137.45m. The Committee therefore had concerns regarding this potential overspend as the Council has no financial control over the Children's Trust budget. There is potential for such an overspend to further increase and add pressure to the Council's budget for 2022-23. Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the Committee would recommend that Cabinet writes to the Department for Education regarding the Children's Trust model and suggest that, whilst West Northamptonshire Council will honour its contract regarding funding its agreed proportion of the Children's Trust budget, any subsequent difference be covered by the Department for Education.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that:-

- a) Cabinet writes to the Department for Education regarding the Children's Trust model and state that, whilst West Northamptonshire Council will honour its contract regarding funding its agreed proportion of the Children's Trust budget, any subsequent difference should be covered by the Department for Education.

1. Reason for Recommendations

The recommendation seeks to ensure that the rising costs of Children's Services do not adversely impact on the Council's ability to balance its budget.

4. Report Background

- 4.1 At its meeting of 12 October 2022, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertook scrutiny of the Revenue Monitoring Report - Quarter 1 2022-23 that had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 23 September 2022.
- 4.2 Whilst scrutinising the report, the Committee was advised that the Council was projecting a forecast overspend of £7.6m, which represented a forecast variance of 2.2% of the total net budget of £342.3m. In common with a number of other local authorities, the Council has seen a significant impact on its finances as a result of external factors beyond its control. These include inflationary and cost of living pressures, the ongoing financial impacts of the Covid pandemic and the withdrawal of Covid funding by central government, demand-led inflationary pressures on the Children's Trust and Adult Social Care, and a higher than anticipated cost of living pay award. Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) was forecasting an overspend of £7.93m against the approved contract sum of £137.45m.
- 4.3 The Committee conveyed concerns regarding the forecast overspend in the Children's Trust budget as the Council has no financial control over the Children's Trust budget. There is the potential for such an overspend to further increase and add additional pressure to the Council's Budget for 2022-23.

4.4 During the deliberation session, Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee resolved that the Committee would recommend to Cabinet that it writes to the Department for Education regarding the Children's Trust model and state that, whilst West Northamptonshire Council will honour its contract regarding funding its agreed proportion of the Children's Trust budget, any subsequent difference be covered by the Department for Education.

5. Issues and Choices

5.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the recommendation of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and advise the Committee of its response to the recommendation.

5.2 The options available to Cabinet are to:

a) Respond immediately to the recommendation by either:

- i. Accepting the recommendation from Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- ii. Rejecting the recommendation from Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Or:

b) Receive the report of Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and report the response to the recommendation at a future meeting of Cabinet.

6 Implications (including financial implications)

Resources and Financial

6.1 The recommendation of the Committee does not have a direct impact on the budget at this point.

Legal

6.2 Overview and Scrutiny Committees have statutory powers under section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 which includes to review or scrutinise decisions Cabinet is planning to take, those it plans to implement, and those that have already been taken/implemented.

6.3 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny arrangements are set out in Part 7 of the Council's Constitution.

Risk

6.4 Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee had regard to any risks and mitigation factors associated with the recommendation as detailed at paragraph 3 of this report.

Consultation

6.5 The Executive Director for Finance presented the report and answered questions asked at the October meeting of the Committee.

6.6 There is no further requirement for the Committee to consult prior to making recommendations to Cabinet.

Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

6.7 Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Revenue Monitoring Report - Quarter 1 - 2022-23 at its meeting on 12 October 2022.

Climate Impact

6.8 There are no significant climate impact issues arising from this report.

Community Impact

6.9 There are no significant community impact issues arising from this report.

7 Background Papers

Cabinet Report - Revenue Monitoring Report - Quarter 1 2022-23 of 23 September 2022

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee - agenda and minutes of the meeting of 12 October 2022



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

**CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCE: COUNCILLOR
MALCOLM LONGLEY**

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Report Title | Revenue Monitoring, Quarter 2 - Financial Year 2022-23 |
| Report Author | Martin Henry, Executive Director (Finance) Martin.Henry@westnorthants.gov.uk |

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------|
| West MO | Catherine Whitehead | 6/12/2022 |
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 8/12/2022 |
| Communications Lead/Head of Communications | Becky Hutson | 6/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

Appendix A – 2022-23 Revenue Forecast Outturn by Directorate as at Quarter 2

Appendix B – Budget Savings Tracker

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The report provides an assessment of the Council's financial performance against its approved 2022-23 budget, incorporating key financial risks, issues and opportunities identified since 1st April 2022 for General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

2. Executive Summary

- 1.2. West Northamptonshire Council provides a range of services to residents and businesses across the area including care to vulnerable adults and children, education, the collection and disposal of waste, household waste recycling, leisure and community wellbeing, highways, planning, economic development, collection of council tax and business rates, housing benefit, council tax support, housing and support for the homeless.
- 1.3. The Council successfully balanced its 2021-22 budget and published the details in the provisional outturn report that Cabinet has previously considered.
- 1.4. However, since the last year, the Council, alongside many other local authorities and organisations across the nation, has seen a significant impact on its finances as a result of external factors beyond its control. The main drivers of these cost pressures are highlighted below:
 - Inflationary and cost of living pressures impacting on the cost of providing services.
 - Ongoing financial impact of COVID allied with the withdrawal of significant COVID funds previously received.
 - Demand led and inflationary pressures within the Children’s Trust.
 - Significant pressures within Home to School Transport.
 - Demand led pressures within Adult Social Care.
 - Cost of living pay award significantly greater than the amount included at the time of setting the budget based on the latest national pay award offer made by the employers’ organisation.
- 1.5. As a result of these externally driven financial challenges, Directorate Management Teams continue to be focussed on reducing the cost-of-service delivery in their areas to support the council to forecast spend closer in line with the budget, while ensuring that services are still delivered and that there isn’t a corresponding reduction in service provision.
- 1.6. Table one summarises the revenue forecast currently being estimated for this financial year.

Table One: Forecast Outturn 2022-23 by Directorate

| Directorate | Net Budget £'000 | Forecast Net Spend at 31/10/22 £'000 | Q2 Forecast Variance at 31/10/22 £'000 | Q1 Forecast Variance as at 31/07/22 £'000 | Movement Since Q1 £'000 | % Forecast Variance against budget |
|--|---------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Corporate Services | 22,553 | 22,427 | (126) | 210 | (336) | -0.6% |
| Chief Executive Office | 3,305 | 2,832 | (473) | 0 | (473) | -14.3% |
| Education Services | 4,540 | 4,433 | (107) | (385) | 278 | -2.4% |
| Children's Trust | 70,664 | 77,366 | 6,702 | 4,441 | 2,261 | 9.5% |
| Communities and Opportunities | 11,024 | 11,335 | 311 | 506 | (195) | 2.8% |
| Adult Social Care | 105,631 | 113,897 | 8,266 | 6,889 | 1,377 | 7.8% |
| Place and Economy | 83,211 | 88,756 | 5,545 | 6,487 | (942) | 6.7% |
| Finance Directorate | 10,575 | 9,922 | (653) | (362) | (291) | -6.2% |
| Cost of services | 311,503 | 330,969 | 19,466 | 17,785 | 1,681 | 6.2% |
| Technical / Centrally Controlled Budgets | 30,815 | 21,891 | (8,924) | (6,510) | (2,414) | -29.0% |
| Total budgeted expenditure | 342,318 | 352,860 | 10,542 | 11,275 | (734) | 3.1% |
| Less funding | (342,318) | (349,118) | (6,800) | (3,700) | (3,100) | 1.9% |
| Net Position 2022-23 | 0 | 3,742 | 3,742 | 7,575 | (3,834) | 1.1% |

1.7. The forecast outturn position for 2022-23 is an overspend of £3.7m, after use of £10.1m of budget contingencies, which were set aside in the budget for risks that have subsequently crystallised in the current financial year. This represents a favourable movement of £3.8m from the Quarter 1 position reported to Cabinet in September. The detailed forecast variations against budget are set out in section 6.

1.8. The main reasons for the underlying pressures which directorates are seeking to mitigate are as follows;

- Increasing levels of inflation, with RPI currently standing at 14.2% and CPI currently standing at 11.1% affecting contracts, operations and running costs.
- Increase in homelessness and the use of expensive nightly purchase temporary accommodation.
- Increase in adult social care demand at the end of 2021-22 due to demands from hospital discharges.

- More adults care packages at higher costs reflecting both increase in complexity following COVID and market conditions. Demand is outstripping supply which is directly pushing costs up.
- The Children's Trust is seeing increasing demand for limited, and expensive placements for children with complex needs. This is driving up costs.
- The staff pay award has now been agreed and is greater than anticipated when the budget was set.
- Significant pressures relating to Home to School Transport spend.

Housing Revenue Account

- 1.9. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account used to manage the Council's housing stock. The costs of managing and maintaining the properties, collecting rents and meeting the interest cost of monies borrowed to pay for investment in the housing stock are all charged to the housing revenue account.
- 1.10. Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) is an arms-length management organisation and manages the Council's housing stock on its behalf, and is responsible for the delivery of the following services:
- Allocations and lettings
 - Repairs and maintenance
 - Housing management, including dealing with anti-social behaviour
 - Tenancy support
 - Tenant involvement.
- 1.11. The financial reporting of service delivery for these areas is also supplied by NPH and is incorporated in the Council's HRA financial position for the current year:

Table two: HRA Forecast Outturn 2022-23 by Activity

| Other Funds (HRA) | Net Budget | Forecast Net Spend at 31/10/22 | Q2 Variance at 31/10/22 | Q1 Variance at 31/07/22 | Movement |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Dwelling rents | (53,050) | (52,417) | 633 | 619 | 14 |
| Non-dwelling rents | (951) | (1,029) | (78) | (82) | 4 |
| Other charges for services | (2,435) | (2,592) | (157) | (149) | (8) |
| Contributions towards expenditure | (16) | (9) | 7 | (6) | 13 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 14,892 | 15,412 | 520 | 50 | 470 |
| General Management | 9,391 | 9,253 | (138) | 17 | (155) |
| Special Services | 5,277 | 5,342 | 65 | 0 | 65 |
| Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other | 302 | 302 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Provision for Bad Debts | 400 | 400 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| General Fund Recharges | 2,650 | 2,650 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Interest & Capital Financing | 8,802 | 7,440 | (1,362) | (1,277) | (85) |
| Depreciation (Major Repairs Allowance) | 13,500 | 13,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rev Contributions to Capital | 1,238 | 1,238 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Budgeted Position | 0 | (510) | (510) | (828) | 318 |
| Contribution to/(from) Reserves | 0 | 510 | 510 | 828 | (318) |
| Overall Position | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

1.12. The HRA is experiencing forecast pressures mainly on reductions in anticipated dwelling rental income due to the delay in new properties being let to tenants, and pressures in repairs and maintenance due to the increased cost of sub-contractors and building materials, as well as increase inflationary pressures due to a shortage of skilled labour and disruptions in the supply chain. These pressures have been offset by reduced interest and capital financing charges as a result of slippage on the capital programme.

1.13. The forecast HRA position has worsened by £318k between Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 but is still reporting an overall underspend against the original budget. This has predominately been driven by the repairs and maintenance forecast overspend, and the increase costs of gas and electricity within Special Services. These forecast pressures have been offset by efficiency savings and reduction in borrowing costs due to the latest phasing of the capital programme.

Dedicated Schools Grant

1.14. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is a ring-fenced specific grant allocated to the Local Authority by the Government to support a range of education related services.

1.15. The Department for Education (DfE) currently operate a four-block funding model for funding schools and pre-16 education including early years as set out in the following table:

| Dedicated Schools Grant | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Schools Block | Early Years Block | High Needs Block | Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) |

1.16. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) forecast at the end of Quarter 2 is as follows:

Table Three – DSG

| DSG Block | Gross Exp Budget £'000 | Recoupment £'000 | Net Exp Budget £'000 | Forecast Net Spend £'000 | Quarter 2 Variance £'000 | Quarter 1 Variance £'000 | Movement £'000 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Schools* | 318,848 | (253,204) | 65,644 | 65,644 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Early Years Provision | 26,572 | 0 | 26,572 | 26,791 | 219 | 0 | 219 |
| High Needs | 63,557 | (16,028) | 47,529 | 49,261 | 1,732 | 393 | 1,339 |
| Central Schools Services Block* | 4,153 | 0 | 4,153 | 4,153 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 413,130 | (269,232) | 143,898 | 145,849 | 1,951 | 393 | 1,558 |

*Includes carry forwards totalling £657k

- 1.17. The DSG is currently forecasting an overspend of £2.0m, with £1.8m overspend forecast in the high needs block and £0.2m in the early years block. This is an adverse movement of £1.6m from the prior reported position, based on the increased demand for services.
- 1.18. The pressure in the main relates to increased demand for educational placements, and out of county placements provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) due to a growth in education, health and care plans, and a shortage of placements in county. The 2022-23 capital programme includes investment to increase resourced places in mainstream schools and special school expansions.
- 1.19. The early years block variance relates to demand above budgeted levels on the SEND inclusion fund for emerging and low-level needs.
- 1.20. DSG budgets are being reviewed to ensure that all of the education elements of funded placements are accurately forecast.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- a) Note the forecast outturn position for 2022-23 and associated risks
- b) Note the deliverability assessment of West Northamptonshire Council savings requirement for 2022-23 summarised in section 7 and detailed in Appendix B
- c) Delegate authority to the Executive Director – Finance in consultation with the portfolio holder to apply any budget virements required to effectively manage the overall budget during the 2023/24 year.

- d) Cabinet are requested to note and endorse the three requests made by the Children’s Trust set out in paragraphs 6.4, 6.5 and 6.7 and supported by the Strategic Commissioning Group and recommend to Council that they should be approved and for the approval of further contract sum adjustments to be delegated to the Executive Director – Finance in consultation with the Finance Portfolio holder.
- e) To note the position on Capital Dispensations set out in paragraph 6.48.1

4. Reason for Recommendations

- *To update members on the financial position of the Council and ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations*

5. Report Background

- 5.1 The Council’s budget for 2022-23 is £342.3m and was approved on 24 February 2022 by Full Council including £19.3m of savings proposals. This report includes an analysis of the deliverability of these efficiency and income proposals, and the in-year variations to budgeted assumptions.

6. Financial Overview by Directorate

- 6.1 This section of the report provides an update on the forecast variations against 2022-23 budget A more detailed breakdown of the 2022-23 forecast is included in Appendix A.

Corporate Services

Net Budget £22.5m

Forecast Outturn £22.4m

Forecast underspend £0.1m

Variance percentage -0.6%

- 6.2 The Corporate Services Directorate delivers services including human resources, customer services, Digital Technology and Innovation (DTI), legal, democratic, coroners, registration and transformation services.
- 6.3 The Directorate is reporting a forecast outturn position of £0.1m underspend, which is a favourable movement of £0.3m from the reported Quarter 1 position.
- 6.4 This position includes overspends of £1.5m of which mainly relate to increases in the costs of IT contracts, the additional cost of mobile phone usage, legacy council income targets which cannot be met, and several services with staffing pressures. These are part mitigated through one-off income and staffing underspends in other areas of Corporate Services.
- 6.5 To address this, the Corporate Services Management Team has identified efficiency proposals which will contribute £0.9m towards mitigating current budget pressures.

- 6.6 The favourable movement of £0.3m from Quarter 1 is driven by further pressures of £0.2m mainly due to IT license fees that were not anticipated, offset by £0.5m underspends of which £0.3m is due to staff vacancies, a revised estimate on members allowances, and reductions in non-essential spend.

Chief Executive Directorate

Net Budget £3.3m

Forecast outturn £2.8m

Forecast underspend £0.5m

Variance percentage -14.3%

- 6.7 Chief Executive Directorate includes the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, Executive Support, Communications and Business Intelligence Services.
- 6.8 The Directorate is reporting a forecast outturn position of £0.5m underspend, and a favourable movement of £0.5m from Quarter 1 reported position.
- 6.9 This position includes an overspend of £0.2m which in the main relates to a shortfall in service aggregation savings which was a result of assumed senior staff savings from bringing the legacy councils together not fully matching with the budgets that came across from the four legacy authorities.
- 6.10 This pressure is mitigated through one-off income and staffing underspends due to delay in restructure in Business Intelligence.
- 6.11 The Management Team in the Chief Executive Directorate has identified efficiency proposals which will contribute a further £0.3m to reduce the pressures reported in other directorates.
- 6.12 The favourable movement of £0.5m from Quarter 1 is largely driven by the identification of savings opportunities due to the release of £0.4m one-off budget and carry forward allocated to Business Intelligence no longer required due to delays in restructure, staff vacancy management and other minor variances across the directorate following recent review of budgets.

Education Services

Net Budget £4.5m

Forecast outturn £4.4m

Forecast underspend £0.1m

Variance percentage -2.4%

- 6.13 Education Services is made up of Council services within the People Directorate which deliver statutory education functions against approximately 200 duties as set out in various Education

and Children Acts, and regulations including, but not limited to, school quality assurance and intervention, pupil place planning and admissions, early years and special educational needs.

- 6.14 Education Services are reporting an underspend of £0.1m, which is an adverse movement of £0.3m from the reported Quarter 1 position.
- 6.15 Children and Education are forecasting overspends of £0.5m made up of £0.3m forecast traded income shortfall in Educational Psychology based on latest capacity available to fulfil service level agreement take up, £0.1m legal cost overspend relating to SEND tribunals and £0.1m disaggregation costs.
- 6.16 This is mitigated in part by underspends totalling £0.4m due to staffing vacancies underspends, mainly across Educational Psychologist posts, of which there is a national shortage of qualified staff.
- 6.17 In addition, Education Services has identified efficiency proposals which will contribute a further £0.2m of budget mitigations.

Northamptonshire Children's Trust

Net Budget £70.7m

Forecast outturn £77.4m

Forecast overspend £6.7m

Variance percentage 9.5%

- 6.1 The contract for Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) provides children's social care services across both West and North Northamptonshire Councils.
- 6.2 NCT is forecasting a total overspend of £11.9m against the approved contract sum of £137.45m. Based on the agreed contract split between West and North Northamptonshire Councils, WNC's share of the total is a forecast overspend of £6.7m against the contract sum of £76.75m (56%).
- 6.3 The main reason for the forecast overspend relates to placements for children in care which amounts to a total of £8m. There are increasing numbers of children coming into care in Northants due to the impact of covid and the national economic picture. The current levels of volatility, efficiency of joint funding process, flux of emergency placements and increasing complexity of need, in addition to inflationary pressures, represent a significant financial challenge for the year ahead. This is representative of the national picture where there is a shortage of appropriate places in children's homes and with foster carers, meaning that high prices are often being paid by local authorities who are responsible for placing children in appropriate settings. The key drivers of the overspend are residential and supported accommodation placements, with the top five placements costing in excess of £10,000 per week.
- 6.4 The staffing budget is forecast to overspend by £1.901m with a provision for national pay award. Increases have also been included in relation to the uplift in agency rates, which have seen an average increase of 5%. The Strategic Commissioning Group (SCG) received and supported a contract sum uplift request for this amount. WNC's share of this would be £1.062m and makes up part of the total forecast overspend.

- 6.5 There is a forecast pressure of £0.844m relating to The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman decision on the historic treatment and compliance with Special Guardianship Allowance policy. The additional costs relate to the implementation of the Ombudsman decision and the backdating of payments to all Special Guardianship payments. The decision was made on 24 August, and the new policy and payments must be made within three months of the decision. The SCG received and supported a contract sum uplift request for this amount. WNC's share of this would be £0.471m and makes up part of the total forecast overspend.
- 6.6 There are also forecast pressures on transport costs of £0.7m which is a result of an increase in fuel costs. The impact of covid led to increased transport demand for supporting children in care. Whilst work is underway in implementing transition arrangements to reduce historic agreements, there is a risk that the inflation on transport costs could rise above current levels and the recent increase in covid infections may reduce the opportunities to lessen demand.
- 6.7 Internal foster care provision is more cost effective than paying for external placements, therefore to ensure the Trust can continue to recruit and retain internal foster carers it has been decided to provide a greater inflationary uplift to their foster carer payments (an increase from 1.5% to 4%, back dated to October 2022). This costs an additional £0.103m. The SCG received and supported a contract sum uplift request for this amount. WNC's share of this would be £0.058m and makes up part of the total forecast overspend.
- 6.8 The Trust will continue to use a managed social care team until the end of the financial year, which will provide additional capacity to the safeguarding service, ensuring that social care caseloads continue at a manageable level. This will result in an additional pressure of £0.7m, WNC's share is £0.4m.
- 6.9 The Trust continues to develop proposals to mitigate their forecast pressures, and this will be followed up as part of the governance arrangements between the Council and the Trust, which includes regular monitoring reports.
- 6.10 As detailed above the SCG received and supported three contract sum uplift requests for some of the pressures highlighted above. All three were contained within their forecast outturn position. Cabinet are requested to note and endorse these requests and recommend to Council that they should be approved and for the approval of further contract sum adjustments to be delegated to the Executive Director – Finance in consultation with the Finance Portfolio holder.

Communities and Opportunities

Net Budget £11.0m

Forecast outturn £11.3m

Forecast overspend £0.3m

Variance percentage 2.8%

- 6.11 The Communities and Opportunities Directorate includes Housing, Leisure, Libraries, Economic Development, Regeneration and Community Safety & Engagement. The Directorate is

forecasting an overspend of £0.3m, which is a favourable movement of £0.2m from the reported Quarter 1 position.

- 6.12 The favourable movement is driven by a lower forecast overspend on expensive nightly purchase Temporary Accommodation as management action to reduce the usage of expensive nightly purchase starts to take effect, the receipt of leisure contract management fee as per contract for the first six months of the year, various management actions in holding recruitment to non-statutory posts and general spending review panel effect. These favourable movements are partly offset by the non-delivery of service aggregation, and a worsening of forecast housing benefit subsidy loss.
- 6.13 The £0.3m directorate pressure in the main relates to four issues.
- 6.14 The first is the result of increases in the cost of temporary accommodation. The nightly costs of housing are increasing rapidly due to economic inflationary pressures totalling £0.3m, consisting of additional bed and breakfast costs and additional temporary private housing costs.
- 6.15 A £0.4m pressure relating to an increase in Housing Benefit subsidy loss due to the higher demand for temporary accommodation for the homeless and the increasing use of expensive nightly purchase accommodation. This pressure is being directed to the Housing service where Homelessness and temporary accommodation use is managed.
- 6.16 The service aggregation saving carried forward from 2021-22 is not achievable. When the current budget was set it was assumed that restructuring throughout the directorate would deliver the savings proposal, however as transformation work is still on-going, this is causing a savings shortfall of £0.4m.
- 6.17 The final key issue relates to a forecast reduction of £0.25m in management fee from a leisure facility in the South Northants area. The leisure facility advised that the impact of Covid has meant that they are operating at a loss, as such the management payment of 0.45m is forecast to be under recovered. A benchmarking exercise is underway and will dictate payments from Sept 2022 to March 2023.
- 6.18 The Communities and Opportunities Management Team has utilised a number of mitigating actions to improve the financial position of the directorate.

Adult Social Care

Net Budget £105.6m

Forecast outturn £113.9m

Forecast overspend £8.3m

Variance percentage 7.8%

- 6.19 Adult Social Care is part of the People Directorate and consists of services that provide support to older people or those living with disabilities or with mental or physical illness under the Care Act, to promote their independence and improve their well-being. This support enables them to manage their needs and live life to the fullest regardless of the challenges they may face as a result of their circumstances.

- 6.20 The Directorate also has responsibility for Public Health. This service was successfully disaggregated on the 1st October 2022 from the previous arrangement where Public Health was hosted in North Northants. Work is in progress to align budgets to the individual service areas.
- 6.21 Adult Social Care is forecasting an overall £8.3m pressure against budget for 2022-23 which is an adverse movement of £1.4m from the reported Quarter 1 position. The reported pressure of £8.3m is driven largely by significant demand and cost pressures since budget setting.
- 6.22 The adverse movement of £1.4m from the position reported in Quarter 1 is largely driven by independent care package cost pressures of £1.3m across client groups. This is where the cost of living pressures are being passed on from providers in placement costs outside of commissioned frameworks. There is a further £0.3m of pressure on client transport budgets where costs have risen significantly due to fuel prices. A further £0.2m of forecast vacancies have arisen due to the difficulty in recruitment across the social care sector that has mitigated the cost pressures forecast in the last quarter.
- 6.23 There are now 500 more clients requiring care than in April 2021, a considerable increase on the 3,500 clients at that time and a clear sign of the level of demand experienced. This has resulted in a significant upturn in the level and cost of independent care packages across client cohorts of £6.4m following the publication of the 2022-23 budget. £3.0m of this is driven by cost and volume increases within Learning Disability and Mental Health cohorts. This is as a result of both the long-term impact of the pandemic and the alignment of clients to West Northants based on their ordinary residence. £3.3m of the pressures in Older People's services driven by higher complexity of individuals. This pressure is the net impact of the client care costs and the contributions to care.
- 6.24 At the height of the pandemic, there was an urgency to clear hospitals of medically fit clients and the cost of the first four weeks of these Discharge to Assess (D2A) placements was covered by Health but this has since ceased. The cessation of the national funding from the beginning of this financial year has created a budget pressure of £1.7m. The service assumed that clients discharged from hospital could be covered within existing care budgets. In addition to this there is a residual pressure of £1.0m on the Older People's Residential budgets from the D2A placements, driven by a combination of the significantly high cost per week and higher than average length of time clients have remained in these placements.
- 6.25 On a related issue, following a detailed review, there is a significant risk to budgeted savings delivery of £7.0m. The Strength Based Working planned savings of £4.1m are at risk of delivery as even though tracked savings for 2021-22 evidenced delivery of £5m, independent care budgets are not seeing an associated reduction due to the increased demand the service is encountering the overall expenditure remained unchanged in the current year.
- 6.26 In addition, £2.9m of Admission avoidance savings, including undelivered savings brought forward from 2021-22 of £2.3m, is likely to be undelivered in year. This is due to insufficient evidence that the targeted reduction in acute admissions has reduced Adult Social care demand in this financial year. Current new demand through the acutes is outstripping the demand management interventions put in place.

- 6.27 There are external contract pressures of £0.4m from the Adult prevention contracts, from property voids mainly as a result of the inability to fill some beds due to compatibility issues and from increased legal costs due to an increase in the number and complexity of cases. In addition, the PFI contract budget is forecast to overspend by £0.3m due to a higher than budgeted indexation level. The social care transport service is also reporting a £0.5m pressure due to increased demand for transport from eligible service users to enable them to access services and promote independence. The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) service is also reporting a pressure of £0.1m from statutory doctors' section 12 assessments.
- 6.28 In House Provider Services are forecasting an underspend of £0.04m, however, there is a potential risk around the delivery of the £0.9m savings target attached to improving utilisation rates due to the ongoing options appraisal around future MTFP savings.
- 6.29 The Adult Social Care teams are forecasting an underspend of £0.4m as a result of difficulties in filling social worker vacancies due in part to a nationwide shortage of care workers and regional competition for qualified and experienced staff.
- 6.30 There are also a number of further vacancies across Commissioning and Performance particularly in Financial Operations who are forecasting an underspend of £0.3m.
- 6.31 In addition to the above the Adult Social Care Management Team has identified efficiency proposals that will contribute £8.4m to reduce costs pressures within the directorate.

Place and Economy

Net Budget £83.2m

Forecast outturn £88.8m

Forecast overspend £5.6m

Variance percentage 6.7%

- 6.32 The Place Directorate delivers services including Waste Management, Highways and Transportation, (including Home to School Transport), Asset Management (including car parking), Environment Services, Regulatory Services and Planning. The Directorate has been significantly impacted by the long-term effect of covid and the rising cost of inflation on contracts and service provision. Demand has altered because of changes in people's behaviours, and the national labour shortage in the transport market has resulted in decreased competition and a subsequent increase in operator prices.
- 6.33 Overall, the Place and Economy Directorate is reporting a forecast a net overspend of £5.6m, which is a favourable movement of £0.9m from the position reported in Quarter 1. The movement from Q1 is predominantly due to an increase in Home to School Transport costs of £2.2m, and waste tonnage of £0.2m, offset by reduced utility costs, (£0.7m), reduction in staff costs pressure (£0.2m), reduction in property income pressure and other over spends of £0.2m, plus additional underspends of £2.4m as a result of spending restrictions and an increase in waste recycle income.

- 6.34 The underlying pressures in this directorate total £9.7m, of which Home to School transport is forecasting a pressure of £5.3m due to a combination of both the long-term impact of covid on the transport market and increased fuel prices.
- 6.35 There is a forecast pressure of £1.7m on energy costs across properties within Place & Economy, street lighting and traffic signals. Contract inflation is causing a pressure of £1m due to the inflation rates being higher than estimated during budget setting.
- 6.36 The service aggregation saving carried forward from 2021-22 is not achievable. When the current budget was set it was assumed that restructuring throughout the directorate would deliver the savings proposal, however as transformation work is still on-going, this is causing a savings shortfall of £0.8m.
- 6.37 There are a number of other pressures resulting from several income streams that have not yet returned to pre-covid levels due to a reduction in demand, an increase in tonnages of both domestic waste and at household waste recycling centres and additional play areas to maintain, totalling £0.9m.
- 6.38 The underlying pressures are being partly offset by underspends totalling £2.8m. These include additional income across the directorate of £0.8m, underspends of £0.9m in property management running costs and a reduction in reactive maintenance due to continued working from home arrangements, underspends on staffing as a result of the vacancy freeze and Highways & Transport disaggregation (£0.9m) and reductions in concessionary fare payments (£0.2m).
- 6.39 The Place and Economy Management Team has identified efficiency proposals that will contribute £1.4m to offset the reported position within the directorate.

Finance

Net Budget £10.6m

Forecast outturn £9.9m

Forecast underspend £0.7m

Variance percentage -6.2%

- 6.40 The Finance Directorate services include strategic finance, accountancy, revenue and benefits, procurement, and internal audit services. The directorate is reporting a £0.7m underspend, which is a favourable movement of £0.3m from the position reported to Cabinet in Quarter 1.
- 6.41 The directorate underspend is made up primarily of savings on vacant posts, additional unbudgeted income and savings attributed to bring the internal audit team back in house.
- 6.42 The movement since the last report relates mainly to an increase in vacant posts across the directorate.

Technical/Centrally Held Items

Net Budget £30.8m

Forecast Outturn £21.9m

Forecast underspend £8.9m

Variance percentage -29%

- 6.43 Technical and centrally controlled budgets include the treasury budgets, pension deficit contribution payments for West Northants and the contingency budgets. This area will also reflect any council-wide corporate cross cutting issues or opportunities. This area is forecasting an overall underspend of £8.9m against budget for 2022-23.
- 6.44 This position includes a budget pressure relating to the pay award agreed for staff which was greater than that assumed at the time of setting the budget. The Council's budgets were prepared and published in February 2022 and since then the national economic outlook has materially changed with rapidly increasing inflation rates. The pressure of £3.4m is the amount over and above what was included in the February 2022 budget, which for 2022-23 was linked to the national pay offer which has recently been agreed with the Trade Unions.
- 6.45 A council-wide contingency budget is managed within the centrally controlled budget which at the start of the year stood at £15.4m. This consists of disaggregation budget of £0.4m brought forward from 2021-22, pay inflation £4.9m and a general contingency of £10.1m. The Council's Quarter 2 position assumes the full utilisation of £10.1m contingency budget within the position.
- 6.46 There is a forecast underspend of £2.0m within treasury management. This underspend is due to several factors including an improved position on investment income due to higher interest rate yields, underspends on borrowing costs due to changes in the loan portfolio offset by pressures on finance and insurance charges.
- 6.47 Other forecast pressures include a pressure of £0.3m against a 2022-23 historic income target that is not expected to be achieved.
- 6.48 There is a £0.4m in year benefit identified following review of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) requirement and additional small underspends totalling £0.2m including additional grant income and an underspend relating to a saving on legacy audits.

Capital Dispersations

- 6.48.1 The Government has confirmed a capital dispensation for the authority and this can be used to fund costs that are ordinarily funded by the revenue account through capital borrowings. The dispensation covers the cost of redundancies and transformation costs. An exercise has been commenced to determine what costs currently charged to the revenue account may be able to be transferred to Capital. An example of this would be the recently agreed Children's Trust system which could be legitimately be charged against the dispensation. Cabinet are asked to note this position. It is likely that the use of the Capital Dispensation will be determined as part of the provisional outturn report for this year.

Funding

- 6.49 The Council's net service budget is funded from the following areas: Council Tax income, Business Rates income, Government grants, one off Covid funding and reserves. A breakdown of the funding budget is detailed below in Table Five:

Table Five

| Funding | Net Budget £'000 |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Council Tax income | 224,146 |
| Business Rates income (including S31 Grant) | 64,696 |
| Adult Social Care Grants | 22,414 |
| Transfer from Reserves | 21,464 |
| New Homes Bonus | 5,152 |
| Services Grant 22-23 | 3,457 |
| Other Government Grants | 989 |
| Total Funding | (342,318) |

- 6.50 Within the funding budget it has been identified that business rates income (including S31 grant) will be greater than the set budget by £6.8m and this is incorporated into the forecast outturn position.

7. Summary of savings delivery 2022-23

- 7.1 The Council has a savings requirement within its 2022-23 budget of £19.3m. Finance and Service Directors have undertaken a review of savings deliverability, with the summary forecast position reported in table six.

Table Seven

| Directorate | 2022-23 Savings Proposals £'000 | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | Budgeted saving | RAG Analysis | | | | Expected saving |
| | | Blue | Green | Amber | Red | |
| Adults Social Care | (11,711) | (844) | (5,402) | (804) | (4,661) | (11,711) |
| Chief Executives Office | (248) | 0 | (248) | 0 | 0 | (248) |
| Communities & Opportunities | (660) | 0 | (390) | 0 | (270) | (660) |
| Children's Services | (762) | (664) | (98) | 0 | 0 | (762) |
| Corporate Services | (908) | (60) | (737) | 0 | (111) | (908) |
| Place and Economy | (3,215) | (980) | (1,453) | (457) | (325) | (3,215) |
| Finance | (837) | 0 | (837) | 0 | 0 | (837) |
| Centrally controlled Budget | (966) | (966) | 0 | 0 | 0 | (966) |
| Total | (19,306) | (3,514) | (9,164) | (1,261) | (5,367) | (19,306) |

Blue = Delivered and Confirmed

Green = Deliverable, on target

Amber = Deliverable, with risks

Red = Unlikely to be delivered

7.2 Overall, there are seven savings (£5.4m) flagged as 'red' which are unlikely to be delivered and nine savings (£1.3m) flagged as 'Amber' which are deliverable but have risks. The largest red rated savings proposal is the Adult Social Care proposal for strengths based working efficiencies detailed in section 6.24. In addition to this there are £2,321k savings brought forward from 2021-22 which relate to strengths based working in adults that aren't being delivered.

7.3 These pressures are set out in the directorate section and included in the budget monitoring figures contained in the report. A detailed assessment of the individual savings proposals is set out in Appendix B.

8. Implications (including financial implications)

Resources and Financial

8.1 The resource and financial implications for West Northamptonshire Council are set out in the body of, and appendices to, this report.

8.2 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

Risk

8.3 This report sets out the financial forecast for this financial year. The key risks associated with this report relate to continuing demand led pressures, COVID impacts and spiralling inflationary costs driving further financial pressures over and above the pressures already identified. These risks were identified earlier in the report.

Communications and Consultation

8.4 The Council carries out public consultation and communications on its annual Budget proposals. These activities took place in the months prior to the budgets being approved by Full Council in February 2022 for the 2022/23 budget.

8.5 Any management interventions that require a policy change will be subject to a consultation before any decision is taken.

8.6 Where consultation is necessary, full details will be presented to Cabinet separately. Cabinet can only make a decision after taking careful account of the results of such consultation in order to reach an informed decision.

8.7 Communications with staff has played an important role in identifying where efficiencies can be made along with suggestions for better, more efficient ways of working. Communications and engagement activities with staff will continue to ensure that the Council achieves a balanced budget in 2022-23.

Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

8.8 All 2022-23 budget proposals were consulted on prior to the budget being approved by Full Council in February 2022. Any management interventions that require a policy change will be subject to a consultation before any decision is taken. Where consultation is necessary, full details will be presented to Cabinet separately.

Climate Impact

8.9 All management interventions and mitigations identified within this report will be reviewed on an individual basis for any environmental impact.

Community Impact

8.10 This report will have a positive impact on the community by providing scrutiny on how public funds are being used to fund services for local residents in 2022-23.

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report:
- 9.2 Final Budget Report and Medium Term Financial Plan, meeting of Council, 24 February 2022
[Agenda item - Final Budget 2022-23 and Medium Term Financial Plan - West Northamptonshire Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)
- 9.3 Revenue monitoring Quarter 1 Report , Cabinet meeting 23rd September 2022
[Agenda for Cabinet on Friday 23rd September 2022, 6.00 pm - West Northamptonshire Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

This page is intentionally left blank

| <u>Directorate</u> | <u>Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate</u> | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Corporate Services | Savings Delivery Pressure: 2223-B6-020 - Pressure on staff savings due to the delay in the implementation of a project driving improvements in the telephony system | 129 | 111 | (18) |
| | | 129 | 111 | (18) |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Overspends: | | | |
| | Budget pressures on Data, Technology & Innovation staffing budgets | 291 | 291 | 0 |
| | Additional in year IT contract costs as a result of price and volume increases | 295 | 295 | 0 |
| | Increase in mobile phone and data usage due to remote working | 212 | 212 | 0 |
| | Additional cost for procurement of telephony cloud service and Abacus license fee | 0 | 102 | 102 |
| | Human Resources - historical income pressures | 96 | 96 | 0 |
| | Payroll pressures | 97 | 97 | 0 |
| | Members Allowances budget pressure | 87 | 53 | (34) |
| | Staffing / Agency pressures in Legal and Democratic services | 115 | 178 | 63 |
| | Income budget pressure in Legal and Democratic services mitigated by additional other income received within legal services | 24 | 24 | 0 |
| | Reduction in income forecast in Land Charges due to the slow down in the Housing Market | | 20 | 20 |
| | Elections service - legacy income budgets not achievable | 59 | 59 | 0 |
| | Coroner Storage costs | | 20 | 20 |
| | Information Governance - salaries pressure | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| | | 1,291 | 1,462 | 171 |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Underspends: | | | |
| | Overachievement of income in the Coroners and Registrations services | (55) | (55) | 0 |
| | Additional Legal Services income | (146) | (152) | (6) |
| | Professional fees budget saving | (183) | (245) | (62) |
| Land Charges income | (10) | (10) | 0 | |
| Miscellaneous small underspends across the directorate | (41) | (119) | (78) | |
| Transfer from consolidation contingency re staffing structure | (96) | (96) | 0 | |
| Staffing Underspends | (137) | (73) | 64 | |
| | (668) | (750) | (82) | |
| Management Actions: | | | | |
| Mitigating action plans | (542) | (948) | (406) | |
| | (542) | (948) | (406) | |
| Net Position – Corporate Services | 210 | (126) | (335) | |
| Chief Executive Services | Savings Delivery Pressure: No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Overspends: | | | |
| | Net budget pressures on service aggregation savings | 247 | 193 | (54) |
| | Other minor underspends | 0 | 27 | 27 |
| | | 247 | 220 | (27) |
| | In Year Budget Variations – Underspends: | | | |
| | Release of one-off budget due to delay in restructure in Business Intelligence | 0 | (197) | (197) |
| | Additional staff savings in Communications | 0 | (19) | (19) |
| | Forecast staff savings through delaying recruitment | 0 | (38) | (38) |
| | Forecast savings on print | | (23) | (23) |
| | | 0 | (277) | (277) |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| Mitigating action plans | (247) | (416) | (169) | |
| | (247) | (416) | (169) | |
| Net Position – Chief Executive Services | 0 | (473) | (473) | |
| Education Services | Savings Delivery Pressure: No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Overspends: | | | |
| | Forecast shortfall in Educational Psychology traded income | 174 | 260 | 86 |
| | Forecast increase in legal costs due to SEND tribunals | 0 | 123 | 123 |
| Estimated shortfall on penalty income in Educational Entitlement team | 47 | 0 | (47) | |

| <u>Directorate</u> | <u>Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate</u> | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Forecast Staffing Overspend due to Interim DCS costs | 54 | 54 | 0 |
| | Estimated disaggregation costs | 25 | 25 | 0 |
| | | 300 | 462 | 162 |
| | In Year Budget Variations – Underspends: | | | |
| | Forecast staffing underspends due to vacancies | (489) | (351) | 138 |
| | Estimated penalty income above budget in Educational Entitlement team | 0 | (30) | (30) |
| | Forecast underspend on non-pay expenditure | (8) | 0 | 8 |
| | | (497) | (381) | 116 |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| | Mitigating action plans | (188) | (188) | 0 |
| | | (188) | (188) | 0 |
| | Net Position – Education Services | (385) | (107) | 278 |
| Children's Trust | Savings Delivery Pressure: | | | |
| | No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Overspends: | | | |
| | Northamptonshire Children's Trust demand and inflationary pressures | 4,441 | 6,702 | 2,261 |
| | | 4,441 | 6,702 | 2,261 |
| | In Year Budget Variations – Underspends: | | | |
| | No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| | No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Net Position – Children's Trust | 4,441 | 6,702 | 2,261 |
| Communities and Opportunities | Savings Delivery Pressure: | | | |
| | 2223-B6-012 Reduction in need for high cost temporary accommodation | 270 | 270 | 0 |
| | | 270 | 270 | 0 |
| | In year variations - overspend: | | | |
| | Pressure on 2021-22 service aggregation savings | 0 | 412 | 412 |
| | Temporary Accommodation costs expected to exceed budget | 345 | 169 | (176) |
| | Overspend expected on management of Ecton Lane travellers site | 70 | 105 | 35 |
| | Forecast reduction in management fee income from Leisure Centre | 428 | 242 | (186) |
| | Daventry and Moulton Leisure centre operations exceeding the budget | 43 | 43 | 0 |
| | Other In year budget pressures on Leisure services | 11 | 30 | 19 |
| | Pressures on supported accommodation | 237 | 366 | 129 |
| | Forecast under-recovery of income relating to fines and fees in Libraries | 11 | 17 | 6 |
| | Disabled Facilities Grants: The overspend is again primarily driven by staffing costs | 20 | 24 | 4 |
| | Museums is forecasting an under achievement of income | 0 | 36 | 36 |
| | Shortfall of Income from Leisure Play Schemes that is not being generated due to a change in the running programme | 0 | 29 | 29 |
| | | 1,165 | 1,473 | 308 |
| | In year variations - underspend: | | | |
| | Economic Development budget saving due to leveraging in external funding support and existing vacant posts that are yet to be filled | (123) | (123) | 0 |
| | Various Revenue budget savings within Leisure from venue hire and other budgets that relate to play schemes due to the change in programmes and also other small budget savings | (2) | (26) | (24) |
| | £20k underspend in Community grants. | 0 | (5) | (5) |
| | Museums have identified various budget savings by deferring activities to the next financial year | 0 | (57) | (57) |
| | Housing underspends from various areas including recruitment slippage leading to staffing underspends | 0 | (113) | (113) |
| | A Carry forward is no longer required for its original purpose so can be utilised to offset pressures | 0 | (44) | (44) |
| | Salary underspends from a vacant post not filled in Leisure and Community Grants | 0 | (68) | (68) |
| | | (125) | (436) | (311) |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| | Mitigating action plans | (804) | (996) | (192) |

| <u>Directorate</u> | <u>Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate</u> | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | (804) | (996) | (192) |
| | Net Position – Communities and Opportunities | 506 | 311 | (195) |
| | | | | |

| Directorate | Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adult Social Care | Savings Delivery Pressure: Admission avoidance savings, including undelivered savings brought forward from 2021-22, is likely to be undelivered in year. This is due to current new demand through the acutes is outstripping the demand management interventions put in place The Strength Based Working planned savings are at risk of delivery as even though tracked savings for 2021-22 evidenced delivery, independent care budgets are not seeing an associated reduction due to the increased demand the service is encountering the overall expenditure remained unchanged in the current year | 2,915 | 2,915 | 0 |
| | | 4,067 | 4,067 | 0 |
| | | 6,982 | 6,982 | 0 |
| | In-Year Budget Variations – Overspends: Independent care demand pressure above original structural deficit identified as part of 22-23 budget process | 5,062 | 6,410 | 1,348 |
| | Loss of Discharge to Assess funding from 1st April 2022 that funded the first 4 weeks of care following hospital admission | 1,691 | 1,691 | 0 |
| | Cost of Discharge to Assess placements including those placed in March 2020 during Covid | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 |
| | External Contracts pressures - Adult prevention contract disaggregation, Voids and Legal | 493 | 414 | (79) |
| | PFI Unitary charge budget pressure due to increased indexation | 307 | 308 | 1 |
| | Social Care Transport pressures | 204 | 460 | 256 |
| | Liberty Protection Safeguards Doctors section 12 Assessments | 117 | 159 | 42 |
| | Safeguarding & Wellbeing services, including provider services, quality and prevention | 0 | (46) | (46) |
| | | 8,874 | 10,396 | 1,522 |
| | In Year Budget Variations – Underspends: Forecast underspends across Commissioning & Performance Teams | | (325) | (325) |
| | Forecast underspends across care teams due to vacancies | (576) | (396) | 180 |
| | | (576) | (721) | (145) |
| | Management Actions: Mitigating action plans | (8,391) | (8,391) | 0 |
| | (8,391) | (8,391) | 0 | |
| Net Position – Adults | 6,889 | 8,266 | 1,377 | |
| Place and Economy | Savings Delivery Pressure: The Northampton estate is currently being reviewed however with the current level of vacant properties it is unlikely that this additional income will be achieved The tenanted property development saving was reliant on a third party which is now unlikely Intensifying accommodation use - Delays in project | 100 | 100 | 0 |
| | | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| | | 210 | 210 | 0 |
| | | 325 | 325 | 0 |
| | In year variations - overspend: Pressures on Home to School transport due to the long term impact of covid on the market (supply and price) and increased fuel costs | 3,100 | 5,298 | 2,198 |
| | Increased utilities costs for properties and non PFI street lighting. | 1,264 | 1,233 | (31) |
| | Increased utilities costs for PFI street lighting, traffic signals and closed landfill site | 1,222 | 509 | (713) |
| | The rate of inflation applied on several contracts within Waste is higher than the budgeted assumption, causing an overspend | 610 | 629 | 19 |
| | Unachievable service aggregation saving from 2021-22 | 797 | 797 | 0 |
| | The rate of inflation applied on several contracts within Highways & Transport is higher than the budgeted assumption, causing an overspend | 338 | 338 | 0 |
| | Across the directorate there is a pressure against staffing budgets due to the use of agency for critical roles | 258 | 0 | (258) |
| | Following covid there has been an increase in both domestic waste and tonnages at household waste recycling centres | 0 | 279 | 279 |
| | Additional play areas have been added to the grounds maintenance contract resulting in increased costs. | 218 | 218 | 0 |
| | Vacant properties is resulting in a pressure on estate management income | 135 | 0 | (135) |
| | Loss of income from Northampton market | 128 | 108 | (20) |
| | Net various small overspends across the directorate | 10 | 20 | 10 |
| | 8,080 | 9,429 | 1,349 | |
| In year variations - underspend: Reduction in property & facilities management costs | 0 | (718) | (718) | |

| Directorate | Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|--|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Net additional income on Northampton Schools PFI | | (188) | (188) |
| | The staggered reduction of guaranteed payments to bus operators relating to Concessionary Fares will result in an underspend | (172) | (172) | 0 |
| | Underspend on Reactive Maintenance due to continued working from home | (171) | (171) | 0 |
| | Additional recycle income at household waste recycling centres and increased green waste and profit share income across the Waste Service | 0 | (365) | (365) |
| | Increase in estate management income including one-off back dated rent | | (90) | (90) |
| | Improvement in car park income in Northampton | 0 | (83) | (83) |
| | Net additional highways income | 0 | (86) | (86) |
| | Net underspend on staffing by delaying recruitment activity, despite agency staff covering critical roles | (67) | (927) | (860) |
| | | (410) | (2,800) | (2,390) |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| | Mitigating action plans | (1,508) | (1,409) | 99 |
| | | (1,508) | (1,409) | 99 |
| | Net Position – Place | 6,487 | 5,545 | (942) |
| Finance Directorate | Savings Delivery Pressure: | | | |
| | No variances to report | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | In year variations - overspend: | | | |
| | Subscriptions costs higher than originally budgeted | 20 | 20 | 0 |
| | Additional Income Management System costs | 0 | 63 | 63 |
| | Housing Benefit Subsidy Audit Costs | | 70 | 70 |
| | Housing Benefit Overpayment Income less than budget | 0 | 170 | 170 |
| | Other minor variances | 4 | 9 | 5 |
| | | 24 | 332 | 308 |
| | In year variations - underspend: | | | |
| | Forecast underspend on staffing due to vacancies | (95) | (457) | (362) |
| | Procurement underspends as a result of extra external income and staffing costs being lower than anticipated | (151) | (192) | (41) |
| | Savings anticipated on bringing Internal Audit service back in house, and staffing vacancies | (30) | (184) | (154) |
| | Net savings across shared services | 0 | (29) | (29) |
| | Other minor variances | 0 | (13) | (13) |
| | | (276) | (875) | (599) |
| | Management mitigation: | | | |
| | Mitigating action plans | (110) | (110) | 0 |
| | | (110) | (110) | 0 |
| | Net Position – Finance Directorate | (362) | (653) | (291) |
| | Cost of services | 17,785 | 19,466 | 1,680 |
| Technical /Centrally Held Budgets | Savings Delivery Pressure: | | | |
| | No reported pressures | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | In year variations - overspend: | | | |
| | Confirmed pressure on employers pay award | 3,800 | 3,446 | (354) |
| | Unachievable income budget | 0 | 289 | 289 |
| | | 3,800 | 3,735 | (65) |
| | In year variations - underspend: | | | |
| | Other minor underspends | (86) | (86) | 0 |
| | In year benefit identified following review of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) requirement | 0 | (350) | (350) |
| | External audit fees currently forecast to be under budget | (35) | (34) | 1 |
| | Treasury management underspends and increased investment income | 0 | (2,000) | (2,000) |
| | | (121) | (2,470) | (2,349) |
| | Management Actions: | | | |
| | Mitigating action plans | (50) | (50) | 0 |
| | | (50) | (50) | 0 |

| <u>Directorate</u> | <u>Appendix A - 2022-23 Provisional Outturn position by Directorate</u> | Quarter 1 £000 | Quarter 2 £000 | Movement from Quarter 1 |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | Net Position – Technical/ Centrally held budgets | 3,629 | 1,215 | (2,414) |
| | Funding | | | |
| | Business rates (Including S31 Grants) | (3,700) | (6,800) | (3,100) |
| | Total Funding | (3,700) | (6,800) | (3,100) |
| Total WNC: | | 17,714 | 13,881 | (3,834) |
| | <i>Use of Contingency</i> | (10,139) | (10,139) | 0 |
| | Overall Net Outturn Forecast 2022-23 | 7,575 | 3,742 | (3,834) |

uncil - Budget Proposals 2022/23 to 2024/25 - efficiencies and technical changes as at quarter 2

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|---------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Strengths based working | The continuation of transformation of adult social care pathways and processes to ensure focus on client outcomes, independence, better decision making and best practice approaches to reduce delays and spend. | Efficiencies | (4,067) | | 0 | 0 | (4,067) |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | External funding review for Adults in house provider services | Full review of the funding opportunities for in house provider services within Adult services. | Income Generation | (2,300) | | (2,300) | | |
| Centrally controlled Budget | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | | | | | |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (730) | | (730) | | |
| Chief Executives Office | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (79) | | (79) | | |
| Children's Services | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (98) | | (98) | | |
| Corporate Services | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (493) | | (493) | | |
| Finance | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (168) | | (168) | | |
| Place and Economy | Increase Vacancy Factor | Increase vacancy factor to 4% | Efficiencies | (598) | (249) | (349) | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|---------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|------------|-------|---------|-------|-----|
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | External funding review for Adults Communities and Wellbeing | Maximise external funding opportunities across the Directorate. | Efficiencies | (1,500) | | (1,500) | | |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Progression and Improvement of independent outcomes within Learning Disability services | Progression and Improving independent outcomes within Learning Disability services. This can result in lower cost packages as individuals become more independent. | Efficiencies | (1,000) | (742) | (258) | | |
| Place and Economy | Green waste income harmonisation | Harmonising green waste charges over the whole of WNC and bringing the management & administration of the service in house. | Income Generation | (992) | (413) | (579) | | |
| Centrally controlled Budget | General contingency | Delete remaining base budget contingency | Efficiencies | (966) | (966) | | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Improvement in utilisation of in house residential provision | Increase utilisation of in house provider services with less reliance on the independent market for care provision | Efficiencies | (906) | (102) | | (804) | |
| Children's Services | Specialist, hearing impairment and visual impairment services | Whilst services will remain at the current level, the proposed future funding of these services is through a top slice of delegated schools and academies budgets funded from notional SEN budget from the schools block. | Efficiencies | (629) | (629) | | | |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Review of Direct Payment accounts across all client groups | Review of Direct Payment accounts and assess whether these are meeting eligible needs and the planned outcomes for customers. | Efficiencies | (600) | | (600) | | |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Admission avoidance service | There is a system wide drive to reduce the number of clients being admitted into hospital and the likelihood of long term social care needs. | Efficiencies | (594) | | 0 | 0 | (594) |
| Communities & Opportunities | Reduction in need for high cost temporary accommodation | Reduction in need for high cost temporary accommodation through proactive and preventative case working | Efficiencies | (270) | | | | (270) |
| Place and Economy | Intensifying accommodation use | Intensifying accommodation use | Efficiencies | (250) | (17) | (23) | | (210) |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Finance | Revenues and Benefits Restructure | Savings from implementing an in-house team | Efficiencies | (200) | | (200) | | |
| Chief Executives Office | Release of disaggregation contingency | Release of disaggregation contingency in relation to Business Intelligence - additional staffing requirement included in One Off Pressures | Efficiencies | (169) | | (169) | | |
| Place and Economy | Enterprise Zone Admin Budget Changes | Adjustments to budgets, funded from increased Business Rates income via the EZ Reserve. | Efficiencies | (167) | | (167) | | |
| Finance | Closure of Accounts resources | Reversal of one-off budget from 21-22. Resources to ensure legacy Northamptonshire Council's prior year accounts were closed | Efficiencies | (160) | | (160) | | |
| Finance | Review charges to other funds | Impact of increasing charges to other funds to properly reflect a fair share of corporate costs. | Income Generation | (150) | | (150) | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Place and Economy | Income from property | Generate additional income from WNC properties | Income Generation | (144) | | | (144) | |
| Corporate Services | Customer Services - Staffing | Reduction in the numbers of customer service staff through the deletion of vacant posts and replacement with apprenticeships as necessary. This is possible due to the more effective utilisation of resources across our four hubs and by improving online and self-service alternatives. | Efficiencies | (150) | | (39) | | (111) |
| Corporate Services | Removal of two senior management posts as restructure within Digital, Technology and Innovation | Deletion of two management posts | Efficiencies | (125) | | (125) | | |
| Communities & Opportunities | Housing | HRA recharge for leadership and management | Efficiencies | (120) | | (120) | | |
| Place and Economy | Building control - Increased demand and increased income | Increased income from additional building control work which offsets costs of providing service. | Income Generation | (120) | | | (120) | |
| Place and Economy | Saving from kitchen pods | Saving from kitchen pods due to expiration of the service | Efficiencies | (106) | (106) | | | |
| Communities & Opportunities | Housing | The Homelessness Service is expected to be able to deliver this saving by reviewing the accommodation and support for residents threatened with or who are homeless | Efficiencies | (100) | | (100) | | |
| Place and Economy | Rectifying Northampton Estate | A review of the Northampton estate could lead to increased rental income | Income Generation | (100) | | | | (100) |
| Place and Economy | Outgoing post | Efficiencies from new hybrid mail contract | Efficiencies | (100) | | (100) | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|-----------------------------|---|---|-------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Place and Economy | Incoming post | Efficiencies from combining post room services from the previous authorities | Efficiencies | (100) | | (20) | (80) | |
| Place and Economy | Embedded lease | Embedded lease for waste transfer station now finished, cost budget can be removed | Efficiencies | (88) | | (88) | | |
| Place and Economy | Chester House Estate | It has been agreed the Council will exit the CHE shared service. | Efficiencies | (88) | (88) | | | |
| Finance | Procurement disaggregation budget not required | Contingency set aside to fund disaggregation impact not required. | Efficiencies | (84) | | (84) | | |
| Corporate Services | Registrars - Income generation / Fees & Charges review | Registrars - Income generation / Fees & Charges review | Income Generation | (80) | | (80) | | |
| Communities & Opportunities | Housing | Optimisation of Disabled Facilities grant | Efficiencies | (78) | | (78) | | |
| Finance | Finance disaggregation budget not required | Contingency set aside to fund disaggregation impact not required. | Efficiencies | (75) | | (75) | | |
| Place and Economy | Events to Northampton Town Council | Northampton Town Council will deliver these services in future. There will be a staged transfer of costs. | Efficiencies | (67) | (67) | | | |
| Place and Economy | Parking Payments | Council's parking payment systems being changed to remove the need for physical tickets and provide easier payment options for the larger car parks. This should increase use income and reduce some costs. | Efficiencies | (55) | | (55) | | |
| Place and Economy | Regulatory Services - Commercialised service with arms length company | Income from discretionary services within environmental health, trading standards and licensing | Income Generation | (50) | | (20) | (30) | |
| Place and Economy | Closed landfills | Saving resulting from adopting a reactive and risk management based approach for closed landfills. | Efficiencies | (50) | | (50) | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|-----------------------------|---|--|-------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Communities & Opportunities | Libraries | Maximising Libraries traded income | Income Generation | (42) | | (42) | | |
| Place and Economy | Aggregation of Development Management service | Aggregation of Development Management planning services across the new WNC area | Efficiencies | (40) | | (40) | | |
| Place and Economy | Planning and Climate Policy | Deletion of a conservation officer post, to offer an ongoing revenue saving | Efficiencies | (40) | (40) | | | |
| Children's Services | Fees and charges | Increase in proposed Fees and Charges | Income Generation | (35) | (35) | | | |
| Corporate Services | Paperless meetings, webcasting | Reduction in meeting management costs | Efficiencies | (35) | (35) | | | |
| Place and Economy | Street lighting | Revenue savings resulting from Street Lighting capital investment | Efficiencies | (34) | | 0 | (34) | |
| Place and Economy | Increase to Highways Regulations fees and charges | It is proposed to increase Highways Regulations fees and charges by 5% to generate additional income for the Council | Income Generation | (34) | | 0 | (34) | |
| Communities & Opportunities | Leisure Services | Move to consolidated Leisure centre contract management approach | Efficiencies | (30) | | (30) | | |
| Corporate Services | Legal and Democratic Service Efficiency Savings | Review of service to identify reductions in cost without impacting on service delivery | Efficiencies | (25) | (25) | | | |
| Communities & Opportunities | Libraries | Establishing Corporate approach to Library Wi Fi | Efficiencies | (20) | | (20) | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|---------------------------------|--|--|-------------------|------------|------|-------|-------|------|
| Place and Economy | Tenanted property development | Tenanted property development | Efficiencies | (15) | | | | (15) |
| Adults, Communities & Wellbeing | Saving from Fire and Rescue | Payment previously made to the Fire & Rescue Service for fleet management | Efficiencies | (14) | | (14) | | |
| Place and Economy | Staff catering consistency | Institution of the same core approach to catering for staff refreshments across the Council's corporate buildings, adjusted for scale of building. | Efficiencies | (12) | | (12) | | |
| Place and Economy | Regulatory Services consolidation of contracts | Reduction in costs from consolidating of existing service contracts | Efficiencies | (10) | | | (10) | |
| Place and Economy | Catering Enhancements | Improved catering offer at the Council's offices should improve income. | Income Generation | (5) | | 0 | (5) | |
| Place and Economy | More effective fixed penalty notices | Increased income from more effective use of fixed penalty notices in environmental crime. | Income Generation | (5) | | (5) | | |
| Corporate Services | Transformation Team | Transformation team - removal of initial funding. Funding of the team beyond 2022/23 will be via the generation of savings from the Transformation Programme to cover any ongoing costs. | Efficiencies | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Place and Economy | Concessionary fares | Removal of surplus budget for Concessionary Fares based on updated passenger number forecasts. | Efficiencies | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Corporate Services | Investment in telephony system | The consolidation of Telephony & CRM systems will deliver saving on resources and reduce contract costs | Efficiencies | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Place and Economy | Home to school transport - Policy Change | Savings associated with proposed policy change | Efficiencies | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Place and Economy | Document Storage | Savings from reducing need for document storage contract | Efficiencies | 0 | | 0 | | |

| Directorate | Proposal Title | Proposal Description and service impact | Category | 2022/23 £k | Blue | Green | Amber | Red |
|--------------------|--|---|--------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Corporate Services | Artificial Intelligence | Efficiency savings to be realised through the increased use of Artificial Intelligence | Efficiencies | 0 | | 0 | | |
| Place and Economy | Air Quality Officer to Increase grants | Employment of a specialist air quality to focus on development of action plans and development of grant funded work | Efficiencies | 55 | | 55 | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | Net Position | | (19,306) | (3,514) | (9,164) | (1,261) | (5,367) |

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

**CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCE: COUNCILLOR
MALCOLM LONGLEY**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Report Title | Quarter 2 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Monitoring Report 2022-23 |
|---------------------|---|

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Report Author | Sharon Gregory, Senior Finance Business Partner, Sharon.gregory@westnorthants.gov.uk |
|----------------------|--|

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 25/11/2022 |
| West MO | Cath Whitehead | 6/12/2022 |
| Communications | Becky Hutson | 6/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Revised General Fund capital programme

Appendix B – Revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The report sets out the latest General Fund and HRA capital programme monitoring positions for 2022-26 for West Northamptonshire Council and identifies new schemes which have been approved for submission into the capital programme since the last update to Cabinet in September 2022.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- a) Note the latest capital monitoring position for the General Fund and HRA.
- b) Note the new capital schemes and changes to the Capital Programme since the report that was considered by Cabinet in September 2022.
- c) Approve the budget virement outlined in section 10.
- d)

3. Reason for recommendations

- In order to continue to ensure sound management of the council's finances.

4. Report Background

4.1 The General Fund and HRA Capital budgets were approved by Full Council in February 2022 as part of the authority's budget-setting process.

4.2 As part of that approval, Full Council gave delegated authority to the Executive Director - Finance in consultation with the cabinet member for Finance to amend the capital programme for 2022-23 going forward so that it accurately reflects a number of issues. These include rephrasing on 2021-22 projects that will need to be added to the programme, any amendments made to existing capital programmes, adjustments to accommodate any future use of capital receipts policy and for any other reason where the capital programme needs to be adjusted.

4.3 In year:

- the Executive Director – Finance can approve new schemes estimated to cost less than £100k.
- Cabinet can approve new schemes under £500k
- Full Council must approve schemes over £500k.

4.4 This report sets out the latest capital programme for the General Fund and HRA since the previously reported Q1 position to Cabinet in September 2022. It provides an update on new capital schemes, the latest monitoring position and any other technical issues that need to be raised.

5. Governance and process

5.1 The Council maintains a well-established robust review and monitoring process for the capital programme. This governance ensures the Council has financial rigour and strict management controls in place to manage the programme effectively.

5.2 The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Capital and Assets Board (CAB) are key elements of the governance process.

- ELT will have first sight of all budget proposals / capital bids and will undertake an initial scrutiny and challenge process before any schemes are submitted to the Capital and Assets Board for consideration (see below).

Capital and Assets Board (CAB)

- This is an officer and councillor group, chaired by the S151 Officer. The purpose of this Board is to review and challenge emerging capital schemes . The group will also monitor and challenge active projects, holding project managers to account for specific project performance.

5.3 All elements of proposed, and active schemes are robustly challenged and monitored throughout the project lifetime, and in some cases will be subject to a ‘lessons learned’ review on completion.

5.4 All schemes will be in line with Council objectives, and must have clear, measurable deliverables or outcomes. Applications must show how projects will deliver value for money, meet council priorities, assess and mitigate risk, and manage resource capacity issues.

6. Monitoring of the General Fund Capital Programme 2022-2026

6.1 Since the Q1 monitoring report there have been several changes to the capital programme. These changes are outlined below and reflect changes up until the end of October:

Table 1 – Changes to the General Fund capital programme since Q1 September Cabinet.

| Scheme | | 2022-23 £k | 2023-24 £k | 2024-25 £k | 2025-26 £k | Total £k | Funding Source |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Virement from Telephony & Contact Centre Replacement to Civica Digital 360 Licence Renewal | Corporate | -168 | | | | -168 | Borrowing |
| Virement to Civica Digital 360 Licence Renewal from Telephony & Contact Centre Replacement | Corporate | 168 | | | | 168 | Borrowing |
| Reduced carry forward budget from 21/22 based on final outturn - Disabled Facilities Grant Daventry | Adults, Communities and Wellbeing | -20 | | | | -20 | Grant |
| Additional carry forward budget from 21/22 based on final outturn - S106 Chaplins Yd Stratford Road Road | Highways and Waste Capital | 28 | | | | 28 | S106 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| New scheme - Death Management Services. Approved by Cabinet and Full Council September 22. | Assets & Environment | 400 | 5,300 | 6,700 | 1,000 | 13,400 | Borrowing |
| New scheme – Dallington Cemetery Extension (part of Death Management Service approved budget but separated out for monitoring purposes). Approved by Cabinet and Full Council September 22. | Assets & Environment | 300 | 300 | 100 | | 700 | Borrowing |
| New scheme - Tiffield SEND School. Approved by Cabinet and Full Council September 22 | Children’s | 1,150 | 17,250 | 4,600 | | 23,000 | Grant/Borrowing |
| New scheme - Financial Online Assessment Systems. Approved by CFO under delegated powers and signed off by CAB. | Adults, Communities and Wellbeing | 64 | | | | 64 | Borrowing |
| Total | | 1,922 | 22,850 | 11,400 | 1,000 | 37,172 | |

7. Summary of Changes and Revised 2022-26 Capital Programme – General Fund

7.1 The full updated capital programme is shown in Appendix A. Summary information is shown in the tables below.

Table 2 - Quarter 2 Revisions to the General Fund Capital Programme

| West Northants GF Capital Budget | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Total |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £k | £k | £k | £k | £k |
| Approved Budget 2022-23 September Cabinet | 134,529 | 48,500 | 29,053 | 13,093 | 225,175 |
| New scheme approvals | 1,914 | 22,850 | 11,400 | 1,000 | 37,164 |
| Changes to existing scheme budgets | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Total | 136,451 | 71,350 | 40,453 | 14,093 | 262,347 |
| Movement from September Cabinet | 1,922 | 22,850 | 11,400 | 1,000 | 37,172 |

Table 3 - Revised WNC capital programme by Directorate

| Revised WN Capital Programme as at October 22 | Approved Capital Programme September Cabinet Report £k | New scheme approvals £k | Changes to existing scheme budgets £k | Total 2022-23 to 2025-26 £k |
|---|---|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Adults, Housing & Communities | 31,681 | 64 | -20 | 31,725 |
| Assets and Environment Capital | 36,177 | 14,100 | -5,755* | 44,522 |
| Children's | 29,615 | 23,000 | 0 | 52,615 |
| Corporate | 4,966 | 0 | 0 | 4,966 |
| Economic Growth & Regeneration | 48,787 | 0 | 0 | 48,787 |
| Finance | 732 | 0 | 0 | 732 |
| Highways and Waste Capital | 73,217 | 0 | 5,783* | 79,000 |
| Total | 225,175 | 37,164 | 8 | 262,347 |

*Please note that £5.755m of budget associated with the Street Lighting Upgrade project has been moved from Assets and Environment to Highways and Waste as it was incorrectly allocated in the previous report.

The funding table has been updated to reflect the latest position.

Table 4 - Funding for the revised WNC capital programme

| WN Revised Capital Financing | 2022/23 £k | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | Total £k |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Capital receipts | 2,578 | 85 | 85 | 0 | 2,748 |
| Prudential Borrowing | 59,769 | 20,438 | 15,196 | 10,118 | 105,521 |
| Internal Borrowing | 834 | 415 | 428 | 0 | 1,677 |
| S106** | 8,387 | 6,119 | 3,750 | 0 | 18,256 |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** | 3,980 | 14,117 | 1,000 | 393 | 19,490 |
| Grant Funding | 55,151 | 26,360 | 9,694 | 382 | 91,393 |
| Funded from Reserve | 413 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 413 |
| Revenue Funding | 1,047 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,047 |
| External Funding | 4,292 | 3,816 | 10,300 | 3,200 | 21,608 |
| Total Funding | 136,451 | 71,350 | 40,453 | 14,093 | 262,347 |

** Some of the s.106 and CIL funding will be received several years after the completion of the project in some cases. Those schemes will be forward funded with Discretionary funding, which will be repaid when the relevant CIL and s.106 are received. The funding table shows the eventual funding source for these, rather than the forward funding.

8. Latest Forecasts on the GF Capital Programme

8.1 Through the forecasting process, a number of schemes have identified potential carry forwards from 22/23 into 23/24 as well as some potential over/underspends. These are only forecasts at this stage, so have not been included in the updated capital programme, but are summarised below for information.

Table 5 – Latest Forecasts for the GF Capital Programme

| Directorate | Budget 2022-23 £k | 22-23 Forecast spend in year* £k | Forecast Carry Forward Budget into 23-24 £k | Forecast Under / overspend 22-23 £k |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Adults, Housing & Communities | 11,892 | 11,813 | 96 | -17 |
| Assets & Environment Capital | 15,993 | 11,247 | 4,955 | -209 |
| Children's | 18,374 | 18,374 | 0 | 0 |
| Children's Trust | 2,398 | 2,398 | 0 | 0 |
| Corporate | 4,565 | 4,335 | 230 | 0 |
| Economic Growth & Regeneration | 27,558 | 14,838 | 12,720 | 0 |
| Finance | 732 | 193 | 539 | 0 |
| Highways and Waste Capital | 54,939 | 54,554 | 385 | 0 |
| Total | 136,451 | 117,752 | 18,925 | -226 |

*These figures are likely to change with finance working closely with project managers to obtain accurate forecasts.

8.2 As stated above, these forecasts are not yet included in the capital programme. For the next monitoring report, more certainty on these forecasts will be obtained, and the official capital programme can be reprofiled accordingly.

8.3 The largest of these forecast changes are outlined below.

- Market Square - £5.5m of budget is being forecast to be carried forward into 23/24. This is due to the final scope of the project still being discussed delaying start to the works.
- Abington Street Redevelopments - £2.65m of budget is being forecast to be carried forward into 23/24. The project is progressing and this simply reflects general rephasing of works.
- 24 Guildhall Road Block - £2m of budget is being forecast to be carried forward into 23/24. Phase 2 of the project is underway with design costs expected this financial year. Work will not start on site until May 2023.
- Northampton Town Centre Public Realm - £1.8m of budget is being forecast to be carried forward into 23/24. Some initial costs are expected this year with most of the work officially starting June/July 2023.

9. Revenue impact of the General Fund Capital Programme.

- 9.1 The current approved capital programme includes borrowing of c£105m over the medium term, as shown in Table 4.
- 9.2 Based on the forecasts above, around £6m of borrowing is likely to be reprofiled from 2022-23 to 2023-24.
- 9.3 Actual borrowing in year will not necessarily be at the levels outlined above. This is because:
- Expenditure may be lower than forecast due to additional scheme slippage.
 - The authority may use some cash reserves to fund capital expenditure i.e. the authority may use its available cash instead of borrowing externally.
- 9.4 Whether funded by external borrowing or internal cash reserves, these two options result in a cost to the authority through interest payable on borrowing or interest foregone on investments.
- 9.5 Where capital expenditure is financed by borrowing, authorities also have a statutory duty to set aside revenue funds to repay the borrowing principal. This is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). MRP is charged over the lifetime of the asset incurring the capital expenditure.
- 9.6 Interest and MRP are charged to the General Fund revenue account. The current forecast impact of the capital programme, taking into account the reprofiling outlined in table 5 is £19.1m over the medium term, with £1.9m forecast for 2022-23.

10. Virement

- 10.1 It is requested that Cabinet consider a budget virement moving £650k of budget from the Northampton Leisure Centres Fire Assessment Works project across to the Northampton Leisure Trust energy savings project.
- 10.2 Since the fire risk assessment work budget was approved, further analysis has been undertaken and the scope of works required has reduced. However, as the energy saving works have progressed, it has been determined that the budget is insufficient to deliver the full scope of the original former Northampton Borough Council legacy project, so the full benefits will not be realised unless the budget is increased by £650k. This is due to additional works, that were originally unforeseen, being required during the first phases of works to Mounts Baths and Lings Forum and cost increasing significantly due to the demand in the market and supply chain for heating and ventilation works. Tender prices obtained for the works to Danes Camp and subsequent phases at Mounts Baths have exceeded the budget by circa £600k with £50k being required to cover risk and contingency. The Council's aim to achieve net zero should also be considered as these properties are large users of both gas and electricity and the aim of these works is primarily to reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency. There will also be reduced running costs for the centres.

11. HRA Capital Monitoring Report – Quarter 2

11.1 The Council’s Housing Revenue Account Capital is mainly managed by Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) under the Management Agreement. NPH are responsible for the new build programme along with the Major repairs and Improvement programme for existing HRA stock. The only element of the programme not managed by NPH is the buy-back and acquisitions budget.

11.2 Revisions to the 2022/23 HRA Capital programme since the Quarter 1 reported position are set out in Table 7.

| Programme | Re-profiled Budget 2022/23 £k | Virements £k | New Approvals £k | Re-phasing of Projects £k | Period 7 Forecast Outturn 2022/23 £k |
|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| External Improvements | 17,307 | | | (501) | 16,806 |
| Internal Works | 2,716 | (250) | | | 2,466 |
| Structural Works and Disabled Adaptations | 408 | 250 | 200 | | 858 |
| Environmental Improvements | 1,500 | | | | 1,500 |
| IT Development | 2,890 | | | (103) | 2,890 |
| New Build Projects | 512 | | | (846) | 409 |
| Buybacks and Spot Purchases | 15,652 | | | | 14,806 |
| | 4,409 | | | | 4,409 |
| Total | 45,394 | 0 | 200 | (1,450) | 44,144 |

11.3 The table above sets out the HRA capital Programme for 2022/23, including an overview of budget movements in the 2022/23 capital programme are as follows.

- A £200k increase in the budget to re-build a semi-detached property in Windflower Place. This property was destroyed by fire in December 2021 and part of the cost was to underpin and repair the damage to the adjoining property. This has been funded from the structural works programme.
- A £250k virement from the internal works budget to the structural works and compliance budget. This is due to the increased demand for damp proofing and the removal of mould in several properties, a re-profiling of work has enabled a transfer of resource.

11.4 Table 8 is a summary of all the HRA capital scheme re-phasing reported by NPH. A detailed breakdown of schemes are reported in Appendix B.

Table 8 - Re-profiling the Capital Programme over the Medium Term 2022-2027

| Description | Forecast 2022-23 £k | Estimate 2023-24 £k | Estimate 2024-25 £k | Estimate 2025-26 £k | Estimate 2026-27 £k | Total £k |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| HRA approved Capital Programme plus 2021/22 carryovers and the re-phasing previously reported | 45,394 | 74,787 | 50,106 | 57,058 | 57,439 | 284,785 |
| Changes to Existing Schemes in 2022/23 Budget | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Re-phasing of New Build, External Improvement and ICT Schemes | (1,450) | (13,347) | 9,287 | 16,591 | (11,080) | 0 |
| Schemes brought forward from future years | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| New Schemes into Approved Capital Programme | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 |
| New Funding Announcements | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revised HRA Capital Programme | 44,144 | 61,440 | 59,393 | 73,649 | 46,359 | 284,985 |

11.5 The key changes to the schemes are as follows.;

Schemes Aborted in 2022/23

- The new build single dwelling in Ambush Street and the development at Prentice Court (Phase 4) have been aborted because of escalating costs following design changes. The £475k budget provision allocated to these two developments will be partly (£300k) reallocated by NPH under the Management Agreement virements rules for urgent Disabled Adaptations projects which were deemed high priority.

Schemes Re-phased in 2022/23

- Planning permission has been received for the development at Derwent Drive, Kings Heath. The work will not start until the last quarter of 2022/23 which means that part of the budget will have to be carried forward into 2023/24.

Schemes Re-phased in 2023/24

- The largest scheme to be re-phased is the Fraser Road development, Thorplands. Due to planning issues this project has now been re-scheduled for 2025/26.
- Building control negotiations at Belgrave House have concluded which have resulted in design amendments and changes to the fire cladding. This is in line with the Hackitt Review recommendations and will result in increased costs and further delays. NPH are waiting for

revised costings and a further financial appraisal will be made. In August, Homes England awarded the Council of £706k towards the cost of the project.

- Demolition and enabling works at Avenue Campus are continuing. However, due to the volume of asbestos present, construction is now scheduled to start in 2023/24 and continue into 2025/26.
- The developments at Bouverie Road, Hardingstone and Colwyn Road, Town Centre have encountered problems with site access. This has delayed the feasibility stage and it is now anticipated that construction will begin in 2024/25.

There are similar delays with the developments at Althorp Road West and East where difficult site conditions are causing delays to the planning and design processes. Stage 2 design is underway at the Harefield Road, Blackthorn development but this too is subject to delays and is not now scheduled to start until 2024/25.

Schemes Over -Budget

- The external improvements budget is overspending due to the extra cost of asbestos removal on the Bellinge estate. There is currently an estimated overspend of £140k on this project and further costs are anticipated.
- Following the collapse of the company manufacturing the steel framework for the roof extensions at Woodstock and Dover Court, a fresh round of procurement is taking place. It is anticipated that additional costs will be incurred, and these will be reported when finalised.

Disabled Adaptations

- The demand for disabled adaptations is continuing NPH are carrying out a review of current expenditure and a further report will be tabled at the next meeting of the Capital Assets Board (CAB).

Grant Notifications

- In July the Council received notification from Homes England of a grant of £10.2 million for the Avenue Campus development. When the 2022-27 capital programme was approved by full Council in February 2022, it was assumed that grant funding of £12 million would be received for this project. As the grant is lower than budgeted, this will be realigned as part of the capital programme 2023-24
- The Council also received notification from Homes England of a £706k grant for the Belgrave House Clock House project. Unlike Avenue Campus no grant was assumed when the budget was prepared. The additional grant will reduce the borrowing to fund the capital programme.

11.6 Set out in table 9 is the HRA Medium term capital programme.

Table 9 - Revised HRA Capital Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term

| Description | Budget 2022-23 £k | Estimate 2023-24 £k | Estimate 2024-25 £k | Estimate 2025-26 £k | Estimate 2026-27 £k | Total £k |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| External Improvements | 16,806 | 12,637 | 7,850 | 6,850 | 10,437 | 54,580 |
| Internal Works | 2,466 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 11,000 |
| Structural Works and Compliance | 858 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 2,700 |
| Disabled Adaptations | 1,500 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 6,640 |
| Environmental Improvements | 2,890 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 14,150 |
| IT Development | 409 | 480 | 430 | 395 | 340 | 2,054 |
| New Build/Major Projects | 14,807 | 39,128 | 41,919 | 57,210 | 28,384 | 181,449 |
| Buybacks and Spot Purchases | 4,409 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 503 | 12,412 |
| Total Expenditure | 44,144 | 61,440 | 59,393 | 73,649 | 46,359 | 284,985 |

11.7 Set out in table 10 is the financing of the medium-term capital programme.

Table 10 - Funding of Revised HRA Capital Budget 2022/23 and Medium Term

| Description | Budget 2022-23 £k | Estimate 2023-24 £k | Estimate 2024-25 £k | Estimate 2025-26 £k | Estimate 2026-27 £k | Total £k |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Major Repairs Reserve/Depreciation | 13,500 | 13,699 | 13,585 | 13,494 | 13,726 | 68,004 |
| Capital Receipts - RTB (excl 1-4-1) | 2,735 | 3,135 | 3,178 | 3,222 | 3,266 | 15,534 |
| Capital Receipts - RTB 1-4-1 Receipts | 3,480 | 6,099 | 4,301 | 12,085 | 4,270 | 30,234 |
| Grant Funding | 12,073 | 10,094 | - | - | - | 22,167 |
| Revenue Contributions Earmarked Reserve | 1,238 | 1,492 | 1,898 | 2,752 | 4,064 | 11,444 |
| Borrowing / CFR | 11,119 | 26,921 | 36,431 | 42,097 | 21,033 | 137,601 |
| Total Funding | 44,144 | 61,440 | 59,393 | 73,649 | 46,359 | 284,985 |

12. Implications (including financial implications)

12.1 Resources and Financial

- This report informs Cabinet of the latest capital position for 2022-23 and for the medium term. The capital programme outlined in this report is fully funded, either through borrowing, internal resources or external funding arrangements. Ongoing expenditure relating to these projects will continue to be robustly challenged and monitored by Finance and the Capital and Assets Board.

12.2 Legal

- There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

12.3 Risk

- There are a number of processes in place to robustly challenge new schemes and progress for existing schemes such as through the Executive Leadership Team, the Capital and Assets Board and in reports to Cabinet. Funding for all capital schemes has been identified, and progress against budgets will be closely monitored to Cabinet on a regular basis

12.4 Communication and consultation

- Capital programme projects and schemes set out within the report are subject to communications and consultation activities to keep stakeholders informed and engaged on how public funds are being spent to achieve the council's corporate objectives and outcomes.

12.5 Climate impact

- There is no direct climate impact in relation to this report.

12.6 Community impact

- All capital programme schemes are assessed for their impact on the community and individual Project Boards liaise with relevant community group.

13. Background Papers

- 13.1 Provisional Outturn 2021-22 and Revised Capital Programme for 2022-26 report – September 2022 Q1 report.

| WNC GF Capital Programme | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | Total 2021/22 - 2025/26 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adults, Housing & Communities | | | | | |
| Disabled Facilities Grant South Northants | 946,496 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 946,496 |
| Disabled Facilities Grant Northampton | 4,127,924 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,127,924 |
| Disabled Facilities Grant Daventry | 486,118 | 2,589,981 | 2,589,981 | 0 | 5,666,080 |
| Community Equipment | 4,700,000 | 4,700,000 | 4,700,000 | 4,700,000 | 18,800,000 |
| Grants to aid voluntary servies | 239,150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 239,150 |
| Improvements to Sports Centre Facilities | 200,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200,000 |
| Home Repair Assistance Grants | 292,520 | 155,000 | 155,000 | 0 | 602,520 |
| Discretionary Grants - Emergency Assistance | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 |
| Grants - Community & District Initiatives | 223,538 | 85,000 | 85,000 | 0 | 393,538 |
| Lilbourne Rural Exception Scheme | 40,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40,000 |
| Leisure Facilities Contract | 42,264 | 30,000 | 22,500 | 0 | 94,764 |
| Homelessness Reduction Act | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 20,000 |
| Choice Based letting | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 15,000 |
| Improvements to Athletics Facilities at Stefan Hill Sports Park | 24,605 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24,605 |
| Adult Social Care Cygnum Replacement | 81,895 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 81,895 |
| Financial Online Assessment Systems | 64,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64,000 |
| Northamptonshire Libraries Self Service Terminals | 40,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40,000 |
| Community Library Prog - Roade | 96,069 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 96,069 |
| Community Library Prog - Brackley Library | 15,973 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,973 |
| Wootton Library | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Doddridge Centre | 3,650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,650 |
| Library Management System Replacement | 203,114 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 203,114 |
| Adults, Housing & Communities | 11,892,316 | 7,574,981 | 7,557,481 | 4,700,000 | 31,724,778 |
| Children | | | | | |
| Towcester South Primary School | 650,814 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 650,814 |
| Northampton School for Girls Extension | 2,750,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,750,000 |
| School Minor Works 2021-22 | 352,634 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 352,634 |
| Schools Minor Works Programme 2019-20 | 30,975 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,975 |
| Magdalen College School Expansion | 209,901 | 200,000 | 0 | 0 | 409,901 |
| Moulton School and Science College Expansion | 86,025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 86,025 |
| Schools Minor Works 20-21 | 308,777 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 308,777 |
| Schools Minor Works 22-23 | 1,732,900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,732,900 |
| Guilsborough School | 32,313 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32,313 |
| Parker E-ACT Academy SEND expansion | 10,938 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,938 |
| Campion School Improvements | 64,945 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64,945 |
| Northampton Secondary School Capacity | 266,732 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 266,732 |
| Schools Strategic Maintenance – PFI Blinds | 146,852 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 146,852 |
| Northampton Capacity - Duston School bulge | 400,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400,000 |
| Malcolm Arnold S106 Works | 26,151 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26,151 |
| Northampton Secondary Schools Capacity – Northampton School for Girls Bulge Capacity | 346,835 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 346,835 |
| Northampton Secondary School Capacity - Kingsthorpe College Bulge | 58,880 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 58,880 |
| Elizabeth Woodville School S106 | 12,754 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12,754 |
| Northampton Schools PFI Wave 2 Lifecycle Funding | 357,773 | 365,644 | 373,688 | 381,909 | 1,479,014 |
| Provision of Primary SEND places | 2,080,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,080,000 |
| Provision of Secondary SEND places | 3,550,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,550,000 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Provision of All Through SEND places | 800,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 800,000 |
| 3G Sports Pitch at Wantage Farm | 717,968 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 717,968 |
| Wootton Park Free School Temporary Bulge Capacity | 234,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 234,000 |
| Sponne School | 712,786 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 712,786 |
| The Grange School | 92,811 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 92,811 |
| Barrack Road Educational Facilities | 43,340 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 43,340 |
| East Hunsbury Primary School - S106 improvement project | 91,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 91,500 |
| Harlestone Primary School - S106 improvement project | 155,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 155,000 |
| Tiffield SEND School | 1,150,000 | 17,250,000 | 4,600,000 | 0 | 23,000,000 |
| Temporary bulge capacity at Malcolm Arnold Academy | 400,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400,000 |
| Overstone Leys | 500,000 | 3,750,000 | 3,750,000 | 0 | 8,000,000 |
| Total Children | 18,373,604 | 21,565,644 | 8,723,688 | 381,909 | 49,044,845 |
| Children's Trust | | | | | |
| Refurbishment of John Greenwood Shipman | 0 | 1,172,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,172,000 |
| New residential 4 bed home | 1,142,792 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,142,792 |
| Independent Fostering and Adoption IT system | 300,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300,000 |
| Homes to support fostering | 115,550 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115,550 |
| New ways of working | 840,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 840,000 |
| Total Children's Trust | 2,398,342 | 1,172,000 | 0 | 0 | 3,570,342 |
| Corporate | | | | | |
| Social Care system replacement | 896,077 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 896,077 |
| IT Transition | 366,688 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 366,688 |
| IT Security Solutions | 85,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 85,000 |
| Office365 Implementation | 80,818 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 80,818 |
| Sharepoint 2007 Migration | 79,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 79,000 |
| Ncloud Server replacements | 66,802 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66,802 |
| Election Equipment | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |
| Express Signature Verification Software | 5,500 | 5,500 | 6,000 | 0 | 17,000 |
| Low Code Platform | 180,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 180,000 |
| DTI Minor works | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 200,000 |
| Future IT Infrastructure Discovery Work | 160,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 160,000 |
| PC Equipment Hardware Refresh | 1,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000,000 |
| Service Management Solution | 165,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 165,000 |
| Telephony & Contact Centre Replacement | 831,705 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 831,705 |
| Civica Digital 360 Licence Renewal | 168,295 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 168,295 |
| SIEM Solution & Cybersecurity tools | 200,000 | 150,000 | 0 | 0 | 350,000 |
| Identity and Access Management | 150,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150,000 |
| Replacement of End of Life Local Area Network equipment | 70,000 | 90,000 | 0 | 0 | 160,000 |
| Total Corporate | 4,564,885 | 295,500 | 56,000 | 50,000 | 4,966,385 |
| Finance | | | | | |
| IFRS16 Lease Right of Use Assets | 538,663 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 538,663 |
| Revenues and Benefits Capital Investments | 193,380 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 193,380 |
| Total Finance | 732,043 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 732,043 |
| Highways and Waste Capital | | | | | |
| Northampton North West Relief Road | 24,069,634 | 15,517,000 | 1,000,000 | 2,343,000 | 42,929,634 |
| DfT Highway Maintenance Needs Block 21/22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DfT Pothole Fund 21/22 | 1,161,833 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,161,833 |
| DfT Highway Maintenance Needs Block 22/23 | 4,742,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,742,000 |
| DfT Highway Maintenance Incentive Block 22/23 | 1,185,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,185,000 |
| DfT Pothole Fund 22/23 | 4,742,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,742,000 |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---------|---|-----------|
| LTP Integrated Transport Block 2022-23 | 1,550,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,550,000 |
| Northampton Growth Management Scheme Phase 1 | 4,446,014 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,446,014 |
| A45 Daventry Development Link Road | 980,922 | 100,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,080,922 |
| DfT Highway Maintenance Incentive Block 21/22 | 326,288 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 326,288 |
| Active travel scheme tranche 2 | 1,066,280 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,066,280 |
| National Productivity Investment Fund(NPIF) - Cliftonville | 25,561 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25,561 |
| LTP Integrated Transport Block 2021-22 | 1,438,636 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,438,636 |
| Vehicle Replacement Programme | 670,488 | 171,000 | 600,000 | 0 | 1,441,488 |
| HS2 Road Safety Fund | 170,342 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 170,342 |
| LTP Integrated Transport Block 2020-21 | 30,414 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,414 |
| Challenge Fund Schemes 2020-21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DFT Highways 2020-21 Further Works | 152,054 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 152,054 |
| Capital support to routine maintenance 2020-21 | 21,126 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21,126 |
| S106 Former Timken, Main Rd Duston, Northampton | 454,249 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 454,249 |
| S106 - Silverstone Circuit Silverstone (file 264) | 415,852 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 415,852 |
| Environmental Services Contract [NBC] | 422,442 | 262,200 | 0 | 0 | 684,642 |
| Highway Maintenance - LTP 2020-21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| s106 Buckton Fields Northampton | 311,206 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 311,206 |
| A43 Moulton Phase 2 | 338,816 | 129,369 | 0 | 0 | 468,185 |
| Pothole Machinery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| s106 Wood Burcote Court Towcester | 255,118 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 255,118 |
| S106 Monksmoor Daventry | 242,521 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 242,521 |
| UU Sailsbury Landscape Boughton Road Moulton | 205,800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 205,800 |
| Household Waste Recycling Centres Sinking Fund | 36,087 | 36,087 | 36,087 | 0 | 108,261 |
| HCA Upton Remedial Works | 592,738 | 197,196 | 100,000 | 0 | 889,934 |
| Street Lighting Upgrade (ex- NCC assets) | 2,806,623 | 2,018,589 | 929,845 | 0 | 5,755,057 |
| S106 Flore Traffic Calming | 148,006 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 148,006 |
| S106 - Wootton Fields Ph3 (file 449) | 133,803 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 133,803 |
| S106 Radstone Fields, Brackley | 132,282 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 132,282 |
| S106 Harlestone Rd Northampton | 130,794 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 130,794 |
| S106 Overstone Leys | 120,420 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120,420 |
| S106 West Station Rd Long Buck | 115,584 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115,584 |
| S106 land at Brackmills (Bedford Rd Roxhill) Npt | 101,535 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 101,535 |
| Smart Commuters | 91,471 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 91,471 |
| Installation of Bin Holders in Laybys | 74,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 74,000 |
| S106 Buckton Fields West | 73,340 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 73,340 |
| S106 Apex Park | 72,570 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 72,570 |
| S106 - Bective Sch Whiston Rd, Kingsthorpe Npt (file 431) | 67,253 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 67,253 |
| S106 Cary Close Moulton (DWH) | 55,473 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 55,473 |
| s106 Ashton Road (pianoforte) Road | 61,978 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61,978 |
| A43 Northampton to Kettering Phase 1b | 2,000 | 540,000 | 0 | 0 | 542,000 |
| s106 Booth Rise North Npt | 40,712 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40,712 |
| Wheelie Bins | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 0 | 120,000 |
| S106 Camp Hill Bugbrooke | 39,589 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39,589 |
| s106 Overstone Leys (SUE) Overstone | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S106 Overthorpe Rd M40 Banbury | 32,575 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32,575 |
| S106 Foxhills Brackley | 31,207 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31,207 |
| S106 Towcester Vale SUE | 30,648 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,648 |
| S106 Emmanuel Church Sc. Site, Billing Brook Road | 29,717 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29,717 |
| S106 Chaplins Yd Stratford Road Road | 29,069 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29,069 |
| s106 Wootton Fields Northampton (335) | 26,272 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26,272 |
| S106 - Peace Hill Bugbrooke (file 343) | 26,095 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26,095 |
| S106 Summerhouse Rd Moulton Park | 24,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24,500 |
| S106 Old Greens Norton Rd Tow | 23,919 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23,919 |
| s106 Nth of Ford - Royal Oak Way South, Daventry | 20,097 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20,097 |
| S106 Npt Lane Moulton | 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,000 |
| S106 Site 7 Edgar Mobbs Npt | 14,910 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14,910 |
| S106 Watford Lodge Watford | 14,700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14,700 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| DCOb DIRFT 3, Hilmorton | 10,456 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,456 |
| S106 Towcester Rd Old Stratford | 10,359 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,359 |
| S106 Banbury Lane KingsSutton | 5,871 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,871 |
| S106 Former Allotments N-P Rd | 5,916 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,916 |
| S106 Dockham Way Crick | 5,650 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,650 |
| s106 Byfield Road, Woodford Halse (306) | 5,297 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,297 |
| S106 Danes Camp Way Northampton | 4,976 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,976 |
| Domestic Recycling Waste Bins | 4,606 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,606 |
| S106 65 Byfield Rd Woodford Ha | 2,571 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,571 |
| S106 GlebeFm Yelvertoft WindFm | 1,979 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,979 |
| S106 Grosees QueensPark Kingsth | 1,542 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,542 |
| Northampton Gateway | 200,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200,000 |
| Total Highways and Waste Capital | 54,938,786 | 19,011,441 | 2,705,932 | 2,343,000 | 78,999,159 |
| Economic Growth & Regeneration | | | | | |
| Northampton Market Square | 7,275,472 | 863,779 | 0 | 0 | 8,139,251 |
| Northamptonshire Superfast Broadband | 4,482,845 | 1,394,000 | 0 | 0 | 5,876,845 |
| Vulcan works | 266,426 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 266,426 |
| Abington Street Redevelopments | 4,499,779 | 2,867,000 | 1,047,000 | 0 | 8,413,779 |
| Watermeadows | 344,339 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 344,339 |
| Northampton Bike Park | 679,893 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 679,893 |
| Central Museum Development | 196,476 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 196,476 |
| Old Black Lion | 465,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 465,000 |
| Extension of 78 Derngate | 300,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300,000 |
| 24 Guildhall Road Block | 3,249,196 | 550,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 3,899,196 |
| Towcester Toilets | 5,321 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,321 |
| Upton Country Park | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital Improvements - Regeneration Areas | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 100,000 |
| Heritage Gateway | 30,895 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,895 |
| Middleton Cheney Church Yards | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sponne Arcade | 831,634 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 831,634 |
| Market Walk | 2,000,000 | 1,103,365 | 903,364 | 0 | 4,006,729 |
| Four Waterside | 0 | 1,500,000 | 7,000,000 | 0 | 8,500,000 |
| Marefare Heritage Gateway | 800,000 | 1,100,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,900,000 |
| Northampton Town Centre Public Realm | 2,080,630 | 2,750,000 | 0 | 0 | 4,830,630 |
| Total Economic Growth & Regeneration | 27,557,906 | 12,178,144 | 9,050,364 | 0 | 48,786,414 |
| Assets and Environment Capital | | | | | |
| Northamptonshire Holistic Flood Resilience | 889,009 | 1,198,000 | 3,865,000 | 0 | 5,952,009 |
| Town Centre Vision - Cinema Site 1 | 284,307 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 284,307 |
| Homelessness Temporary Accomodation | 889,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 889,500 |
| Northampton Leisure Trust | 1,290,472 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,290,472 |
| Daventry to Braunston Cycle Track | 263,074 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 263,074 |
| Property Minor Works 2020-21 | 343,412 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 343,412 |
| Parks / Allotments / Cemeteries Enhancements | 368,407 | 250,000 | 0 | 0 | 618,407 |
| Leisure Centre East | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Operational Buildings - Enhancements | 793,496 | 250,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,043,496 |
| 4-14 High March Refurbishment | 1,285,040 | 450,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,735,040 |
| Property Minor Works 2019-20 | 59,423 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 59,423 |
| Guildhall Boilers | 309,849 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 309,849 |
| St Michaels MSCp lift refurbishment | 253,830 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 253,830 |
| Mulberry Place Restaurant capital contribution | 167,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 167,500 |
| Middlemore Infrastructure Completion Works | 241,996 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 241,996 |
| Long Buckby Flood Management | 155,464 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 155,464 |
| Racecourse Enhancement | 46,646 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46,646 |
| Community Youth Provision | 125,356 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 125,356 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Country Park Improvements (£106 funded) | 27,293 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27,293 |
| Public toilets refurbishment | 98,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98,000 |
| Parks, Allotments and Cemeteries funded by external contributions | 85,054 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 85,054 |
| Car Park Extension St John's Square and Chapel Lane | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |
| New Rehabilitation Building | 63,312 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 63,312 |
| Refurbishment of Paved Areas | 86,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 86,000 |
| Heartlands commercial new build | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |
| Monksmoor Primary School | 66,256 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 66,256 |
| Rainsbrook Crematorium enhancements | 71,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 71,500 |
| Middlemore Cycle/Rural Tracks | 71,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 71,000 |
| Affordable Housing Gouldens View | 65,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65,000 |
| Lodge Farm Community Centre | 40,653 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40,653 |
| Commercial Landlord Responsibilities | 50,000 | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 100,000 |
| Heartlands completion works | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 |
| Refurbishment of paths and structures for open spaces | 45,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45,000 |
| Capital Works to 68 and 68a High St | 39,888 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39,888 |
| Electric Charge Points | 17,464 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17,464 |
| Middlemore minor works | 21,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21,500 |
| Northampton Parks and Open Spaces (additional) | 2,086 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,086 |
| Elgar Centre M&E | 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,000 |
| DCP refurbishment programme | 5,680 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,680 |
| Middlemore Landscape Completion Works | 31,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31,000 |
| Guildhall Roof | 42,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42,000 |
| Country Park - Capital Costs | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 0 | 30,000 |
| Lodge Road Fire Risk Assessment | 33,369 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33,369 |
| Public Offices - Improvements, Plant & Equip. | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 15,000 |
| Westbridge Depot - Accommodation for NPH | 1,190,281 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,190,281 |
| Property Minor Works 2022-23 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| Northampton Leisure Centres Fire Assessment Works | 1,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000,000 |
| County Hall Refurbishment/Improvements | 948,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 948,000 |
| Central Library Refurbishment | 425,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 425,000 |
| LED Replacement Lighting Scheme | 139,568 | 139,568 | 139,568 | 279,136 | 697,840 |
| Death Management Services | 462,861 | 5,300,000 | 6,700,000 | 1,000,000 | 13,462,861 |
| Dallington Cemetery Extension | 300,000 | 300,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 700,000 |
| Replacement of Boiler Management System at One Angel Square | 46,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46,000 |
| Floor and wall finishes replacement/ renewal | 862,000 | 579,750 | 579,750 | 3,478,500 | 5,500,000 |
| Boiler Replacements | 225,000 | 225,000 | 225,000 | 1,125,000 | 1,800,000 |
| Bridge Replacement Works | 100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100,000 |
| Magistrates Court and Hazelrigg House Roof Repairs | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50,000 |
| Southfields Community Centre Refurbishment | 90,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90,000 |
| Abington Museum Boilers | 270,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 270,000 |
| Restoration of Historic Monuments & Statues | 140,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 185,000 |
| Play Equipment at Children's Centres | 90,000 | 60,000 | 0 | 0 | 150,000 |
| Outdoor Exercise Equipment | 45,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45,000 |
| EPC Improvements to Leased Buildings | 150,000 | 220,000 | 220,000 | 220,000 | 810,000 |
| Active Traffic Management and Air Quality | 130,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 130,000 |
| Total Assets and Environment Capital | 15,992,546 | 9,552,318 | 12,359,318 | 6,617,636 | 44,521,818 |
| Total | 136,450,428 | 71,350,028 | 40,452,783 | 14,092,545 | 262,345,784 |

This page is intentionally left blank

| APPENDIX B - Period 7 | Original LA | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | Total |
|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 |
| NPH Pell Court, Lumbertubs | NBC | (16) | 20 | - | - | - | 4 |
| NPH0011 Berkeley House & St. Marys House (Roof Gdns) | NBC | 1,282 | 5,135 | 4,153 | - | - | 10,570 |
| NPH0017 Swale Drive, Kings Heath | NBC | 53 | - | - | - | - | 53 |
| NPH0018 Orchard Close, Wootton | NBC | 35 | - | - | - | - | 35 |
| NPH0019 Norman Road, Abington | NBC | 14 | - | - | - | - | 14 |
| NPH0021 Longueville Court, Lumbertubs | NBC | 13 | - | - | - | - | 13 |
| NPH0023 Harold Street, Town Centre | NBC | 9 | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| NPH0024 Blakesley Close, Kingsthorpe | NBC | 23 | - | - | - | - | 23 |
| NPH0025 Margaret Street, Town Centre | NBC | 9 | - | - | - | - | 9 |
| NPH0026 Baukewell, Preston & Nethermead, Lumbertubs | NBC | 15 | - | - | - | - | 15 |
| NPH0028 Connaught Street, Town Centre | NBC | 21 | 5 | - | - | - | 26 |
| NPH0033 Tyes Court 2 (G7-17), Lings | NBC | 134 | 20 | - | - | - | 114 |
| NPH0044 Gloucester Avenue (2) (G1-7), Delapre | NBC | 80 | 6 | - | - | - | 86 |
| NPH0045 Prentice 3 & Overleys, Goldings | NBC | 6 | - | - | - | - | 6 |
| NPH0047 Medway Drive, Kings Heath | NBC | 17 | - | - | - | - | 17 |
| NPH0050 East Paddock Ct (Hayeswood), Lings | NBC | 21 | - | - | - | - | 21 |
| NPH0051 Derwent Drive, Kings Heath | NBC | 50 | 1,212 | - | - | - | 1,262 |
| NPH0052 Fraser Road, Thorplands | NBC | 20 | - | 2,044 | 19,632 | - | 21,696 |
| NPH0053 Riverside House | NBC | 3,733 | - | - | - | - | 3,733 |
| NPH0054 Beaumont House | NBC | 239 | - | - | - | - | 239 |
| NPH0055 Belgrave House / Clock House, Town Centre | NBC | 390 | 1,800 | 6,000 | 3,768 | - | 11,958 |
| NPH0058 Churchill & Windermere Way, Lakeview | NBC | 11 | - | - | - | - | 11 |
| NPH0059 Oak Tree Rise (Billing Brook Road) | NBC | 82 | - | - | - | - | 82 |
| NPH0061 Valley Road, Little Billing | NBC | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| NPH0062 Glebeland Road, Dallington | NBC | 236 | 156 | - | - | - | 392 |
| NPH0063 Stenson Road, St James | NBC | 317 | 13 | - | - | - | 303 |
| NPH0066 Prentice Court (4), Goldings | NBC | 0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| NPH0067 Prentice Court (5), Goldings | NBC | 568 | - | - | - | - | 568 |
| NPH0068 Ringway (3), Briar Hill | NBC | 50 | 1,346 | 362 | - | - | 1,758 |
| NPH0069 Northfield Road (2), Duston | NBC | 21 | 301 | - | - | - | 322 |
| NPH0071 The Bungalows, Lings | NBC | 137 | - | - | - | - | 137 |
| NPH0073 Woodstock Roof Extension | NBC | 70 | - | - | - | - | 70 |
| NPH0074 Dover Court Roof Extension | NBC | 712 | - | - | - | - | 712 |
| NPH0076 New Southbridge Road | NBC | 1,185 | 2,229 | 70 | - | - | 3,484 |
| NPH0077 Paddock Mill Court, Blackthorn (G89-94) | NBC | 8 | - | - | - | - | 8 |
| NPH0078 Hopmeadow Court, Blackthorn | NBC | 8 | 8 | - | - | - | 15 |
| NPH0079 Maidencastle (4) Garages 19-22, Blackthorn | NBC | 69 | 8 | - | - | - | 76 |
| NPH0080 Pikemead Court, Blackthorn | NBC | 4 | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| NPH0082 Avenue Campus | NBC | 4,072 | 7,864 | 13,393 | 5,262 | - | 30,592 |
| NPH0083 Montague Crescent, Duston | NBC | 80 | 1,689 | - | - | - | 1,769 |
| NPH0084 Bouverie Road, Hardingstone | NBC | 0 | 20 | 1,226 | - | - | 1,246 |
| NPH0085 Colwyn Road, Town Centre | NBC | 0 | 20 | 629 | - | - | 649 |
| NPH0091 East Oval, Kings Heath | NBC | 138 | 206 | - | - | - | 344 |
| NPH0092 Upper Thrift Street, Town Centre | NBC | 91 | 274 | - | - | - | 365 |
| NPH0093 Wessex Way, Abington | NBC | 22 | 192 | - | - | - | 214 |
| NPH0094 Ambush Street, St James | NBC | 5 | 205 | - | - | - | 210 |
| NPH0095 Stanley Road, St James | NBC | 250 | 395 | - | - | - | 645 |
| NPH0096 Althorpe Road East & West, St James | NBC | 0 | 20 | 541 | - | - | 561 |
| NPH0097 Ecton Brook Care Home | NBC | 37 | 584 | 2,614 | - | - | 3,236 |
| NPH0098 Harefield Road, Blackthorn | NBC | 12 | 96 | 1,189 | 162 | - | 1,459 |
| NPH0102 17 Smyth Court | NBC | 75 | - | - | - | - | 75 |
| NPH0103 2 Windrush Road | NBC | 75 | - | - | - | - | 75 |
| NPH0104 27 Windrush Road | NBC | 75 | - | - | - | - | 75 |
| NPH0105 85 Farmclose Road | NBC | 75 | - | - | - | - | 75 |
| New Build Pool | NBC | 175 | 15,372 | 9,697 | 28,385 | 28,385 | 82,015 |
| Buybacks and Spot Purchases | NBC | 3,790 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 503 | 11,793 |
| NSAP - 15 x 1 bed accommodation | NBC | 19 | - | - | - | - | 19 |
| Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme (RSAP) | WNC | 601 | - | - | - | - | 601 |
| External Improvements | NBC | 16,806 | 12,637 | 7,850 | 6,850 | 10,437 | 54,580 |
| Internal Works | NBC | 2,466 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 11,000 |
| Structural Works and Compliance | NBC | 858 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 2,700 |
| Disabled Adaptations | NBC | 1,500 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 6,640 |
| Environmental Improvements | NBC | 2,890 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 14,150 |
| IT Development | NBC | 409 | 480 | 430 | 395 | 340 | 2,054 |
| Total HRA | | 44,144 | 61,440 | 59,393 | 73,649 | 46,359 | 284,985 |

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET

20 December 2022

**CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCE:
COUNCILLOR MALCOLM LONGLEY**

Report Title Treasury Management Update Quarter 2, 2022-23

Report Author Martin Henry, Executive Finance Director

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| West MO | Catherine Whitehead | 12/12/2022 |
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 01/12/2022 |
| Other Director/SME | Audra Statham | 30/11/2022 |
| Communications | Becky Hutson | 9/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

Appendix A - Treasury and Prudential Indicators

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide a second quarter update position on the Council's Treasury Management Strategy.

2. Executive Summary

The report sets out the treasury management activity covering the:

- Economic update
- Interest rate forecast

- Update on treasury activity covering:
 - Treasury portfolio
 - Borrowing & Investments
 - Treasury Management budget performance
- Compliance update on TMSS approved, prudential and treasury limits

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet note the report and treasury activity for the second quarter of the 22-23 financial year.

4. Reasons for the Recommendation

- 4.1 To ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations and its Treasury management policies.

5. Report Background

Capital Strategy

- 5.1 In December 2021, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, (CIPFA), issued revised Prudential and Treasury Management Codes. These require all local authorities to prepare a Capital Strategy which is to provide the following:
- a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services.
 - an overview of how the associated risk is managed.
 - the implications for future financial sustainability.

5.2 Treasury management

- 5.2.1 The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in low-risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering optimising investment return.

- 5.2.2 The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning to ensure the Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans, or using longer term cash flow surpluses, and on occasion any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

- 5.2.3 Accordingly, treasury management is defined as:

“The management of the local authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”

6. Introduction

6.1 The CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Code of Practice for Treasury Management recommends that members be updated on treasury management activities regularly (annual, mid-year or quarterly reports). This report, therefore, ensures this Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the Code and it covers:

- An economic update for the second quarter of the 2022/23 financial year updated to reflect the most recent developments in the economy.
- The Council's capital expenditure, as set out in the Capital Strategy, and prudential indicators.
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2022/23.
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2022/23.
- A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken to in the second quarter.
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2022/23

7. Economics update

7.1 The second quarter of 2022/23 saw:

- GDP in Q1 2022/23 revised upwards to 0.2% q/q from -0.1%, which means the UK economy avoided recession in that period
- Signs of economic activity losing momentum as production fell due to rising energy prices.
- CPI inflation ease to 9.9% y/y in August but domestic price pressures showing little sign of abating in the near-term.
- The unemployment rate falls to a 48-year low of 3.6% due to a large shortfall in labour supply.
- Bank Rate rise by 100bps over the quarter, taking Bank Rate to 2.25% on the 24th of Sept and a further rise to 3% in November.
- Gilt yields surge and sterling fall following the "fiscal event" under former Prime Minister Liz Truss and then Chancellor on the 23rd September.
- The UK economy grew by 0.2% in July following an upward revision to Q1's GDP data (+0.2% q/q), though revisions to historic data left it below pre-pandemic levels.

7.2. Most recently:

- This turmoil led to former Prime minister Liz Truss resigning leading to a selection of the current Prime Minister Rishi Sunak to lead the conservative party and the current government.
- During this period the pound's value plummeted and the Bank of England had to bail out pension funds by buying government bonds to hold up prices and prevent a sell off.
- The Bank of England's MPC increased the Bank Rate for an eighth consecutive meeting in November, increasing the Bank Rate by 75bps to 3.00% – taking it to its highest level since November 2008 and moving it by its largest single step since 1992.

- On the inflation front (based on market rate expectations), it was predicted that the rate would peak at 11.4% (against a previous assumption of 13.3%) but then falling sharply to just 1.43% in 2yrs time and 0.02% in 3yrs time (0.76% previously expected).
- At the time of writing the report RPI stood at 14.2% and CPI stood at 11.1%.

8. Interest rate forecasts

- 8.1. The Council has appointed Link Group as its treasury advisors and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates.
- 8.2. The forecast on the 27th of September sets out a view that both short and long-dated interest rates will be elevated for some little while, as the Bank of England seeks to squeeze inflation out of the economy, whilst the government is providing a package of fiscal loosening to try and protect households and businesses from ultra-high wholesale gas and electricity prices. The increase in PWLB rates reflects a broad sell-off in sovereign bonds internationally but more so the disaffection investors have with the position of the UK public finances after September’s “fiscal event”. To that end, the MPC has tightened short-term interest rates with a view to trying to slow the economy sufficiently to keep the secondary effects of inflation – as measured by wage rises – under control, but its job is that much harder now.
- 8.3. Link Group’s current and previous PWLB rate forecasts below are based on the Certainty Rate (the standard rate minus 20 bps) which has been accessible to most authorities since 1st November 2012.

| Link Group Interest Rate View | 27.09.22 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Dec-22 | Mar-23 | Jun-23 | Sep-23 | Dec-23 | Mar-24 | Jun-24 | Sep-24 | Dec-24 | Mar-25 | Jun-25 | Sep-25 |
| BANK RATE | 4.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.50 | 4.00 | 3.75 | 3.25 | 3.00 | 2.75 | 2.75 | 2.50 |
| 3 month ave earnings | 4.50 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 4.50 | 4.00 | 3.80 | 3.30 | 3.00 | 2.80 | 2.80 | 2.50 |
| 6 month ave earnings | 4.70 | 5.20 | 5.10 | 5.00 | 4.60 | 4.10 | 3.90 | 3.40 | 3.10 | 3.00 | 2.90 | 2.60 |
| 12 month ave earnings | 5.30 | 5.30 | 5.20 | 5.00 | 4.70 | 4.20 | 4.00 | 3.50 | 3.20 | 3.10 | 3.00 | 2.70 |
| 5 yr PWLB | 5.00 | 4.90 | 4.70 | 4.50 | 4.20 | 3.90 | 3.70 | 3.50 | 3.40 | 3.30 | 3.20 | 3.20 |
| 10 yr PWLB | 4.90 | 4.70 | 4.60 | 4.30 | 4.10 | 3.80 | 3.60 | 3.50 | 3.40 | 3.30 | 3.20 | 3.20 |
| 25 yr PWLB | 5.10 | 4.90 | 4.80 | 4.50 | 4.30 | 4.10 | 3.90 | 3.70 | 3.60 | 3.60 | 3.50 | 3.40 |
| 50 yr PWLB | 4.80 | 4.60 | 4.50 | 4.20 | 4.00 | 3.80 | 3.60 | 3.40 | 3.30 | 3.30 | 3.20 | 3.10 |

LIBOR and LIBID rates ceased at the end of 2021. In a continuation of our previous forecasts, our money market yield forecasts are based on expected average earnings by local authorities for 3 to 12 months.

Our forecasts for average earnings are averages i.e., rates offered by individual banks may differ significantly from these averages, reflecting their different needs for borrowing short-term cash at any one point in time.

9. Summary WNC Treasury Portfolio Position

- 9.1 The highlight for the treasury portfolio position for the period to September 2022 is the council is forecasting net borrowing position of £281m compared to the approved budget of £344m. Page 76

forecast for 2022/23 shows a £63m improvement mainly as a result of a reduction in new borrowing requirement that was forecasted and significant improvement on investment income due to the rising interest environment during this period.

9.2 The expected borrowing requirement to fund the capital programme is expected to be nil, due to slippage.

Table 1

| West Northamptonshire Council 2022-23 | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| TREASURY PORTFOLIO 22-23 | | | | | |
| | TMSS Approved Budget | Actual | Actual | Forecast out-turn | Forecast out-turn |
| | | 30-Sep-22 | 30-Sep-22 | 31-Mar-23 | 31-Mar-23 |
| Treasury investments | £000 | £000 | % | £000 | % |
| Total managed in house | 201,359 | 149,566 | 94% | 204,017 | 95% |
| Total managed externally | 9,641 | 10,222 | 6% | 10,222 | 5% |
| Total treasury investments | 211,000 | 159,788 | 100% | 214,239 | 100% |
| Third party loans | 37,021 | 35,772 | | 35,097 | |
| Treasury external borrowing | | | | | |
| PWLB | 513,831 | 462,794 | 86% | 454,798 | 86% |
| Market, LOBO & other loans | 78,790 | 75,743 | 14% | 75,445 | 14% |
| Total external borrowing | 592,621 | 538,537 | 100% | 530,243 | 100% |
| | | | | | |
| Net treasury investments / (borrowing) | (344,600) | (342,977) | | (280,907) | |

9.3 During the first half of the year, the council has made £4.015m of loan repayments detailed below:

- Partial principal repayment of just over £1m on annuity PWLB loan.
- Full repayment of £3m on Growing Places Fund loan back in April 2022.

9.4 The forecast position on total external borrowing is £530m compared to the budget of £593m. This demonstrates a reduction in anticipated borrowing requirements than originally anticipated. The position is continually monitored.

10. Borrowing

10.1 The need for further borrowing will be reviewed in line with the capital programme delivery schedule.

10.2 Table 2 below sets out the maturity profile of the Council's borrowing portfolio at the end of Q2.

Table 2

| Term Remaining | Borrowing | | Limits |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| | £m | % | % |
| Under 12 months | 9.6 | 2% | 80% |
| 1-2 years | 8.5 | 2% | 50% |
| 2-5 years | 29.6 | 6% | 50% |
| 5-10 years | 24.9 | 5% | 50% |
| 10-20 years | 19.9 | 4% | 100% |
| 20-30 years | 25.4 | 5% | 100% |
| 30-40 years | 243.5 | 45% | 100% |
| 40-50 years | 157.0 | 29% | 100% |
| Over 50 years | 20.0 | 4% | 100% |
| TOTAL | 538.5 | 100% | |

11. Borrowing Restructuring

11.1 Rescheduling opportunities have been limited in the current economic climate. No debt rescheduling has therefore been undertaken in the current financial year to date. Officers continue to monitor the position regularly.

12. Investments

12.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2022/23, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by the Council on the 24 February 2022. In accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice, it sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:

- Security of capital
- Liquidity
- Yield

12.2 The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity and within the Council's risk appetite. In the current economic climate, it is considered appropriate to keep investments short-term to cover cash flow needs, but also to seek out value available in periods up to 12 months with high credit rated financial institutions, using the Link suggested creditworthiness approach, including a minimum sovereign credit rating and Credit Default Swap (CDS) overlay information.

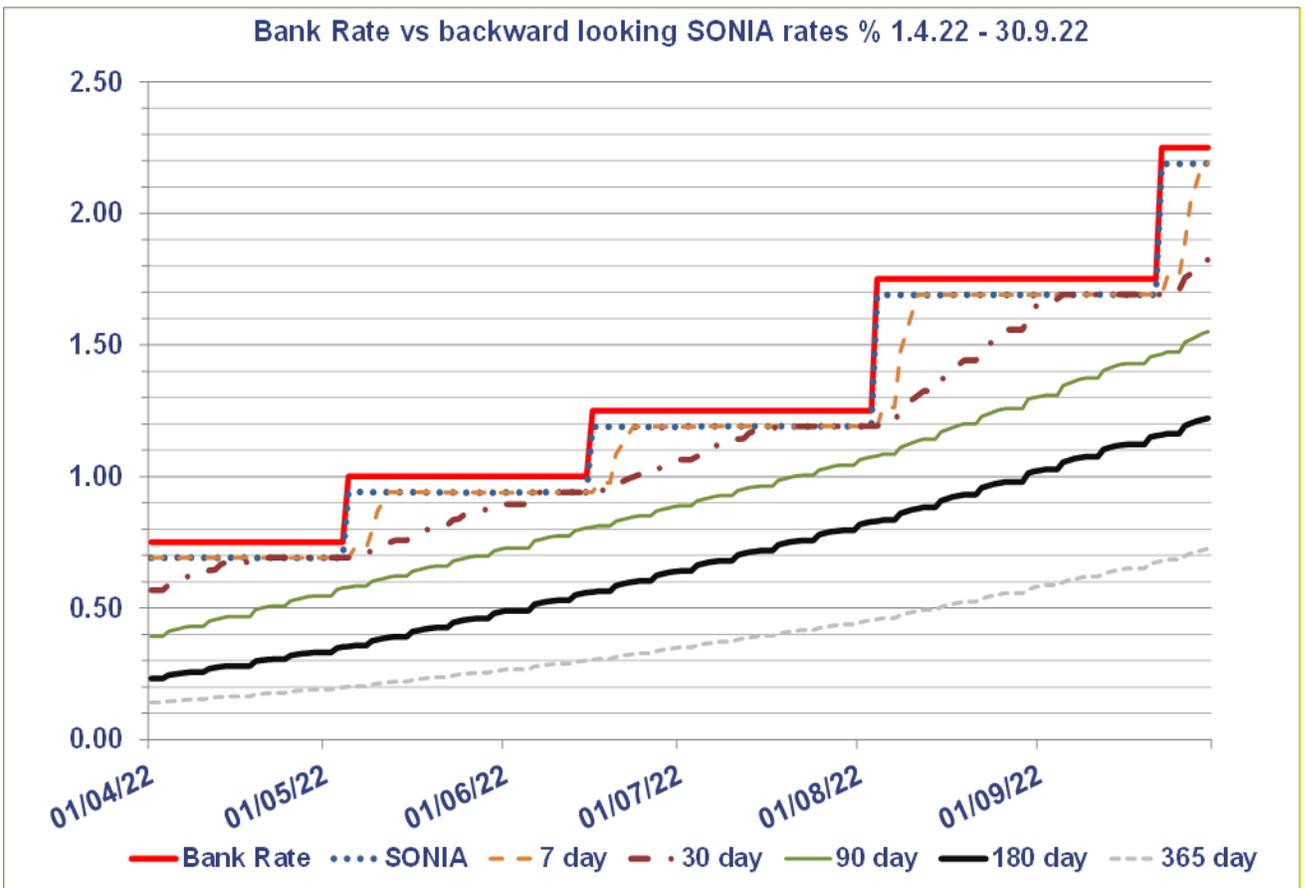
As shown by the interest rate forecasts in Section 6 above, rates have improved dramatically during Q1 and Q2 2022 and are expected to improve further as Bank Rate continues to increase over the next year or so.

- 12.3 The average level of funds available for investment purposes during the first half of the year was £155m. These funds were available on a temporary basis, and the level of funds available was mainly dependent on the timing of payments, receipt of grants. At the end of the period the Council held £40m of liquid cash balances and £109m of short terms investments expected to mature during year.

13. Investment performance year to date as of 30 Sept 2022

13.1 Below is SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Averages) indicators based on a backward look showing the performance of the market when investments were made in the past.

Graph 1



| Period | SONIA (backward look) benchmark performance | Council performance |
|----------|---|---------------------|
| 180 days | 0.67% | 1.55% |

9.1 As illustrated above, the Council outperformed the benchmark by 88 basis point. The Council’s budgeted investment return for 2022/23 assumed an average of 0.30% return based on the timing of placed and future short-term investment at the time of budgets preparations and as such has outperformed the budget assumption to date.

10. Treasury Management budget

10.1 Outlined below is the Treasury budget performance to date for 22/23. The net costs have varied significantly to budget as shown in the forecast out-turn with an improvement of £2m.

Table 5

| Treasury revenue budget | TMSS Budget Approved | Forecast -out- turn | Variance - favourable/(ad- verse) |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| | £'m | £'m | £'m |
| Net financing costs - | 14.32 | 13.92 | 0.40 |
| Interest receivable on investments | (2.0) | (3.6) | 1.64 |
| Total | 12.36 | 10.32 | 2.04 |

10.2 The key explanation for variance to the budgets are:

Within the net financing costs-

- **Finance charges & Insurance claims:** We are forecasting a budget underspend of £0.4m as a result of reduced borrowing costs.
- **Interest receivable on investments** – we are expecting a better yield performance and anticipate that this trend will continue for the rest of the year.
 - In addition, there has been recent media press regarding the council’s short-term fixed investments in the Qatar National Bank. This was in line with the Treasury Management Strategy as agreed by full council in February 2022. Following review any further investments in Qatar have been suspended.
 - There were further fixed term investments totalling £56m in the last quarter since the last report.

11. Approved Limits

11.1 Officers can confirm that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the period ended 30th September 2022.

12. Compliance with Treasury & Prudential limits

12.1 It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. During the second quarter ended 30th September 2022, the Council has operated within the treasury and prudential indicators set out in the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2022/23.

12.2 The Director of Finance reports that there are no difficulties expected for the current or future years in complying with these indicators.

12.3 All treasury management operations have also been conducted in full compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices.

15. Implications

15.1 Resources and financial

15.1.1 There are no resources or financial implications arising from the recommendations proposed in this report

15.2 Legal

15.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations in this report

15.3 Risks

15.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report

18. Background Papers

None

Appendix A: Treasury and Prudential Indicators

| Prudential Indicator | 2022/23 Indicator | 2022/23 Q2 |
|--|----------------------|------------|
| Authorised limit for external debt <i>[Excluding PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities]</i> | ----- £850.0m ----- | |
| Operational boundary for external debt <i>[Excluding PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities]</i> | ----- £800.0m ----- | |
| Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) <i>[Excluding PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities]</i> | £935m | TBC |
| Ratio of financing costs to net revenue streams | 1.6% | TBC |
| Principal sums invested > 365 days <i>[Excluding third party loans]</i> | £20m | £nil |
| Maturity structure of borrowing limits: - | | |
| Under 12 months | Max. 80% Min. 0% | 2% |
| 12 months to 2 years | Max. 50% Min. 0% | 2% |
| 2 years to 5 years | Max. 50% Min. 0% | 6% |
| 5 years to 10 years | Max. 50% Min. 0% | 5% |
| 10 years and above | Max. 100% Min. 0% | 85% |

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL & CABINET MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSFORMATION: COUNCILLOR JONATHAN NUNN

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Report Title | Progress Update Transformation and Local Government Reform |
|---------------------|---|

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Report Author | Anna Earnshaw, Chief Executive West Northants Council, Email: Anna.earnshaw@westnorthants.gov.uk |
|----------------------|---|

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| West MO | Catherine Whitehead | 6/12/2022 |
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 6/12/2022 |
| Head of Communications | Becky Hutson | 27/11/22 |

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Transformation Progress and Outcomes Report

Appendix 2 – At a glance service transformation status

Appendix 3 – Grand Design Delivery progress

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to provide members with an update on how the Council has progressed against the original goals of the Local Government Reform (LGR) plans, the development of its operating model and the progress made through transformation to deliver efficiencies.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 West Northants Council transformation is an ongoing journey, as our environment and external pressures change we will always have to adapt to new challenges that require us to think differently and seek new efficiencies or ways of working. From the outset the Council set out its priorities in the West Northants Corporate Plan published in June 2021 and these aims remain unchanged. But this is now underpinned by a clear set of outcomes and deliverables published in our Grand Design Plan and a clear operating model as set out in the Appendices to this paper.
- 2.2 At the heart of our plans are better outcomes for our residents, businesses and the environment and a commitment to provide good services that are run efficiently. Taxpayers expect this and we were clear in our Corporate Plan that we would always have a focus on the best use of our resources.
- 2.3 But transformation is also about modernising our services, improving how we work and our service standards, as well as delivering on some of the ambitions and justifications for Local Government Reform. This report provides an update on how the Council has progressed and delivered against the following key areas:
- Efficiencies promised from LGR (local Government Reform)
 - Transformation efficiencies delivered since the Councils inception
 - The West Northants Council (WNC) operating model
 - Transformation progress across Council services to date and planned next year
 - Progress on the disaggregation of services from North Northants Council (NNC).
- 2.4 While the Appendices set out a narrative for our transformation journey, progress and delivery against these areas, this report specifically seeks to confirm the scale of efficiencies we have secured to date and planned for 2023-24 and the progress made in delivering our commitments and priorities.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet:
- i. Note the efficiencies delivered to date and planned for 2023-24;
 - ii. Note the content of the detailed reports at Appendices 1,2 and 3 which sets out the details of our progress against our plans, commitments, and savings targets.
 - iii. Note the key elements of our Council operating model in Appendix 1 and the design principles that will underpin our future operation and service to stakeholders.
 - iv. Note the summary of the West Northants Master Property Plan for our buildings, and
 - v. Note the progress on disaggregation of services from North Northants and status of services that are still shared.

4. Reason for Recommendations

- 4.1 This report is for members to note but provides a comprehensive update with progress updates, timelines and the financial benefit of our transformation plans. It responds to several questions raised recently regarding the Council's progress.
- 4.2 We will be looking at how we provide ongoing reports and the regularity of them so that members feel informed of progress against the baseline of this report.

5. Report Background

- 5.1 While we still have more to do, the scale of change undertaken in the first two years of West Northants Council has been significant. It has involved bringing together processes, functions and finances across 3,000 staff, 800 systems and four main office buildings, as well as consolidating thousands of contracts. Our priority has been delivering business as usual, protecting service continuity and meeting all our legal duties. But we have done this alongside making service and process changes, rationalising our systems and assets, and driving forward our transformation agenda.
- 5.2 Members of the Council, Scrutiny chairs and stakeholders have raised several questions recently about the Council's transformation plans and progress. This has included questions about:
- the financial benefits delivered,
 - what vision and operating model West Northants Council is working towards, and
 - the transformation progress we are making in modernising and consolidating services.
- 5.3 The Council set out a clear vision to make West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive. This vision and the priorities for delivering this were set out in the Corporate Plan Published in June 2021 and further underpinned by key strategies we have published in the first 18 months of the Council. Many of these strategies have been developed working with stakeholders, member groups, partners and input from the public.
- 5.4 The attached appendices set out in some detail how we have progressed our vision, strategies and operating model and how we have tackled some of the key challenges that being a single unitary council has given us the opportunity to address. Specifically, the Appendices include key information members have requested as follows
- Appendix 1 provides confirmation of our Operating model and design principles as well as a detailed update on our transformation journey and splitting services from North Northants,
 - Appendix 2 sets out how we have progressed against the deliverables we set out in the WNC Grand Design published in January 2022 and
 - Appendix 3 provides an "at a glance" progress map that demonstrates the progress made in each service against the key steps towards transformation.

- 5.5 But given the current pressures on budgets and services this report is also an opportunity to set out the savings and efficiencies that the Council has delivered to date and is seeking to deliver in 2023-24 (details of which will be included in the 2023-24 MTFP Budget report submitted alongside this paper.
- 5.6 **LGR (Local Government Reform) Savings** - The LGR programme set out a vision for the future in which the two new Councils would drive benefits for residents and businesses as a result of removing some of the barriers and challenges that two-tier government can create. The LGR prospectus of May 2019 set out a plan to achieve this alongside a funded programme of transformation across all the predecessor Councils and using the Capitalisation flexibilities given to us and through business rate pilot funding. The prospectus set out four key priority areas for change:
- Driving Transformation, Integration and Local Government Reform
 - Focus on Customers, Staff and Members
 - Seek Opportunities for Efficiency and Value for Money
 - Create a governance framework to deliver safe and legal services
- 5.7 The LGR prospectuses of 2019 and 2020 also set out the potential for significant savings of £84m to be delivered as a result of the LGR plan. Of the £84m savings it was assumed that £51m would be delivered prior to vesting day both within the legacy Councils and through LGR transformation. Savings from LGR included, for example, savings from the implementation of a new single Finance and HR system replacing the 8 systems used by the previous councils, a new website and automated customer service technology. All of these were delivered by the year end 2020/21.
- 5.8 When the two new Councils went live in April 2021 the remaining savings to be delivered of £35m were split between the two Councils. This included assumed savings like:
- the reduction in senior staff costs as the councils were amalgamated
 - the rationalisation of buildings
 - Contract consolidation savings, and
 - Benefits from automations and efficiencies from new IT systems.
- 5.9 West Northants Council therefore had £17.50m left to be delivered over the first few years of the Council. The table below shows how West Northants has delivered and exceeded these targets for efficiency:

| | <u>£000s</u> | <u>£000s</u> | Comment |
|--|--------------|----------------|---|
| Total estimated Local Government Reform savings estimated pre-vesting day | | 84,448 | As reported to Joint Implementation Executive and Shadow Executive prior to vesting day |
| <u>Business Rates Retention funded savings delivered</u> | | | |
| 2019-20 | -1,626 | | As reported to Joint Implementation Executive and Shadow Executive prior to vesting day |
| 2020-21 | -2,246 | | As reported to Joint Implementation Executive and Shadow Executive prior to vesting day |
| | | -3,872 | |
| <u>Northants County Council Transformation Projects savings delivered</u> | | | |
| 2019-20 | -33,281 | | As reported to Joint Implementation Executive and Shadow Executive prior to vesting day |
| 2020-21 | -12,235 | | As reported to Joint Implementation Executive and Shadow Executive prior to vesting day |
| | | -45,516 | |
| Balance of savings to be delivered post vesting day | | 35,060 | |
| West Northants Created 1 April 2021 | | | |
| West Northants remaining savings delivery target | | 17,530 | Assumed a 50% split of the remaining savings target for West Northants |
| Transformation savings delivered in 2021-22 | -6,120 | | 2021-22 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation saving delivered in 2022-23 | -6,409 | | 2022-23 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2023-24 | -13,905 | | 2023-24 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2024-25 | -5,494 | | 2024-25 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2025-26 | -2,075 | | 2025-26 transformation related budget proposals |
| | | -34,003 | |
| Transformation savings in excess of WNC inherited target | | -16,473 | |

- 5.10 **West Northants Other Savings and Efficiencies** - despite the challenges we have faced in terms of legacy financial pressures uncovered in our first year, the mounting demand pressures and inflation that have followed in 2022-23 and challenges set to continue into 2023-24, we have continued to deliver efficiencies over and above those assumed in LGR.
- 5.11 We have adopted consistent themes approach to tracking out savings which help us ensure we consistent in our thinking and how we identify short, medium and long-term savings and that we are driving best practice. These themes are shown below

| Theme | Narrative |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Redesign & Reorganisation | Service redesign or aggregation post LGR – opportunities to reduce staffing, delayer structures or change the model of who delivers what services, where and how; are the spans of control reasonable? Can we reduce headcount by sharing work or being co-located. Can we reduce our footprint and operating costs. |
| Demand and Prevention | We cannot change our demographics, but we can influence the likelihood of people coming to us, how quickly their needs escalate and how we react to them and how long they stay independent. Where can we invest one off or Public Health grant in prevention to reduce or slow demand or reduce costs? |
| Buying & Commissioning | Could we buy things differently or combine legacy contracts to get better economies of scale? Can we seek help from the market to help us reduce need, reshape the offer and look at |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| | when it makes sense to provide services ourselves In house or outsource or partner? |
| Charging and Income | How do our fees compare and benchmark? Is there an opportunity to increase fees, generate new income streams, harmonise legacy charging or earn income from fees for services, asset use or commercial propositions? Are there external funding or grants we could access or should use? |
| Technology and Innovation | Where could we reduce operating costs through systems, digital innovation or automating. Are there examples from other councils making savings that we could duplicate? Can we consolidate systems or services and become more cost effective or provide services to others. Many of these initiatives will be delivered by DTI (Digital, Technology and Innovation services) but the benefits will be realised within the services they support |
| Process and Policy | Where could we do things differently to create operational efficiency e.g., can we centralise processes in customer services at a reduced cost because they can use more generic trained advisors? Are there policies that give us the discretion to deliver in different ways or more efficiently? are we experiencing demand failure anywhere that we can improve. are there national policies that allow us to capitalise costs or use grants? |

5.12 We have delivered significant transformation and wider efficiencies across these themes in our first years and the scale of these is set out below.

| Theme | Narrative | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | Savings |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Redesign & Reorganisation | Service redesign or aggregation post LGR – opportunities to reduce staffing, delayer structures or change the model of who delivers what services, where and how; are the spans of control reasonable? Can we reduce headcount by sharing work or being co-located. Can we reduce our footprint and operating costs. | £830,000 | £2,716,000 | £13,890,000 | £17,436,000 |
| Demand and Prevention | We cannot change our demographics but we can influence the likelihood of people coming to us, how quickly their needs escalate and how we react to them and how long they stay independent. Where can we invest one off or Public Health grant in prevention to reduce | £3,744,000 | £1,150,000 | £2,132,000 | £7,026,000 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | or slow demand or reduce costs? | | | | |
| Buying & Commissioning | Could we buy things differently or combine legacy contracts to get better economies of scale? Can we seek help from the market to help us reduce need, reshape the offer and look at when it makes sense to provide services ourselves In house or outsource or partner? | £1,300,000 | £1,803,000 | £425,000 | £3,528,000 |
| Charging and Income | How do our fees compare and benchmark? Is there an opportunity to increase fees, generate new income streams, harmonise legacy charging or earn income from fees for services, asset use or commercial propositions? Are there external funding or grants we could access or should use? | £399,000 | £7,975,000 | £5,409,300 | £13,783,300 |
| Technology and Innovation | Where could we reduce operating costs through systems, digital innovation or automating. Are there examples from other councils making savings that we could duplicate? Can we consolidate systems or services and become more cost effective or provide services to others | £71,000 | £189,000 | £1,050,000 | £1,310,000 |
| Process and Policy | Where could we do things differently to create operational efficiency e.g., can we centralise processes in customer services at a reduced cost because they can use more generic trained advisors? Are there policies that give us the discretion to deliver in different ways or more efficiently? are we experiencing demand failure anywhere that we can | £263,000 | £106,000 | £1,881,930 | £2,250,930 |

| | | | | | |
|--|---|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | improve. are there national policies that allow us to capitalise costs or use grants? | | | | |
| | | £6,607,000 | £13,939,000 | £24,788,230 | £45,334,230 |

5.13 Members will be aware the 2022-23 has been a particularly challenging year for demand, with the cost-of-living crisis, as a result of pressures on inflation and due to the war in Ukraine. This pressure meant that some savings could not be delivered in full during 2022-23, where the volume of clients or service requests means that savings were outstripped by new costs.

5.14 As the Council must deliver a balanced in year budget, unlike many partner agencies, this has meant us taking urgent action to reduce unnecessary expenditure in year in 2022-23. The Management team and Cabinet undertook “Survive to Thrive” budget sessions with two key focus areas – immediate efficiencies and tackling so called “wicked issues”.

5.15 **Immediate actions** included introducing a Council-wide Spending Review Panel which has avoided around £1.7m in cost to date, to review all agency staff and there were expert panels set up in both Children’s and Adults to review care packages and increases. But services also agreed over 150 proposals or actions to reduce spend, finance things differently or produce savings (on top of the original budget savings proposals) across the five key of efficiency and transformation themes as follows:

| Theme | Yr 2023-24 |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Buying & Commissioning | 162 |
| Charging and Income | 4091 |
| Demand and Prevention | 4083 |
| Process and Policy | 814 |
| Redesign & Reorganisation | 1283 |
| Technology and Innovation | 359 |
| Grand Total | 10,792 |

5.16 Examples of the savings and efficiencies generated from this work included for example

- Renegotiated technology contracts, like the corporate telephony contracts saving us £0.5m
- The use of COVID funding to expand post hospital therapy and care and reduced hospital stays and risk of in hospital infection through supported discharges £0.5m
- Front door “conversation one” prevention services expansion in adults to reduce the escalation of care in a crisis and help people to return to independence £1m
- The use of Refugee grants to fund a range of WNC services supporting our refugee communities from Ukraine, Afghanistan and small boats and meet their wellbeing, educational and training needs,
- Consolidation and renegotiation of IT contracts £0.26m

- The configuration of print and data service to ensure that usage is optimised and appropriate £0.15m, and
 - Maximisation of income opportunities £0.2m
- 5.17 **Wicked Issues** – alongside immediate budget improvements and efficiencies we also undertook a series of workshops that look specifically at areas where the Council was facing significant demand and escalating costs and where a cross Council focus was the only way we could create longer term solutions that were better for residents, the Council and/or our finances. The work from these informed the budget setting process for 2023-24 and further detail is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.18 As we look to 2023-24, we will focus on the delivery of these initiatives and to complete the aggregation and transformation steps for services where this has not yet been completed and as shown in Appendix 2.

6. Issues and Choices

- 6.1 The scale of change undertaken in the first two years of West Northants Council has been significant. It has involved bringing together multiple and varied processes, service functions and finances across 3,000 staff, 800 systems, four main office buildings and thousands of inherited contracts. Our priority has remained protecting service continuity and always ensuring we are meet our duties while making changes, rationalising and transforming alongside business as usual.
- 6.2 We are not the first Council to face Local Government Reform. When compared with other LGR councils, we have progressed faster than some (for example in having a single Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system from day 1 and progressing a new staff Pay and Grading Structure within two years) and in other areas we have taken more time (for example in rationalising systems for specific services). Our journey has been particularly challenging as we transitioned alongside dealing with the challenges of Covid, the effects of which continue to affect all councils.
- 6.3 Importantly, all our key strategic changes have been supported by clear published strategies and set under the direction of the Corporate Plan, which set out for staff and stakeholders the direction of travel and priorities for change. This is important as successful councils have a clear link between their corporate plan, strategies, delivery and staff appraisals.
- 6.4 We have also made good progress on working with wider partners with a strong start on our Integrated Health and Care Partnership, which has attracted national interest and the exciting work on our Local Area Partnerships. Work has also been progressing across our Sport Excellence Plans with exciting growth plans underway across motorsport, rugby, cricket and other sports.
- 6.5 It should also be borne in mind that the progress made has been done against a backdrop of:
- The ongoing effects of Covid including sustained high demand, for example in temporary housing following family or household breakdowns and a loss of income, for example as parking income has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels due to more home working

- The impacts of vulnerable people demand (above all pre unitary and WNC 2021-22 budget predictions) including 760 more adults' customers, 42 more children in care and an increasing number of single homeless people
- Demographic growth with a 13% growth in our population based on the 2021 Census, twice the national average and significantly a 57% growth in the over 75s compared to a national rate of 34%
- Maintaining the performance standards set in the corporate framework, and
- The emerging cost of living and inflation crisis and effects of the war in Ukraine.

6.6 All of the above have required us to adjust and adapt our plans and priorities as we have progressed through our first two years.

7. Implications (including financial implications)

7.1 Resources and Financial

7.2 The report sets out the efficiencies that have been delivered from LGR, in the Councils first two years and being targeted in 2023-24 with further detail on how and where in the Appendices.

7.3 It should be noted that the 2023-24 budget proposals and detail will be published as part of the 2023-24 budget-setting process and Council's reports to be published for the Cabinet meeting of 20 December 2022.

7.4 Legal

7.5 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals as the recommendations are only to note.

7.6 Risk

7.7 There are no specific and significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report as the recommendations are only to note.

7.8 Consultation

7.9 The 2023-24 budget proposals and detail will be published as part of the 2023-24 budget-setting process reports to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 20 December 2022 and will then be subject to public consultation. All the strategies referenced have been developed with stakeholders.

7.10 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

7.11 Not applicable.

7.12 **Climate Impact**

7.13 The proposals set out under the “wicked issues” Ways of working, utilities & operating costs in section 4 of the Appendix 1 Report highlight a number of proposals and plans that will support our goals to be more sustainable and deliver our carbon neutrality aims.

7.14 **Community Impact**

7.15 The Councils operating model design principles, property plans, work with health and voluntary sector partners in our ICS (integrated Care system) and LAPs (local area partnerships) highlight a number of proposals and plans that have and will continue to support positive outcomes for communities. We will increasingly work with communities and partners to address the issues that are pertinent to them and especially where these issues are leading to inequalities across the wide determinants of health.

7.16 **Communications**

7.17 The 2023-24 budget proposals and detail has been published as part of the 2023-24 draft budget and Council’s reports for the Cabinet meeting on 20 December 2022. Public consultation on the proposals will be supported by a communications and engagement activity plan to inform and engage the public and other stakeholders on the proposals.

8. Background Papers

8.1 None

This page is intentionally left blank

West Northants Council – the transformation journey so far

1. Introduction

This report provides an update on how West Northants Council has progressed and delivered against the following key areas:

- The finalisation of the West Northants Council (WNC) operating model
- Transformation progress across Council services to date and planned next year
- Progress, against the efficiencies and improvements promised from LGR,
- Efficiencies & improvements generated in 2022-23
- Efficiencies & improvements planned for 2023-24, and
- Progress on the disaggregation of services from North Northants Council.

The scale of change undertaken in the first two years of West Northants Council has been significant. It has involved bringing together multiple and varied processes, service functions and finances across 3,000 staff, 800 systems, four main office buildings and thousands of inherited contracts. Our priority has remained protecting service continuity and always ensuring we are meet our duties while making changes, rationalising and transforming alongside business as usual.

Importantly, all our key strategic changes have been supported by clear published strategies underpinning the overall direction of the Corporate Plan, which set out our direction of travel and priorities for change. Having this clarity is important as successful Councils have a clear link between their corporate plan, strategies, delivery and staff appraisals.

We have made good progress to in partnership working, with a strong start on our Integrated Health and Care Partnership, which has attracted national interest and the exciting work on our Local Area Partnerships. Work has also been progressing across our Sport Excellence Plans with exciting growth plans underway across motorsport, rugby, cricket and other sports.

It should also be borne in mind that the progress made against a challenging backdrop of

- **The ongoing effects of Covid** including sustained high demand, for example in temporary housing following family or household breakdowns and a loss of income, for example as parking income has not recovered to pre pandemic levels due to more home working
- **High demand for services for our vulnerable residents** (above all pre unitary and WNC 2021-22 budget predictions) and we have seen 760 more adults' customers, 42 more children in care and increasing number of single homeless people in 2022-23,
- **Demographic growth** at 13% growth based on the 2021 census, which is twice the national average and significantly a 57% growth in the over 75s compared to a national rate of 34%,
- **Maintaining the service performance** standards set in the corporate framework, and
- The emerging **cost of living and inflation crisis** and effects of the war in Ukraine.

All of the above have meant our plans and priorities have had to be adjusted and adapted as we have progressed through our first two years.

2. Our Vision, Operating Model and Transformation Progress

The Council's vision is to **make West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive**. This was a vision agreed with a range of stakeholders including the public, members staff and partners and set out in our corporate plan of June 2021.

On 25th August 2020 the West Northamptonshire Shadow Council agreed a blueprint for future Council services – this set out how the Council would operate on day one when the predecessor Councils were dissolved, and staff and functions were brought together. The priority and focus of that initial blueprint and suggested operating model was ensure all services operated effectively on day 1. This included making sure that several critical or new IT systems were in place and that front line services could operate unaffected by the organisational changes.

It was recognised at the time, that because of the pandemic and challenges preceding vesting day, we were not able to exploit all the opportunities presented by having a single tier Council for day 1. Instead, the detailed blueprints published in September 2020, and agreed by the shadow council, set out a roadmap for future transformation opportunities and actions to be delivered by the new councils. We knew too that during that first year we would need to stabilise services, our workforce and complete significant work to split the fifty services shared on day 1 with North Northants in order to build our new complete council.

Stabilisation took a long time given the breadth, scale and complexity of the systems and processes WNC inherited. This dictated the pace and progress we could make towards our final future operating model for a transformed Council. There were many years of records (often paper), budgets and decisions that had to be collated and verified to both close of the predecessor Councils accounts and verify the base budgets for WNC. But strategic work also continued in parallel to stabilisation to ensure that WNC had clear plans in terms of our priorities, our people, our assets and our future delivery model. These plans and strategies include:

- **WNC Corporate Plan** - Setting out a clear vision and set of Council priorities which we would work towards and inform service delivery - this was done in our WNC Corporate Plan published 8th June 2021.
- **WNC Customer Experience Strategy** - Setting out the principles of how we would support and deliver services for our customers to meet their needs effectively and efficiently. We published our initial Customer Service Strategy in October 2020 and our Customer Experience Strategy in August 2022.
- **WNC Anti-Poverty Strategy** - Setting out our plans to address poverty in all its forms and having agreed an action plan and priorities with a cross party group we published our Anti-Poverty Strategy in April 2022.

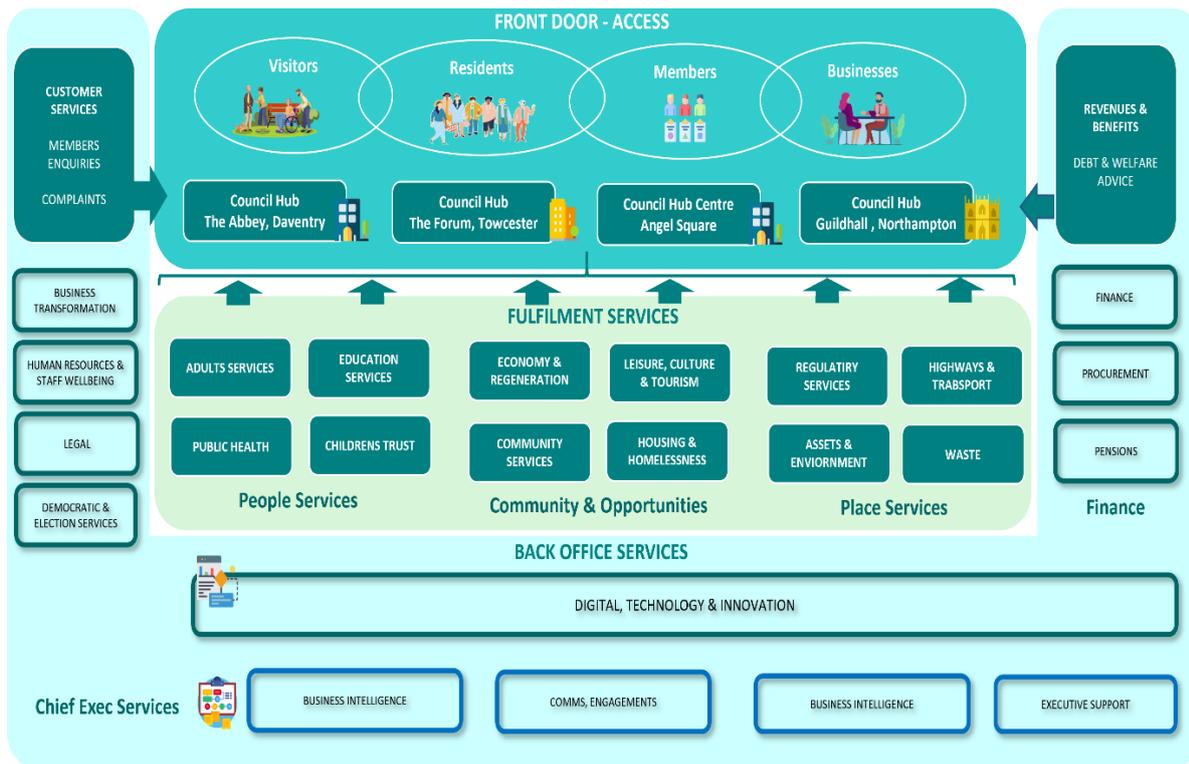
- **WNC People Strategy** - workforce and people strategy, this was particularly important post pandemic and after significant changes in the job market and recruitment across the UK – The WNC People Strategy was published in February 2022.
- **Digital, Technology and Innovation Strategy** – setting out how IT would enable change and transform how we operated, how we might automate and our plan to create an IT estate to support our new ways of working – Our Digital, Technology and Innovation (DTI) Strategy was published in July 2022.
- **Housing Strategy** - published in September 2022 setting out how we would address our corporate priorities to deliver homes people need and can afford, Improve the quality, standard and safety of homes, support residents to live healthy, safe, independent and active lives and Support thriving and sustainable communities.
- **West Northamptonshire Sustainability 2030** - in September 2021 our sustainability strategy agreed with cross party stakeholders was set out. This included a new collective purpose to enable and protect the environmental, economic, and social sustainability for all residents, businesses, communities and wider society.
- **Procurement Social Value Policy** – our policy is now in place with monitoring ensuring that our buying power is out to good effect in the supply chain and contributing to community value and sustainability aims, and
- **Public Health Outcomes Framework** – a Population Health and prevention plan for Public health in order to support the wider determinants of health and the new outcomes framework for the Integrated Care System (ICS) published in November 2022.

Operating Model

The 2020 blueprint draft operating model, represented the way we hoped to operate in future across three core areas:

- **Customer services & our front door** – where and how we interact with our customers
- **Fulfilment and back-office services** – how we support internal and external transactions across people, places and our legal duties, and
- **Enabling & back office services** – the underpinning back-office support services and infrastructure to keep the Council running and performing its business.

Our original blueprint has been updated to reflect our planned future operating model and taking into account the principles and aspirations of the strategies above. The updated model is shown below:



The operating model remains largely unchanged in its core design and at its heart it retains the following key design principles:

- **We will provide a front door that supports multiple channels of access** but maintains a physical presence in community hubs that supports face to face multi services local access for residents and business where they need support, advice or assistance during a crisis or life event.
- **We will adopt a deep front door where appropriate** - The customer services front door will be as deep as possible absorbing the customer interface, complaints and enquiries of all service areas where the customer services team can offer appropriate advice, information or complete transactions through multi-skilled staff in a more efficient, resilient and allow back office technical experts to deal with processing the more expert and complex transactions.
- **We will operate a flexible working model** with staff supported to work in the most appropriate setting for their services and customers with the ability to work remotely, drop down in any office or use collaboration space.
- **We will operate a hub and spoke model for fulfilment services** with fixed (back office) services based in head offices where their systems or team working requires on site present, but with representatives working in community hubs or in the field where they interact with customers, residents, or businesses.
- **We will put in place the systems and digital solutions** that enable efficient processing, a single view of customers and make processing requests or finding information easier. This includes a refreshed and accessible website and all the legacy councils sites

being switched off by April 23 and a single internal portal for all employee queries, requests and transactions for HR/Payroll, IT and finance.

- **Our asset base will be sized to support our ways of working and sustainability principles** so that space and value for money is optimised and are carbon footprint is minimised, and
- **We will develop systems and shared intelligence** to help us make evidence-based decisions including the development of population health management data and Local Area Partnerships that help us identify where a local area has poor wider determinants of health which we can address through neighbourhood partnerships and devolved budgets.

The development of our front door has been a key focus of transformation and our demand has changed. We developed our thinking having engaged with a range of stakeholders on what they wanted and needed from our customer services, and this was set out in our Customer Experience Strategy published in August 2022

The strategy set out the aims of our future way of working and aims to be quick in reacting to needs, but even more, be able to prevent some of these needs from occurring. It recognised that to do this we needed to be flexible in how we work, and by focusing our limited resources where they are most needed.

We know that most people in West Northants will only need to get in touch very rarely – to make an appointment for a birth registration, to apply for a school place or to make a planning application for a house extension. These people will, often, have access to a smart phone and be comfortable completing these requests online, at a time and from a place that's convenient to them. We want to make information and services available in this format as often as possible, so that you have choice and the power to act in your own interest.

At the other end of the spectrum, some of our residents are very vulnerable, have high needs and complex situations. These are the people we want to support in a more hands-on way, by being where they are (at the end of the phone, in our One Stop Shops or present in community hubs in their immediate neighbourhood).

Our employees should have the knowledge and access to systems which will allow them to meet people half-way and wrap around the right support at the right time. It may be that an elderly person becomes frailer and needs help accessing some support to live at home. We will ensure that not only we refer to the relevant services within and outside of the Council, but also that we make them aware of the benefits that may be entitled to and help them apply for them, discuss their housing options if appropriate, and also put them in touch with local voluntary or community groups which may be of interest.

Whether staff work for customer service or any other service in the council we want to ensure that we recruit, train and help develop people in line with our values and a commitment to put people at the heart of everything we do. To that end we have continued to transform services and are putting in new systems now so that we will have

- **Phone and IT systems** which can be used anywhere – due to go live April 23

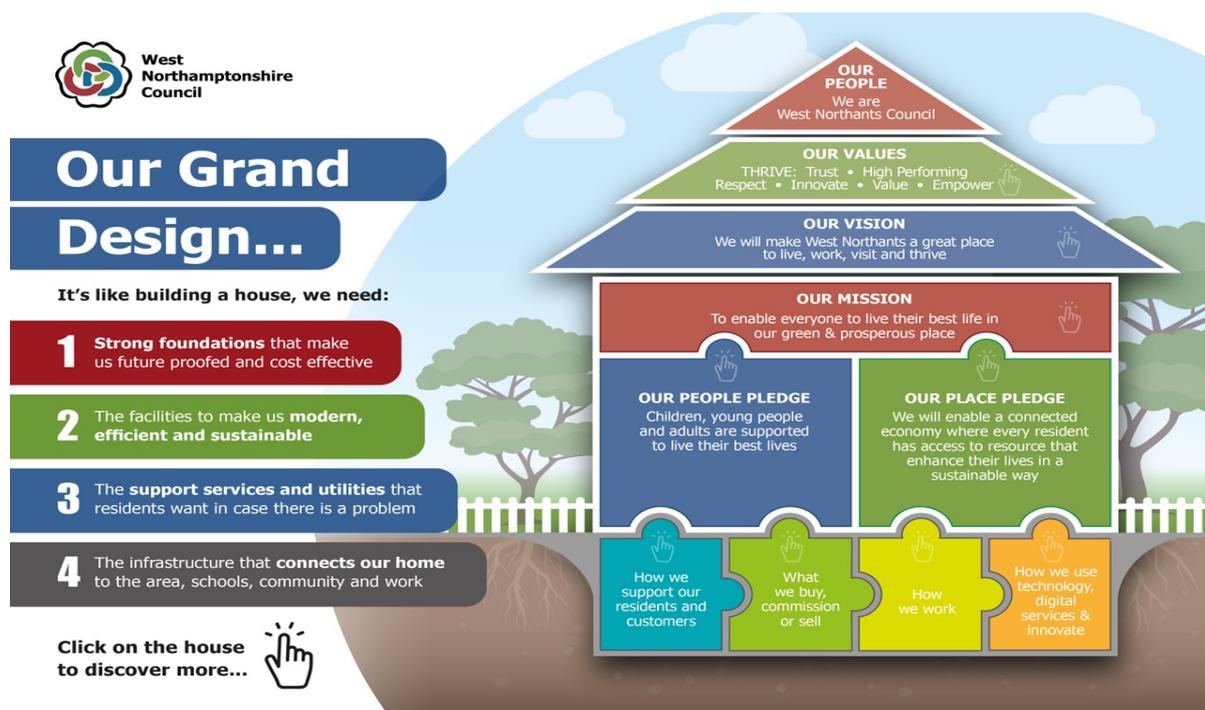
- **Access to information about the resident** and their open cases through a single Customer Experience System – due to go live November 23
- **Skills, knowledge and the power to resolve issues** they are equipped to resolve – all staff now receive corporate training and inductions, and
- **Support for all employees through self-service** and easy and fast access to their employment information – a new single employee help desk went live October 22.

WNC Transformation progress

While there have been many challenges voiced about the pace, scale and progress of transformation across West Northants Council we have made significant progress in our plans. We have sought quick wins where possible, restructuring to reduce headcount and put in place new leadership, consolidating contracts, systems and functions and bringing services together to resolve shared “wicked issues” as a single tier council. But lasting and successful post LGR transformation change requires a best practice stepped approach of stabilising, setting vision and priorities, restructuring, consolidating, transforming and optimising. Without strong foundations like this service continuity, our workforce and performance would be at risk, especially in times of significant demand challenges.

Each step towards transformation has also required the enabling “infrastructure” to bring services together and support from Human Resources, IT systems, transformation, property services and in some cases procurement. We have progressed well with a complex set of services and the table in Appendix 2 provides an “at a glance” progress heat map that demonstrates the progress made in each service against the key steps towards transformation.

Our transformation deliverables were set out in our West Northants Grand Design published in January 2022.



It was clear that we needed to build a strong foundation for change with clear strategies and action plans. But it also detailed the outcomes and deliverables we committed to deliver to fulfil our corporate plan and transform. We have made substantial progress against those outcomes and deliverables and in our transformation journey and this is reflected in the updates set out in Appendix 3 to this document.

West Northants Property Plan

Under the theme of redesign and reorganisation, the plan for our buildings and service delivery locations has been updated based on our operating model principles and particularly our agreed ways of working. We have taken time to ensure that all services understood their workforce profile (in terms of how people needed to work and the staff that each service had in each workstyle category: fixed, mobile, and field workers), the office or space needs and most importantly where they needed to operate to meet the current and future needs of their customers or collaborate with other services or agencies. This has included thinking about where we can co-locate with partners (and gain a rental income) to support a collaborative one public estate approach that helps residents to get the help they need in one place.

The Council also committed to review its property base to ensure it was right sized for a unitary Council and operated in the most efficient way into account all of the above. The rationalisation of office facilities was identified from the outset as a likely efficiency of LGR and savings were included in the Council's first budget on that basis. Under our plans we will save £500k a year initially, rising to £750k a year by the end of 2023.

We took several steps before finalising our property plan. This included:

- Reviewing buildings for best use and space
- Monitoring occupancy levels of our core buildings
- Working with services to understand future space and storage requirements
- Assessing the new IT requirements to support a new way of hybrid working
- Introducing worker types across the organisation: Flexible, Part flexible, Field/operational and Fixed

The key design elements of our property strategy and ways of working were:

- To ensure that our core buildings are used in the most efficient and effective way, creating team zones for services
- To reduce our carbon footprint to assist our goal of being net neutral by 2030
- To minimise the disruption to services but completing the moves for staff and teams from their existing locations to their future destination by the end of 2023
- To ensure staff are equipped to work in line with their worker profile and enabled to operate out of any office in our estate, and.
- Undertake consultation with unions and affected staff to agree how we accommodate any specific needs, effects on cost or travel.

The Council's main office locations will now be at the Guildhall and One Angel Square in Northampton.

One Angel Square

- People directorate
- Corporate services except Legal and Democratic
- Revenues and Benefits
- Children's Trust
- Other partners

The Guildhall

- The Executive Leadership Team
- Chief Executive's Office
- Legal and Democratic Services
- Place, including Communities and Opportunities, except Planning
- Finance teams, except Revenues and Benefits (after OAS partial move)

We will also have locality hubs at The Forum, Towcester, The Abbey Centre, Daventry and The Guildhall. A locality hub is a multipurpose centre, that provides a range of services to the local community to which we serve. West Northamptonshire's locality hubs will include a one-stop shop for customers to engage with these services. The hubs will include the following services

Members of staff from the following teams (with colleagues from the Children's Trust) will work in the locality hubs to support our communities:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Customer Services | ▪ Regulatory Services |
| ▪ Revenue and Benefits | ▪ Registrations |
| ▪ Housing Options | ▪ Adults Locality team |
| | ▪ Facilities and DTI |

The plans specifically by site are set out below

Lodge Road – will close by the end of March 2023 and the Council is currently in discussions in relation to the potential disposal/sale or rent of the building.

The Abbey will become our Daventry locality hub after a short period of renovations to ensure the building can support its new occupants, services and their needs - It is expected that the three voluntary and community sector groups which have space in the Abbey will continue to do so, working alongside WNC staff, many of whom have allied roles.

The Forum will become the locality hub for the Towcester and South Northants area and also the main base for our Planning Team. The Planning move is one of our priorities. We are working to move this team swiftly, subject to staff consultation and all IT requirements being met.

The Guildhall will continue to be the locality hub in Northampton - It will also act as the main office base for many of our teams, alongside well established VCSE presence, as outlined earlier.

One Angel Square will become the main base for the People Directorate and partnerships. It is anticipated that the Children's Trust will also remain there. However, as outlined previously, both Adults and the Children's Trust will have locality teams in the hubs. We are working with related organisations to secure, if possible, their presence alongside the Adults and Children's teams. This will support joint working, especially in care-related activities and

will also reduce WNC’s costs for Angel Square. One Angel Square will also accommodate most of the Revenues and Benefits, and Customer Services teams, including the corporate call centre, DTI, and HR

The full detailed office and desk plans are almost completed and will be published once shared with unions and staff, to show the proposed plans for each of the four buildings.

County Hall – update will be provided in a separate cabinet paper to be published in Spring 2023. While a disposal plan had been developed based on splitting off parts of the building, the current climate around investment returns and build costs has led us to believe that marketing the site may attract more investors and better returns. This needs to be tested and a market engagement exercise is now planned ahead of finalising the proposals for the site and bringing it to Cabinet.

3. Efficiencies & Savings

The LGR prospectuses of 2019 and 2020 also set out the potential for significant savings of £84m to be delivered as a result of the LGR plan. Of the £84m savings it was assumed that £51m would be delivered prior to vesting day both within the legacy Councils and through LGR transformation. When the two new Councils went live in April 2021 the remaining savings to be delivered of £35m were split between the two Councils. This included assumed savings like:

- the reduction in senior staff costs as the councils were amalgamated
- the rationalisation of buildings
- Contract consolidation savings, and
- Benefits from automations and efficiencies from new IT systems.

West Northants Council therefore had £17.50m left to be delivered over the first few years of the Council. The table below shows how West Northants has delivered and exceeded these targets for efficiency:

| West Northants Created 1 April 2021 | | | |
|--|---------|----------------|--|
| West Northants remaining savings delivery target | | 17,530 | Assumed a 50% split of the remaining savings target for West Northants |
| Transformation savings delivered in 2021-22 | -6,120 | | 2021-22 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation saving delivered in 2022-23 | -6,409 | | 2022-23 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2023-24 | -13,905 | | 2023-24 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2024-25 | -5,494 | | 2024-25 transformation related budget proposals |
| Transformation savings anticipated in 2025-26 | -2,075 | | 2025-26 transformation related budget proposals |
| | | -34,003 | |
| Transformation savings in excess of WNC inherited target | | -16,473 | |

Despite the challenges we have faced in terms of legacy financial pressures uncovered in our first year, the need to stabilise services, the mounting demand pressures and inflation that followed in 2022-23 and the challenges set to continue into 2023-24, we have continued to deliver efficiencies over and above those assumed in LGR.

We have adopted consistent themes approach to tracking out savings which help us ensure we consistent in our thinking and how we identify short, medium and long-term savings and that we are driving best practice. These themes are shown below

| Theme | Narrative |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Redesign & Reorganisation | Service redesign or aggregation post LGR – opportunities to reduce staffing, delayer structures or change the model of who delivers what services, where and how; are the spans of control reasonable? Can we reduce headcount by sharing work or being co-located. Can we reduce our footprint and operating costs. |
| Demand and Prevention | We cannot change our demographics, but we can influence the likelihood of people coming to us, how quickly their needs escalate and how we react to them and how long they stay independent. Where can we invest one off or Public Health grant in prevention to reduce or slow demand or reduce costs? |
| Buying & Commissioning | Could we buy things differently or combine legacy contracts to get better economies of scale? Can we seek help from the market to help us reduce need, reshape the offer and look at when it makes sense to provide services ourselves In house or outsource or partner? |
| Charging and Income | How do our fees compare and benchmark? Is there an opportunity to increase fees, generate new income streams, harmonise legacy charging or earn income from fees for services, asset use or commercial propositions? Are there external funding or grants we could access or should use? |
| Technology and Innovation | Where could we reduce operating costs through systems, digital innovation or automating. Are there examples from other councils making savings that we could duplicate? Can we consolidate systems or services and become more cost effective or provide services to others. Many of these initiatives will be delivered by DTI (Digital, Technology and Innovation services) but the benefits will be realised within the services they support |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Process and Policy | Where could we do things differently to create operational efficiency e.g., can we centralise processes in customer services at a reduced cost because they can use more generic trained advisors? Are there policies that give us the discretion to deliver in different ways or more efficiently? are we experiencing demand failure anywhere that we can improve. are there national policies that allow us to capitalise costs or use grants? |
|---------------------------|---|

We have delivered significant transformation and wider efficiencies across these themes in our first years and the scale of these is set out below.

| Theme | Narrative | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | Savings |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Redesign & Reorganisation | Service redesign or aggregation post LGR – opportunities to reduce staffing, delayer structures or change the model of who delivers what services, where and how; are the spans of control reasonable? Can we reduce headcount by sharing work or being co-located. Can we reduce our footprint and operating costs. | £830,000 | £2,716,000 | £13,890,000 | £17,436,000 |
| Demand and Prevention | We cannot change our demographics but we can influence the likelihood of people coming to us, how quickly their needs escalate and how we react to them and how long they stay independent. Where can we invest one off or Public Health grant in prevention to reduce or slow demand or reduce costs? | £3,744,000 | £1,150,000 | £2,132,000 | £7,026,000 |
| Buying & Commissioning | Could we buy things differently or combine legacy contracts to get better economies of scale? Can we seek help from the market to help us reduce need, reshape the offer and look at when it makes sense to provide services ourselves In house or outsource or partner? | £1,300,000 | £1,803,000 | £425,000 | £3,528,000 |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Charging and Income | How do our fees compare and benchmark? Is there an opportunity to increase fees, generate new income streams, harmonise legacy charging or earn income from fees for services, asset use or commercial propositions? Are there external funding or grants we could access or should use? | £399,000 | £7,975,000 | £5,409,300 | £13,783,300 |
| Technology and Innovation | Where could we reduce operating costs through systems, digital innovation or automating. Are there examples from other councils making savings that we could duplicate? Can we consolidate systems or services and become more cost effective or provide services to others | £71,000 | £189,000 | £1,050,000 | £1,310,000 |
| Process and Policy | Where could we do things differently to create operational efficiency e.g., can we centralise processes in customer services at a reduced cost because they can use more generic trained advisors? Are there policies that give us the discretion to deliver in different ways or more efficiently? are we experiencing demand failure anywhere that we can improve. are there national policies that allow us to capitalise costs or use grants? | £263,000 | £106,000 | £1,881,930 | £2,250,930 |
| | | £6,607,000 | £13,939,000 | *£24,778,230 | £45,334,230 |

* Note: Reconciliation to draft budget proposals:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Budget Report | -35,621 |
| Less: | |
| Centrally controlled proposals | 5,563 |
| Technical adjustment proposals | 5,270 |

-24,788

Members will be aware the 2022-23 has been a particularly challenging year for demand, with the cost-of-living crisis and as a result of pressures on inflation and due to the war in Ukraine. This pressure meant that some savings could not be delivered in full during 2022-23, where the volume of clients or service requests means that savings were outstripped by new costs.

As the Council must deliver a balanced in year budget, unlike many partner agencies, this has meant us taking urgent action to reduce unnecessary expenditure in year in 2022-23. The Management team and Cabinet undertook “Survive to Thrive” budget sessions with two key focus areas – immediate efficiencies and tackling so called “wicked issues”.

Immediate actions included introducing a Council-wide Spending Review Panel which has avoided around £1.7m in cost to date, to review all agency staff and there were expert panels set up in both Children’s and Adults to review care packages and increases. But services also agreed over 150 proposals or actions to reduce spend and produce savings (on top of the original budget savings proposals) across the five key of efficiency and transformation themes as follows:

| Theme | Yr 2023-24 |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Buying & Commissioning | 162 |
| Charging and Income | 4091 |
| Demand and Prevention | 4083 |
| Process and Policy | 814 |
| Redesign & Reorganisation | 1283 |
| Technology and Innovation | 359 |
| Grand Total | 10,792 |

Wicked Issues – alongside immediate budget improvements and efficiencies we also undertook a series of workshops that look specifically at areas where the Council was facing significant demand and escalating costs and where a cross Council focus was the only way could create longer term solutions that were better for residents, the Council and/or our finances. The work from these informed the budget setting process for 2023-24 and further detail is set out in Appendix 1.

As we look to 2023-24, we will focus on the delivery of these initiatives and to complete the aggregation and transformation steps for services where this has not yet been completed and as shown in Appendix 2.

The wicked issues sessions are going to be a key transformation focus for the remainder of this year and next with a range of strategic projects, changing policies and optimisation looking to drive long term improvements and efficiencies. A short summary of the kind of projects being undertaken in each area is shown below:

Wicked Issue 1 - Adults Demand and Optimisation

Key and shared challenges included residual Covid pressure, the increased demand from hospitals and elderly cohort and escalating learning disability costs, the impacts of disaggregation in

disproportionate clients that now sit in west Northants Adults, the continued challenges of the use of the north based Specialist Care Centre's. From a commissioning perspective increasing provider costs and Social Care Reform.

Projects commence include:

Supported living developments – we are now working with assets and property services to actively develop new sites that support respite care and step-down care and reduce the reliance on costly contracts

Service optimisation – with in-house service buildings being unfit for today's use and our clients needs and requiring significant investment we are working on a full business case with specialist advisors for the development of new modern facility that can support more varied and complex client

Dom care contract & Electronic call monitoring – we will be retendering our Domiciliary care contract and implementing call monitoring that ensures care is provided, provides quality assurance and ensures we are paying accurately for services delivered. The new contract and commissioning approach will also lead to a reduction of spot purchase/ off contract.

Transitions cases – while we work well with childrens and have early joint planning for disabled children we still face challenges in looked after children and turning 18s not known to childrens but with complex needs when coming to adults. We are doing more to identify eligible clients early and to ensure a strengths-based approach to managing the pathway to adulthood

Increased prevention – LAP/Health inequalities – we are now working with public health, health, the VCS and parish and town councils to increase our community and preventative offers and reduce the escalation into formal care

New Systems to automate – we are progressing new systems for online eligibility assessments and self-assessments and a new case management system. This will include an system that will allow residents to check their eligibility for benefits and financial assistance an reduce their liability for care charges.

Wicked Issue 2 - Children's complex and high cost placements

Key challenges for the trust include National challenges on demand and the availability for placements and as a result the increased cost of securing private placements. This is particularly acute with complex and emergency placements. There is also the only reliance on Fostering Agencies rather than in house foster families

Projects commenced include:

Development of in-house placement and accommodation offers – we are now working with assets and property, housing and the university services to actively develop new sites that support emergency care placements, complex placements and post 16 care leavers and reduce our reliance on expensive and often isolated private accommodation.

Valuing Care - Valuing Care is an approach that seeks to better understand the specific needs of children in care, to ensure provision and spend is better aligned to need and focused on how children's needs change over time. The programme has demonstrated in other areas that the current focus for placements for children in care is often 'deficit based' and reactive, leading to containment of needs, out of area placements and a reluctant requirement for unregistered provision. This can result in no clear correlation between needs and spend. By better understanding the needs of children, local authorities have been able to improve support and sufficiency resulting in significant reductions in spend and demonstrable improvements in need

over time. When combined with a dedicated managed social work team alongside therapeutic intervention and proactive commissioning our Valuing Care Plus programme has significant potential to deliver better outcomes for our children in care at a more sustainable cost.

Foster friendly council - we are working with the Trust to create and implement a number of policies designed to promote fostering opportunities across our anchor institutions and develop our fostering support services so that in house carers feel better supported, get better consideration and we offer a better network of carers to draw on. This will improve outcomes whilst reducing costs.

Wicked Issue 3 - Front Door – deepening the front door

Failure demand & Siloed services - We have a number of services where failure demand is leading to technical experts and professionals having to spend time responding to standard enquiries or complaints and delaying case work.

Disjointed pathways – we have several entry points into the council and varied experiences for people accessing our services – we are looking to standardise, modernise and improve these and encourage self service where appropriate

Increase in complexity of cases – we have seen more complex emerging issues across our customer base with increasing challenges across employment, money, housing, mental health. We are looking to expand our offer with a single debt and advice offer and maintain our community hubs and customer service clinics to take advice and services to the people who need them.

Deeper front door and optimisation - We are working to establish what processes can be delivered from customer services with better and consistent outcomes and response times. This will be enabled by IT transformation underway including a single modernised telephony solution, a single CRM, process redesign and locality hubs all implemented in the first half of 2023. This will deliver financial efficiencies to WNC by moving customer contact from expensive back-office settings to the customer contact centre.

Revs and Bens Transformation – Building on the work which has already delivered £200k saving but further enabled by system rationalisation, process redesign and adoption of best practice

Wicked Issue 4 - Homelessness/ Single Vulnerable Adults

Statistics show that we have a significant issue with single homeless adults with 475 households in temporary accommodation and of these 222 are singles and 253 are in families. We have a higher percentage of single homeless households compared to other Councils nationally and many are vulnerable adults for example victims of domestic violence, carer leavers or people with drug and alcohol issues.

We know that these issues and housing are linked to poor mental health we are also facing a loss of subsidy due to lack of qualifying supported accommodation that has the appropriate wrap around services.

Temporary accommodation development – we are looking at the opportunities to secure more sites, to convert Council sites and developing feasibility studies for Pods/ modular units on council land based on best practice successful models elsewhere. This includes securing suitable care leavers post 18 accommodation to avoid the additional costs and dependencies created by childrens having to provide enhanced support when there is no viable housing solution.

Subsidy - Work between Revs and Bens, housing, adults and childrens is looking at the wrap around support services required to maximise subsidy cover but working to increase the quality of private offers and develop more in house solutions.

Housing Transformation – we are progressing a new single system, a single way of working to enable a strong culture and developing a programme of both demand and supply improvements, enabled by system rationalisation and adoption of best practice.

Wicked Issue 5 - School Transport

Policy – The total spend on contracts for school transport is in excess of £25m across Northamptonshire. The councils policies inherited from the County have not been updated since 2010-12 and as a result we are providing service over and above statutory entitlement, policies do not reflect best practice, changing demand and school arrangements with more academies and less maintained schools..

There is significant pressure arising from increased costs of operating transport services and levels of demand. Procurement process have also been open to manipulation and collusion & last-minute placements drive cost and issues in securing SEND transport cost effectively with the current annual timetables to agree plans and then secure the transport.

New System – will be live in January 2023 which will ensure that all drivers check in and out on picks ups, we improve and regularise compliance checks, we deploy better route optimisation and payments are accurate against fulfilled trips. It will also support more effective route procurement and management of contractors.

Policy – we have developed a new West Northants School Transport policy and we will be entering consultation with stakeholders early in 2023 about changes for the school policy from September 2023 school term start.

Independent travel training we will be working to improve travel options for SEN children and young people with a view to supporting independence in life situations and confidence in the use of buses and other transport and reduce reliance on single child transport where appropriate.

Personal Travel Budgets (PTBs) – we are reviewing the best practice model of PTBs as home to school transport policy creates a duty on councils to assist not provide transport and PTBs may provide an alternative way to use more modes of transport or pay for family transport where a pupil is eligible for support.

Wicked Issue 6 - Ways of working, utilities & operating costs

Too many buildings – with modern flexible working we have too many buildings and only require a third of our current desk space.

Prevailing cultures – the geographic basis of teams and committee encourages the prevailing identities of the old district and borough councils/County Council and reduces our opportunity to combine teams, processes and practices and create better economies of scale and reduced complexity

Utility costs – the national and international situation has driven significant inflation on utility costs and our buildings are not all efficient. This increases costs and the carbon footprint

Aggregation - We now have a corporate plan for Accommodation Rationalisation – with Lodge Road being the first building to close and plans published for the reduction of buildings, consolidation

and co-location of services and opening of community hubs to help customers access more key services and partners. This will also facilitating culture change and improve efficiency and will be underpinned by plans already under way to roll out technology to enhance productivity, support new ways of working and get services onto single systems.

Sustainability – we are now implementing more modern Heating and cooling systems, looking at more renewable energy sources and will be implementing LED lighting in the top ten buildings - contributing to sustainability and net zero

Solar – we are progressing smaller solar farms for implementation on our own buildings and working with an expert partner to develop a feasibility study for a larger solar farm.

4. Disaggregation of services form North Northants

Due to the impacts of Covid on the original LGR transformation plans a decision was made to focus on achieving a “safe and legal “transfer and the “must haves”. While this including completing transformation and splitting services into the two new unitary footprints where we could, we could not split all County Council services and 5,000 staff on day one. We therefore had to move to a shared service model across 50 Service areas or teams. While the budgets were split these shared services worked on one of three models:

- Host services – 34 services where one Council temporarily hosted the service on behalf of both councils until we could safely split based on securing the right staffing, systems or new contracts
- Lead services – 16 services where one council provided the delivery of services on a longer-term basis as there may be multiple organisations receiving services/sharing systems or contracts would not be economic to split until they come up for retender

Host services

The majority of host services have now been or are in the process of being split, with staff TUPEing to the relevant council and contracts, budgets and any assets split. As at the end of October 2022 12 services are still waiting to complete their disaggregation process as follows:

| Directorate | Name | Status | Comments |
|-------------------------|--|--------|--|
| People - Education | SEND (IASS) | Mar-23 | |
| People - Adults | Assistive Technology Service | Mar-24 | moved to align to new contract procurement |
| People - Adults | Visual Impairment Service | | Deferred until safe & legal & more staff trained - 2 staff only |
| People - Adults | Shared Lives | Mar-23 | |
| People - Adults | Adult Mental Health Practioner Service AMHPS | | Deferred until safe & legal - team of 7 - National shortage of trained staff |
| People - Adults | Libraries support services | | £90k additional cost to WNC to split - requested deferred |
| People - Adults | Personal Budgets (PBSS) | Mar-23 | |
| Corporate Services - HR | Learning and Development Phase 2 | Mar-23 | |
| Corporate Services - IT | Programme Team | Mar-23 | ICT discovery underway on wider service disaggregation |
| Corporate Services - IT | Strategy Team | Mar-23 | ICT discovery underway on wider service disaggregation |
| Corporate Services - IT | Digital Team | | £150k additional cost to WNC to split - requested deferred |
| Place | Household Waste Recycling Centres HWRC | Mar-23 | |

There have been challenges in delivering disaggregation across these services and because in some cases the split of services has led to the loss of economies of scale and the need to employ more staff at additional cost and spend more on contracts. This include the school's admission services, highways services (where savings had been assumed) and creation of separate Directors of Public Health. There have also been challenges in some areas in recruiting to the new roles created from the split and in turn maintaining performance as a result. Given these issues West Northants is currently reviewing some requested disaggregation's are halted where the benefits of any split do not justify the investment at a time of financial challenge, or any split would put a safe service at risk. These are shown above in red.

Lead Services

The 16 Lead services and their status is set out in the table below:

| Directorate | Name | Status | Comments |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| People - Adults | Adult Learning | No change | The EFSA contract is commissioned by DFE as a county wide one. |
| People - Adults | Public Health Intelligence and STP | No change | Team part of system plans for intelligence and population health unit |
| Place | Archives and Heritage incl PAS HER | No change | County wide team - 1 member of staff |
| Place | Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre NARC | No change | County wide team - 1 member of staff |
| Place | Minerals and Waste Planning | No change | County wide team - 1 member of staff |
| Place | Digital Infrastructure (Place and Economy) | No change | County wide team - 1 member of staff |
| Place | County Traveller Unit | No change | County wide team - 1 member of staff |
| Place | Street Lighting | No change | PFI contract county wide - await contract expiry |
| People - Childrens | Childrens Trust Intelligent Client Function | Under review | Childrens Trust contract requires variation to be agreed to split |
| People - Education | Virtual School | No change | County wide small team working across schools base with NCT |
| Corporate - legal | Coroner Service | No change | County wide function legally |
| Corporate Services - HR | Payroll and HR Transactions | No change | Part of old LGSS shared service contract/system with Milton Keynes, Cambridge CC, North Northants, NCT and WNC |
| Finance & Resources | Pensions | No change | As above |
| Finance & Resources | Accounts Payable and Receivable AP/AR | No change | As above |
| Corporate Services - IT | ICT Operations and Infrastructure | Under review | ICT discovery underway on wider service disaggregation likely to have significant cost to split |
| Corporate Services - IT | ICT Service Delivery (former NCC systems) | Under review | As above |

The majority of lead services are likely to remain as they are unless there is a change in legal or contract arrangements. One service area, DTI (Digital, Technology and Innovation) is part of ongoing discussions as North Northants are keen to progress the split of the service in order to progress sovereign digital strategies and technology priorities. However, this presents a number of key challenges for West Northants Council including:

- Business Systems Team - 19% of the DTI budget, this team supports and maintains the ERP system (covering HR, payroll and Finance Accounts receivable and accounts payable) across Milton Keynes Council, Cambridge CC, North Northants Council, Childrens Trust (NCT) and WNC – it is subject to separate contractual and governance arrangements. Splitting would require the agreement of all partners
- West Northants provides wider IT services to the Childrens Trust (NCT) under a support services contract and paid for through the children's service contract sum (contributed to by the two councils) – this relies on one council providing the service

and supporting projects for the trust and cannot be split without the risk of disruption and uncertainty for the trust. (North Northants lead on other areas of provision to the trust)

- The county council infrastructure and DTI teams were already very lean as a result of the period of austerity and intervention with some functions not having dedicated staff (for example the strategy team) but skills spread across a number of teams and roles.
- The IT infrastructure requires modernisation and while investment and transformation has started the split is likely to result in the need for significant additional investment to split infrastructure and systems and staff the new services, and
- The process of splitting the services is likely to take 18 months plus to complete and during this time there is a significant risk that the Councils transformation plans and priorities for things like new systems will be delayed while this is completed.

West and North Northants therefore agreed to jointly fund ICT discovery work and due diligence which would set out the potential plan, opportunities, risks and costs of such a split. This work is due to be completed in March 2023. Given the current financial pressures if there is a significant cost, West Northants Council will need to consider this investment against its other priorities and investment cases and in the context of any benefits or efficiencies that might offset that.

This page is intentionally left blank

APPENDIX 2 – - Update from Grand Design

People Services – Live your Best Life

Pledge: Children, Young People and Adults will be Supported to Live Their Best Lives

Aims

- Continue strength-based working
- Integrated Health & Care Teams & New models of care
- Improved health and care local community services to meet local need
- Greater use of telecare and telehealth to support people’s wellbeing in community
- Public Health outcome plans
- Develop information and advice offer
- Improving children and young people’s outcomes and education
- Creation of family hubs as source of support, advice and access to services
- Work with health to ensure children & young people have improved social, mental health and wellbeing
- Build Integrated Care System (ICS) Children & Young People delivery plans
- Improved and inclusive education services

Outcomes

- People remain independent for longer in their own homes
- Support is available to help people live healthy lives
- Health and Social Care services will be better joined up
- People feel connected and involved in their communities
- Vulnerable adults are supported to be safe

Adults Social Care, Hospital & Prevention, Health & Care Integration

Adults’ services have continued to embed strengths-based working across older people and learning-disabled services, while savings have been impacted by national policy around hospital discharge in COVID and 780 additional customers, the new model is helping us intervene earlier.

We have redesigned the reablement service operating model and will be doubling the number of hours of reablement we can deliver per hours from 500 to 1000. This will reduce the likelihood that people will require long term care and return them to independence earlier.

We have opened a new joint health and care intermediate care centre at Turn Furlong with 52 “Recovering independence beds”, jointly staffed by social care and NHFT nursing staff to create better flow from hospitals and provide increased bedded rehabilitation and reablement helping them return home without the need for long term care after a hospital stay.

Adults is implementing a new rostering system; a new financial assessment system including a welfare module and will be procuring a new social care system.

Our ICAN community Rapid Response team is meeting its 2-hour target for red rated calls in 80% of case and is now taking EMAS or 111 calls for non-injurious falls without having to send an ambulance. This saves patients from having to wait on the floor. This reduces pressures on the ambulance service and reduces the number of people conveyed to acute hospital. We have a 98% success rate for people being able to stay at home

ICAN has helped left shift demand, so more people are supported in the community, and we are delivering national programmes like Age Well with multidisciplinary teams undertaking welfare checks and care planning. Despite having 100 fewer beds and a return to pre COVID hospital demand, we have reduced hospital admissions by 183 per month and 390 per month lower than 2019 Growth Forecast. Hospital length of stays have also been reducing although we face challenges currently with onward home care

Digital developments include the rollout of remote monitoring for over 240 people in the community via telehealth solutions as part of our virtual ward programme and in five care homes that frequently admit residents to hospital. We now have live real time dashboards across all health and care pathways in hospitals allowing us to review queues, manage flow and make interventions. We will be expanding the service to remotely monitor 50 more patients across cardiac and Asthma pathways and remote monitoring rolled out to a further five care homes.

We have brought our adults call care service and telehealth monitoring nursing teams together to create the largest national remote monitoring hub and helping more people stay well in the community. The added nursing input means we are less likely to convey people to hospital.

Our Integrated Care System and Integrated Care Partnership are live. We have developed a model for community-based delivery (across health & care, VCS, town and Parish Councils, GPs and council services in nine Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) in West Northants. A national peer review identified our model as leading best practice.

Public Health & Wellbeing

We have published a cross-party agreed Anti-Poverty Strategy with clear actions around improving outcomes and helping people avoid going into poverty. This is informing the use of Household Support Fund allocations.

We have now agreed a system Outcomes framework and set of local health priorities driven by public health data to target areas of poor health outcomes and determinants of health including falls, school readiness, COPD and mental health.

We have developed area profiles for all nine of our LAPs showing health inequalities, needs, services, assets and community and VCS groups, so that we can target outcomes improvements with targeted investment in each area based on local need. Two Pioneer LAPs in South Northants & Daventry (with high rurality, elderly and isolation) and Northampton (which high deprivation, poverty, children in care, mental health issues) are live and using the profiles for targeted joint partner working with GPs to target health and wellbeing improvements.

Children's Trust

The Children's Trust has improved quality of social care practice and management oversight, which is helping to keep children safe, as evidenced in Ofsted visits and inspections, peer reviews and internal quality assurance. It now has more of our social worker posts are filled 15.8% social worker vacancies in June 2022 (England average 17%) compared with 22.28% in October 2019 and no unallocated cases.

The Trust has improved working with our partners and a stronger strategic approach to early help; improved early help assessment, step down process and timeliness of support

and has an embedded quality assurance framework working alongside practitioners which is 'improving children's experiences'.

The Children's service now has an Early Help service, Family Solutions, which is primarily a whole family approach edge of care service. Family Solutions focuses their resource to ensure that those at very high risk of coming into care or those who have just entered care get intensive support which rebuilds family relationships and ensures practical support is in place to meet the needs of the child/young person. This includes those at risk of family breakdown including concerns over abuse and / or neglect. It is exceeding its targets to:

- Prevent 50% of children referred to Family Solutions from coming into care; tracked after 12 months (currently 63%)
- Help reintegrate children in care with 35% of cases successfully transitioned and remaining at home for 12 months after closure (currently 48%)
- help children aged 16/17 who present as homeless to remain within their family home or family and friends network.
- See 70% of ALL young people and families having self-reported improvements from following a support period (currently 66% with 63% families staying together after 12 months).

Of the 79 children who avoided care, 24 were aged under 10 and 55 were teenagers. Assuming these children each avoided our lowest cost placement of an internal foster, the cost avoided would have been £100k for the under 10s and £3.3m for over 10s.

Education & SEND

We have published a SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) strategy for West Northamptonshire children with a clear improvement plan relating to processing EHCPs in the statutory timescale and increasing the provision of SEND places with increased inclusion via additional places in schools and a dedicated 250 place school built to help support those children with higher level needs.

Build work in schools is progressing with new places opening in November 22 and further units opening. The Department for Education (DFE) is currently considering bids for the new school build and facility operator and land has already been earmarked.

We have completed a SEND peer review to verify our improvement plans and we have a new SEND accountability board to drive the plans working with schools, parents and wider stakeholders.

Communities & Opportunities – *Thriving and Prosperous Communities*

Pledge: We will develop strong inclusive communities where residents and businesses prosper and grow

| Aims | Outcomes |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Poverty Strategy • Community Safety Partnership Strategy • Housing Strategy • Economic Development Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced poverty across our communities • Accommodation improved and available for local people • Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour is reduced |

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Education & Training • Reduced youth offending through early intervention • Sport and Leisure strategy • Strong public partnerships to drive safer communities and reduce crime • Increased health and wellbeing of Residents through access to housing, skills, education and employment • Support people to fulfil their potential • The right housing options, in the right place of the right quality for residents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More people engage in leisure and sport opportunities • Access to green spaces within 15 minutes of home! • Reduced Poverty • Skills Strategy in place • More skills based job training and qualifications • Thriving visitor economy with more visitors annually • Increased number of businesses operating • Increased range and number of jobs • Sustainable, accessible and affordable transport |
|---|--|

Housing and community services

We have published a cross-party agreed Anti-Poverty Strategy with clear actions around improving outcomes and helping people avoid going into poverty. This is informing the use of Household Support Fund allocations.

Our Community Safety Strategy has also been published and now have a West Northants Community Safety Partnership with partners embedded across West Northants.

We have published the new West Northants Housing strategy and while build programmes have been affected by COVID, supply chain and inflation issues we have now opened several new schemes including Beaumont House, Oaktree Rise, a specialist health and care learning disability best practice hub and spoke supported living model) and Murray Lodge – the first mental Health and Acquired Brain Injury rehabilitation and supported living step down scheme in the county for 20 years.

We have implemented a new housing register module in Daventry– the same system used by the South Northants area housing register. This included a module for homelessness and housing advice, we currently have one integrated platform that is used by the entire housing options teams for homelessness applications and assessment. As part of drafting a new West Northants Housing Allocations Scheme, a new single housing system will also be procured, along with where the Allocations functions sits, at the moment we have two in-house team implementing the housing registers (rural Daventry and South Northants) and NPH implementing the Northampton scheme.

We now have housing officers in both hospitals and the Disabled Facilities Grant has been developed in our first two years. While we saw backlogs for adaptations in 2021-22, arising from a number of factors including increased demand from the Covid19 pandemic, and our residents seeking support after delaying work while they were shielding; we have taken significant steps to clear this and we are now utilising all of our budgets. We have also introduced some new elements of service including:

- A new Home Adaptation Policy, including discretionary assistance
- Introducing a fast-track process particularly to support hospital discharge, palliative care, and returning home from supported accommodation settings
- Continuing our care and repair service to support discharges

- Focusing on the new Home Adaptations Policy, we have introduced a range of new discretionary grants, enabled by the Regulatory Reform Order.

Libraries

We currently still share the central library support and book management service with the Library 21 stakeholder group support and have delayed the planned disaggregation. A Libraries hardware refresh will also commence in 2023.

We are developing the Libraries and communities “Warm spaces” initiative for winter 2022-23 and we currently have 67 registered venues to assist people facing fuel poverty. We also have eight food larders live and supporting communities with high food poverty challenges.

Leisure

We are developing a leisure strategy and have submitted a bid for a health and wellbeing hub in Weston Favell as a core levelling up bid which will include the development of leisure offer, social prescribing offer and integrated health and care hub in an area of high deprivation.

Economic Development & Regeneration

We have created an Economic Development prospectus that sets out the key facilities, capabilities and potential of West Northants which is used when talking to investors, architects and development partners. It includes how West Northants is already a centre for Advanced Motorsports, logistics and heritage but also how we plan to develop its profile as destination for visitors, young professionals and as a place of sporting excellence.

The Vulcan Works in Northampton has now opened, The development has created 68 lettable units, including office, studio and managed workshop space specifically aimed at start-ups and growing businesses within the creative industry. Units range from 10m2 to 100m2.

Southeast Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) facilitated a Local Growth Fund contribution of £6.3 million together with £3.06 million from the European Regional Development Fund. West Northamptonshire Council covered the remaining costs. It is hope that during its first ten years of operation, Vulcan Works will support up to 150 businesses across the county, creating around 500 jobs. A company called Oxford Innovations has been contracted to manage the space, deliver business expertise and raise the finance that entrepreneurs need for their businesses to thrive.

In October 2022 we were also announced as the winner in the East Midlands All Round Small Business Friendly category at the FSB Local Government Awards.

We continue to progress the Northampton Town master plan with the Market Square development starting in January 2023 and the Heritage Gateway and Four Waterside housing contractor procurement launch. We will also see the 24 Guildhall Road phase one - completion and 78 Derngate garden planting and glass installation. Significant works will

progress in 2023 including the progression of significant residential developments in Abington Street in the old BHS & M&S sites and Fish Street contractor procurement.

Place Services – Green and thriving Place

Pledge: West Northants a place that is distinctive, sustainable, ambitious, and well connected

Aims

- To create safe, connected, sustainable communities
- Delivery of our Sustainability Agenda
- Finances & resources used to deliver social value
- Delivery of key strategies to inform our growth: - The Local Transport Plan - The Climate Change Strategy
- Reduced crime from effective town centre and housing design
- Maximising grants and funding to support local community development
- Robust and successful partnership with Central Government
- Joined up planning that helps to shape places with balanced communities of housing, business & green spaces

Outcomes

- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Ensure best use of land
- Improved environmental quality
- Delivery a local transport plan
- Business Growth with greater GDP
- People feel safer as a result of effective town planning and education
- Regenerated and re-purposed town centres
- Deliver high quality neighbourhoods and towns that people are proud to live and work in

Transport & Highways

New contract for highways was procured with improved service levels and supported by a stronger client team within the council to ensure the contract is delivered in full and our partner delivers against its commitment.

We are working on a rural transport plan that will set out how we plan to ensure areas and people are connected and residents are not disadvantaged through isolation in rural areas.

Waste

New Green waste service launched South Northants harmonising arrangements for Garden waste and exceeding all expectations in income.

Assets, Facilities Management and Environment

We have implemented a new hybrid post service rolled out across all sites and operating common processes, reducing manual handling and ensuring that we have electronic versions of all correspondence delivered more promptly to services.

Energy – we have consolidated and negotiated our energy contracts, and this has allowed us to secure energy at a lower cost than national cap for energy for much of the year. We have modernised the heating and lighting in our buildings and reduced consumption. We are also developing plans for increased solar panel use across a range of sites and potentially for a council solar panel farm.

We have developed plans for a new crematorium and mortuary to support West Northants and nearby residents with modern services that will meet our needs now and into the future. We will provide a range of services for all faiths and events and will also generate income for the Council.

We have created a master plan for office rationalisation based on clear evidence and that will support of “ways of working” plan for a modern workforce, our customer services strategy for community hubs supporting local need and will deliver £500k of savings in year 1 rising to an annual saving of £750k across our estate.

Community and VCS assets – we have developed a policy statement that sets out how we will identify assets that could be used to support the voluntary sector or communities and how we will evaluate any requests or offers for their use.

Regulatory services have been fully restructured and now working effectively with Public Health to ensure joined-up public health protection and delivering increased enforcement activity working with trading standards, environmental services and housing to improve the standards and compliance of services and facilities that support our residents.

Planning and development has been a challenging area with different processes and policies in each legacy council and a lack of systems and automation. The service is progressing an improvement plan across its governance, processes, systems and decision making. It has also had a peer review which will result in further recommendations for change. The service is being consolidated into a single main base in Towcester with staff enabled through new IT and systems and supported with common policies and processes.

Customers – how we support customers

Pledge: By 2024, we will be regarded nationally as an exemplar council that is customer centric in what it does and how it behaves

Aims

- consistent, outstanding customer experience across the organisation,
- Use information and our understanding of customers and communities to profile demand and trends so that we can deliver intelligent services, adopting a proactive approach to achieving positive outcomes
- We will be flexible in the way we design services and systems so that we can respond to changes and opportunities, continuously streamlining customer pathways and increasing positive impact

Outcomes

- Same experience wherever and however you make contact
 - Easy to use & efficient self service
 - Improved processes & procedures that work for customers
 - Better service
 - Services designed with customers
 - Positive customer focussed culture where we always champion the customer
 - Staff do a professional and courteous job and are informative.
 - We retain staff
 - We have staff in each locality providing local services in communities
 - Less hand-offs and manual processes between front and back office
 - Customers don't have to repeat themselves
 - Modern multi-channel telephony and online services
- We use data to improve & shape services

Customer Service

Cross-training:

Following the publication of our Customer Strategy we have been taking a different approach to customer services. We are now being more proactive about resolving customer queries in full rather than just dealing with the specific service they call about.

Mail bot:

We introduced the mail bot in April 2021. The bot now identifies the area (NNC or WNC) and also the department in the majority of cases. In around 8-10% of cases it also correctly responds to a query, without the need for human intervention. As the AI learns more and more (the more interactions, the more learning), we will be able to deploy the developments to website navigation bots and also (dependent on telephony) phone bots. This is all underway.

Outreach surgeries:

We now have a regular presence in local libraries and community centres where we know there is a need either because of a) limited provision of public services, or b) deprivation. We also trial out surgeries when requested to do so by ward councillors. This has been a really transformational approach, as it allows us to be accessible by people who would otherwise face barriers to engagement.

Reverse channel shifting

Where it is proving more time consuming, costly and worse for the customer to engage with us via e-forms or email, (such as Housing applications) and where this results in multiple exchanges, follow ups and hand-offs, we have taken the decision to reverse the channel shift. We have found that a face to face appointment allows us to resolve the matter in full (verify, scan, upload documents) in significantly less time than an email interaction.

Website content management

We have completely changed the landing page and functionality of the website based on feedback from advisors in terms of how customers access information and the tasks they are looking to complete. The focus of the transition from the old websites has been not on lift and shift, but a re-organisation of content. The next step is to develop more 'decision trees' similar to the one for Cost of Living, which target the info to the specific circumstances of the customer.

New systems

New single telephony system due to go live in March 2023 and new single CRM (Customer Relationship Management) project is progressing, this will allow us employ customer services staff at any site or at home and still be able to access the same single system to manage customers from any area and overcome the limitations of the current separate systems and limited telephony capacity. This will overcome the current issues of separate satellite contact centres based on the old council boundaries, systems and staff capacity.

Commissioning: What we Buy, Commission or Sell

Pledge: To improve the quality and value achieved for our residents through pro-active commissioning, contracts and income generation

Aims

- Create a culture that empowers our commissioners to be pro-active and forward thinking.
- Commission the right service at the right time for the right people
- Develop strategic approach for contacting and commissioning services

Outcomes

- Upskill agencies to understand commissioning
- Pro-active commissioning
- Co-production: VSC, public and private sector and parish/towns
- Market development & market research
- Improved contract governance
- Baseline WNC commissioning
- Contract rationalisation

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase sustainability through Social, economic and environmental values • Aligned approach for setting Fees and Charges within WNC • Create a Market Development Strategy to achieve co-production including voluntary sector, private/public sector, parish and town councils & partner agencies • Define and develop commercial/income generation approach. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New opportunities to be developed with internal services and partners |
|--|---|

Corporate HR & Organisational Development - How we work
Pledge: To be a modern and effective employer of choice with a sector leading workforce that are valued, are productive and empowered to make a difference for local people

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of staff that feel that they can engage and are supported by their manager in getting the best from them and their teams • Increase productivity across roles by creating the right policy environment and giving staff the right tools and that increase is reflected in service performance • One organisation with high performing teams which role models our values and a continuous improvement culture which drives quality • All staff feel valued both in terms of pay and benefits but also by the organisation • Create a resilient workforce where staff feel that their health and wellbeing is being considered • Create a sustainable workforce where there is a clear plan to manage talent and progression. | <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are recruiting more talent • We are enabling staff to be successful • Staff have clear development pathways and progression possibilities • Better workforce forecasting, long term planning and monitoring • Worker Profiles in place with clear standard support packages • ICT Kit refresh aligned to what is needed • Improved space utilisation and more collaborative spaces. • Managers supported with data to do their jobs • We have good practice in place for managerial and staff spans of control • Effective performance dashboards/scorecards |
|--|---|

Pay and Grading
 One of the most complicated changes needed by councils after Local Government Reform is consolidating its pay and grading arrangements having inherited staff from different organisations with different approaches. This creates inconsistency, the risk of equal pay claims and makes it hard to set a clear career path and professional development journey for staff.

In many cases councils have taken years to implement this change because of its complexity. We have made significant progress in setting and agreeing a new set of West Northants Council terms and conditions for the 1000 plus staff who have joined the Council or moved into new roles following restructures. These have been agreed by the unions.

We have created a new pay and grading structure that removes the anomalies and range of roles, grades, pay levels and schemes and creates a new single structure with new role profiles, wider and equally spaced spinal points and offering staff more opportunity to progress and develop in a clear structure.

Culture & workforce

We have published a framework of values and behaviours that are now rolled out across our workforce and form part of our ongoing performance appraisal, staff recognition and recruitment plans.

We have undertaken a number of key staff surveys seeking views on what works well and what needs improvement, and these have resulted in action plans with regular “you said, we did” updates.

Flexible working

All staff have now been categorised by worker types and work has begun to equip them with the IT bundle appropriate to their working patterns and we have published a West Ways of Working policy to guide staff and teams about how to work and operate in the modernised environment.

Recruitment

A new recruitment system, The Recruitment Hub, went live in September 2022 and now provides managers with a more intuitive and simple system for all recruitment services.

Digital, Technology and Innovation

Pledge: To deliver data driven, automated and modern services which offer the best value for money whilst enabling the best quality service to our residents

Aims

- Drive digital process change to simplify processes for customers and staff
- Rationalise the technology architecture to ensure value for money
- Support the delivery of the technology requirements of the Transformation Priorities
- Drive a strategic corporate approach to maximising technology.

Outcomes

- Mechanisms and monitoring arrangements in place to find and deliver quick wins
- We are fixing pain points across the organisation that stop efficient working or better customer experience
- We have less contact from customers and staff complaining because we haven’t done something
- Ensuring that priorities and solutions emerging are achievable and in line with the corporate approach
- Digital projects are monitored and delivered to support corporate timelines
- We have a clear strategy for Digital, Technology and Innovation (DTI)
- We have a clear DTI implementation plan and subsequent prioritised pipeline of projects

Flexible and modern workforce

All staff have now been categorised by worker types and work has begun to equip them with the IT bundle appropriate to their working patterns and to allow them to “plug and play” in any main office where they can hot desk, book meeting rooms, print and sign on to corporate systems.

The IT refresh has begun based on the office rationalisation plan and we have installed a new encrypted national public sector wi-fi service that staff can use in any office with a .gov.uk or NHS domain. We have also installed a new WNC public wifi.

Website

Work continues to migrate all the legacy content from all the old Council sites and to improve the accessibility of the content so its customer friendly. The WNC website has

been named the joint-most accessible of all Council websites in the UK, scoring a perfect 100 out of 100. Accessibility is the practice of making your website usable by everyone - regardless of ability or disability - and achieving a 100% score is an incredible achievement which we share with only four other Councils nationwide. The score is measured by SilkTide, who each month sample 125 pages from local government websites and check them against accessibility criteria.

Corporate services transformation - the new Halo Shared Helpdesk went live on 10 October 2022. the Halo Shared Helpdesk is now a single portal for all staff to contact Finance Operations, Payroll Services, Business Systems, and WNC DTI in one place using common processes and simplifying the touchpoints for staff.

IT modernisation

We have commenced a best practice 8 step plan for our IT services:

1. Capability assessment - What capability does DTI have and need to deliver transformation?
2. Architecture audit – our applications are now all mapped and classified against national standards and frameworks
3. Business functions - We have mapped all the council business functions into the Local Government Functional Classification Scheme – this is the first half of rationalisation process.
4. Rationalisation priorities - Many of the biggest system rationalisations are underway already, but we will seek to identify the biggest remaining opportunities for rationalisation driven efficiencies by April 2023.
5. Three-year technology Roadmap – we will provide short term technology roadmaps for each directorate, mapping out key systems, dates, costs, timelines, contracts, and planning against capability by September 2023
6. Further efficiencies - investigate potential efficiencies from work beyond simple rationalisation, automating backend processes, integrating existing systems by June 2023
7. Longer term 5-10 year plan - Produce longer term plans for what an efficient, cost optimised WNC technology estate looks like in the 5-10 year window, on the basis of a rationalised technology estate, backed by automation, machine learning, and other labour saving/efficiency adding technologies. By April 2024

Alongside this we have commenced a review of the options for disaggregation of our IT Services from the North at their request. This is a complex piece of work to be complete by March 23 and involves the following key activities:

- Discovery findings shall be analysed including applications, databases, infrastructure and disaggregation costs. Impacts of the Risks, Issues, Interdependencies, Resources, Data shall also be collated.
- Stakeholder workshops will be held to identify how the Service Areas currently support W/N. And to extract their thoughts, ideas and opinions of Disaggregation approaches.
- An options paper will be published based on the discovery results, providing the costs, risks, dependencies etc. of each option and a preferred option given.

There could be significant cost and risk to our wider delivery plans and timescales if we have to split the services but options will include different models that may equally accelerate the pace and scale of digital and infrastructure transformation.

Finance and Resources

- Brought in an interim accountancy and finance structure from day 1 of vesting day
- Brought Revenues and Benefits in house from the previous three different operating models that we inherited and took a £200k saving out
- Are moving towards a harmonised Revenues and Benefits system which will deliver a further £369k of savings
- Have implemented a single BACS system
- Are implementing a single Income Management System
- Have successfully carried out a Procurement and Contract Management restructure
- Have only two sets of predecessor accounts left to close. There were 10 outstanding a week before vesting day
- Dismantled the ineffective Internal Audit Shared Service arrangement and brought the service in house from April 2022
- Have restructured the Pensions service to make it more effective
- Have seen improvements in debt collection, council tax collection and business rates collection

| Directorates | Vision & strategies set | Senior Restructure | Co-location | Service Staff restructure | New/Single IT Systems | Optimised Processes | Comments (in progress) |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| People Services | | | | | | | |
| Adults Social Care | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | New social care system procurement commencing. New on-line financial assessment tool and Rostering system live for Mar 23. * 3 small services AMHPs, PBSS & Sensory and still to disaggregate when safe |
| Hospital & Prevention | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | ICAN reduced Admissions and escalations and working to improve discharge flow. New dashboards in place. New case management system needed |
| Health & Care Integration | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | Integrated community teams, shared telehealth hub and new shared intermediate care centres. 2 LAP pioneer areas live |
| Public Health & Wellbeing | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | In progress | PH framework launched to determine evidence based investments |
| Childrens Trust | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | New Case Management System procurement started. Valuing Care transformation initiative to review high cost placement processes |
| Education & SEND | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | Send Strategy launched with plan to expand provision by 300 places. |
| Community and Opportunities | | | | | | | |
| Housing | Yes | Yes | Hub & spoke model | In progress | In progress | In progress | new housing system progressing to support common process and service restructure |
| Community services | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | Yes | |
| Libraries | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | disaggregation paused for central services |
| Leisure | In progress | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | N/A | |
| Economic Development | In progress | In progress | Yes | In progress | N/A | In progress | Economic development plan published - restructure progressing ED & Regen |
| Regeneration | In progress | In progress | Yes | Yes | N/A | In progress | As above |
| Visitor Economy | In progress | In progress | Yes | Yes | N/A | In progress | Work on sporting excellence progressing. Awaiting government publication on Destination Management Organisations |
| Place services | | | | | | | |
| Highways | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | In progress | New contract commenced September 22 |
| Transport | Ready for publication | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | New Homes to school system live Jan 23. Rural transport and home to school transport reviews progressing and plans/policies to be published for consultation |
| Waste Services | Ready for publication | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | In progress | New Waste strategy and consultation to be launched as contracts ending |
| Planning and Development | In progress | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | In progress | Planning peer review completed, improvement programme progressing, service co-located and new single planning system live for Dec 22 |
| Assets | Ready for publication | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | New single asset system in place and being populated. Processes part of policy review |
| Facilities | Ready for publication | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Regulatory Services | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | |
| Corporate Services | | | | | | | |
| Customer Services | Yes | Yes | Hub & spoke model | Yes | In progress | In progress | New single telephony system due to go live Mar23 and new single CRM project progressing. Looking to deepen the front door offer across services |
| DTI (Digital technology & innovation) | Yes | Yes | Hub & spoke model | Yes | In progress | In progress | Disaggregation Due diligence in hand, contract optimisation progressing. BCP & Cyber process work progressing |
| Legal | In progress | In progress | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | Progressing bringing Legal in house, new system and recruitment to new structure |
| Democratic | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | Yes | Yes | Dem services and elections service restructure progressing |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| Registration Services | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | new Ceremony system Live Autumn 22 |
| HR & OD | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | New recruitment system in place. New single Corp services help desk in place. |
| Learning and Development | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | In progress | Disaggregation progressing. Dedicated WNC system being implemented |
| Chief Executive Services | | | | | | | |
| Executive Support | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | Yes | |
| Communications | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| Business Intelligence | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | Yes | In progress | Working to split final functions and create dedicated WNC team & tools from April 23 |
| Sustainability Team | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | N/A | |
| Finance and Resources | | | | | | | |
| Revenues and Benefits | Yes | Yes | Hub & spoke model | Yes | In progress | In progress | Three different operating models brought into one single in-house team and savings delivered. New System procurement started. Processes improved with improved performance |
| Finance | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | In progress | Yes | New Income Management system live for Sep23 |
| Internal Audit and Risk Management | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Shared service team brought in house from 1 April 2022. |
| Procurement | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | New social value policy & portal in place |
| Pensions | Yes | N/A | Yes | N/A | Yes | Yes | Lead service |



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

**CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCE: COUNCILLOR
MALCOLM LONGLEY**

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Report Title | 2023-24 Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan |
| Report Author | Martin Henry, Executive Director (Finance) Martin.Henry@westnorthants.gov.uk |

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|--|---------------------|------------|
| West MO | Catherine Whitehead | 12/12/2022 |
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 12/12/2022 |
| Communications Lead/Head of Communications | Becky Hutson | 12/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

- Appendix A – Draft Revenue Budget and MTFP Summary
- Appendix B – Draft Budget Proposals
- Appendix C – Fees and Charges
- Appendix D – Draft Dedicated Schools Grant
- Appendix E – Draft Capital Programme

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report sets out the draft Budget 2023-24 and Medium Term Financial Plan for West Northamptonshire Council.

- 1.2 The Budget ensures the Council has a robustly resourced plan to deliver its duties, vision and priority objectives, and has aligned its resources appropriately following an assessment of risks, issues and opportunities using the latest available information.
- 1.3 This draft budget report includes the following financial plans
- Draft Revenue Budget 2023-24
 - Dedicated Schools Grant Budget 2023-24
 - Public Health Grant 2023-24
 - Medium Term Financial Plan to 2026-27
 - Capital Programme (for fully funded schemes) to 2026-27
- 1.4 This proposed draft budget commences the budget consultation process. It enables residents, businesses, local partners and other stakeholders to have the opportunity to review the budget proposals and financial plans, and provide feedback during the six week consultation period. This report will also be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to allow for their review, comment and exploration on any key areas of interest.
- 1.5 Details of the local government provisional financial settlement are expected to be released by Government close to the Cabinet meeting on the 20 December 2022, although the latest information suggests that it may be delivered just after the Cabinet meeting date. The draft budget report has been prepared on the basis of a set of funding assumptions and will be updated to reflect the local authority financial settlement for the final budget report with any changes to the funding assumptions highlighted within that report.
- 1.6 Cabinet will consider the final budget for 2023-24 on 13 February 2023 for recommendation to the full Council meeting on 22 February 2023, incorporating consideration of the budget consultation feedback, feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Local Government financial settlement and the latest financial position.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 West Northamptonshire Council provides a range of services to residents and businesses across the area including care to vulnerable adults and children, education, the collection and disposal of waste, household waste recycling, leisure and community wellbeing, highways, planning, economic development, collection of council tax and business rates, housing benefit, council tax support, housing and support for the homeless.
- 2.2 Our plans and budget proposals ensure that resources are prioritised and earmarked to provide continued support to the most vulnerable in our local community in the most cost-effective way possible, as well as support some of our ambition for place and the environment.

- 2.3 As the Council enters its third year, and continues to focus on organisational development and maturity, both global and national macro-economic conditions have had a significant impact on the cost of service delivery, not only within the current financial year, but also into 2023-24 and beyond.
- 2.4 It is important to note that the first year's 'provisional outturn' showed a very small underspend against the overall net budget of £326.6m which was a very encouraging start to the financial management of the new organisation.
- 2.5 When the budget was originally set for 2022-23 it was highlighted as a year for further financial 'stabilisation' as the organisation continued to understand and finalise the financial baselines that were inherited from the predecessor organisations and prepared budgets for its second year of operation.
- 2.6 However, at the time of setting the budget for 2022-23 the events that unfolded throughout the year – which have had a significant impact upon the finances of the authority – could not have been predicted.
- 2.7 The Council, along with all other local authorities up and down the country, are experiencing increasing cost and demand pressures driven by external factors beyond its control. These are:
- The Ukrainian war causing unpredictable global economic pressures.
 - Inflationary and cost of living pressures impacting on the cost of providing services across the whole organisation. With the Retail Price Index (RPI) standing at 14.2% and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) standing at 11.1% at the time of drafting this report. The highest level of inflation in over 40 years which has an impact on service provision across all of the services delivered by the Council.
 - Ongoing financial impact of COVID on demand and income allied with the withdrawal of significant COVID funds previously received, which mitigated these pressures.
 - Significant demand led and inflationary pressures within the Children's Trust.
 - Significant cost and demand led pressures within Home to School Transport.
 - Significant demand led pressures within Adult Social Care and ongoing placement cost pressures for care provision.
 - Cost of living pay award significantly greater than the amount included at the time of setting the budget.
- 2.8 These issues have caused significant financial pressure in the current financial year which are currently being managed and mitigated and the subject of an earlier report on this agenda. However, many of the effects and the care demand, when projected forward led to an extremely large budget deficit facing the authority and that needed to be addressed when the budget planning process commenced in June 2022.

- 2.9 These issues have resulted in a much higher budget requirement than would be required in times of more stable economic conditions and have significantly increased the challenge of delivering a balanced budget for 2022-23 as well as the level of financial risk and complexity within the Medium-Term Financial Planning process as we look ahead.
- 2.10 As a result of these external factors which were outside the control of the authority, a robust and detailed 2023-24 draft budget planning and challenge process was implemented focussing on all aspects of the Council's service operating model, with a specific focus on tackling ongoing cross cutting issues, maximising service efficiencies and income streams to ensure the Councils cost base can be maintained at an affordable level, whilst minimising the need for service reductions.
- 2.11 To help maintain and protect levels of service provision the draft budget includes a core average Council Tax increase of 2.99% in line with the maximum limit set by government, without triggering a local referendum. As well as utilising the allowable adult social care precept increase of 2% in full, to further invest in the increasing costs of providing these services and where we saw 800 (or 30%) increase in clients seeking help. The combined total resulting in a proposed increase of 4.99% on the average Council Tax calculated for the West Northamptonshire area.
- 2.12 The Council Tax increase and growth in properties will contribute around £15.4m per annum to be utilised to protect local service provision, and would represent an average Band D level of Council Tax for West Northamptonshire Council of £1,693.73 in 2023-24, equivalent to £32.57 per week. The average proposed increase on a Band D property across the area would be £80.50 or £1.55 per week. This Band D figure does not include the Council Tax for individual town and parish councils or the Council Tax set by the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

2023-24 Draft Revenue Budget Headlines

- 2.13 A draft revenue budget has been formulated in the context of challenging and unprecedented economic conditions, with the following key features;
- Provision of a balanced draft budget position.
 - Ensuring statutory duties can be met in spite of anticipated increases in demand, cost, complexity and government legislation.
 - A commitment to maximise service efficiencies in order to maintain and protect services as much as we possibly can with service efficiencies proposed which total £35.6m.
 - Fees and Charges increased to maintain and protect services across the organisation on services where residents and businesses have a choice about whether they wish to use that service or not.
 - Proposals formulated using evidence based forecasting, to ensure the anticipated cost of service delivery is based on data and a local management review.
 - A continuation of the move towards 'good practice' across services where, for example, under-utilised and inefficient facilities are replaced or closed making financial savings.

situations where the overall demand for the service can be accommodated in other similar facilities across the area. Taking this approach protects critical service provision across the area.

- A sustainable budget based on the best information we have available at the time of formulating the budget plans and where all expected and known liabilities are funded appropriately within the base budget.
- £47.3m of additional base budget growth which includes the increased demand for services encountered in this financial year and expected next year.
- A prudent budget, which continues to incorporate the use of a general contingency to mitigate against any unforeseen financial issues which proved imperative to be able to manage and reduce the financial pressures being encountered in the current (2022-23) financial year.
- Average Council Tax increase of 4.99%, £1.55 per week for a band D equivalent property, in line with the maximum increase permitted by government without the need for a referendum.

3. Recommendations

- a) Approves for consultation the 2023-24 Draft Budget, including
 - I. an estimated net revenue budget of £798.3m (£377.1m excluding Dedicated Schools Grant) as set out in Appendix A.
 - II. an average Band D Council tax of £1,693.73 for West Northamptonshire Council, which represents an average increase of 4.99%. (2.99% increase in 'core' Council Tax and 2% Adult Social Care Precept).
 - III. proposed Fees and Charges as detailed in Appendix C
 - IV. provisional dedicated schools grant budget of £421.2m as detailed in Appendix D
 - V. the draft Capital Programme additions as set out in Appendix E
- b) Sets the tax base for West Northamptonshire at 142,060.8, Band D equivalents, as set out in paragraph 6.67
- c) For the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG):
 - I. Notes the provisional allocations and planned usage of the DSG for 2023-24 pending the final DSG settlement, and
 - II. Following consultation with the Schools Forum, delegates authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services to determine the DSG 2023-24 schools funding formula, high needs funding arrangements and the Early Years Funding Formula in line with Department for Education guidance.

4. Reason for Recommendations

- 4.1 To ensure that the Council complies with its Constitution and all other relevant requirements in setting the budget for West Northamptonshire Council

5. Report Background

5.1 The 2023-24 budgets of West Northamptonshire Council will comprise the:

- General Fund revenue account
- Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded budget
- Public Health funded budget,
- Housing Revenue Account (though this is subject to a separate report)
- Capital Programme

5.2 The General Fund includes all revenue income and expenditure, including day to day running costs, financed from Council Tax, Business Rates, government grants and fees and charges, but excluding those related to the provision of council housing.

5.3 The DSG is the funding source for the day to day running of schools and early years provision, high needs support and other specific Education related costs.

5.4 The Public Health budget funds a range of local public health activities that aim to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the West Northamptonshire population and reduce inequalities in order to enable people to live healthy, happy and productive lives.

5.5 The Housing Revenue Account (considered in a separate report elsewhere on the agenda) includes all revenue expenditure and income on activities related to the Council's role as a housing landlord.

5.6 The Capital Programme includes all capital expenditure and income, including the acquisition, replacement and enhancement of assets financed from government grants, external contributions, revenue contributions, capital receipts and borrowing.

Corporate Plan

5.7 The Corporate Plan sets out the Council's priorities, and the way in which we will achieve our vision to make '*West Northamptonshire a great place to live, work, visit and thrive*'.

5.8 The plan is based upon the Council's six priorities:

1. **Green and Clean** - *Environment and Wellbeing*
2. **Improved Life Chances** – *Health, Social Care and Families*
3. **Connected Communities** – *Transport and Connectivity*

4. **Thriving Villages and Towns** – *Place shaping and homes*

5. **Economic Development** – *Growth and prosperity*

6. **Robust Resource Management** – *Transparency and financial probity*

5.9 The budget is aligned to the delivery of the Corporate Plan and the strategic principles set out below draw on the Corporate Plan priority to ensure robust resource management.

- a. The Council will set a balanced budget, which is stable and sustainable and fully reflects the levels of service and performance set out in the Council's Corporate Plan.
- b. Resources will be maximised through increases in Council tax for 2023-24 to the maximum allowable within referendum limits.
- c. Council Tax will be harmonised across the whole of West Northamptonshire by 2023/24.
- d. Income streams from fees and charges will be maximised through increases where appropriate after considering market conditions.
- e. External funding via grants and contributions will be sought where this supports the achievement of corporate priorities.
- f. Wherever possible, efficiencies will be delivered through service transformation and efficiency initiatives as set out in the Council's Transformation Strategy.
- g. Opportunities to invest in improved services will be explored. Any investment decisions will consider both capital and revenue implications, including whole life costs and income.
- h. Financial implications of decisions will be underpinned by a robust business case and risk assessment.
- i. Reserves will be maintained at a level that protects services to residents and Earmarked Reserves will be used for the purpose for which they were created.

National and Economic Context

5.10 The Autumn Statement was announced by the Chancellor on 17th November 2022, along with this, the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) published its economic and fiscal outlook which sets out their forecast to 2027-28.

5.11 The Autumn statement focussed on government priorities of stability, growth and public spending and set out the following policies to both support these principles and reduce debt as a share of GDP.

5.12 Within the Autumn Statement the Government published new fiscal rules in regards to public sector net debt which require net debt to be falling as a percentage of GDP and public sector net borrowing to be below 3% of GDP by the fifth year of the rolling forecast. These rules aim to ensure debt reduces over the medium term.

- 5.13 With the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on global energy prices, the cost of living crisis reducing household incomes, post pandemic economic recovery and national inflationary increases reaching a high of 11.1% (CPI) in November 2022, the OBR has confirmed that the economy has moved into recession in Q3 2022, with a forecast return to GDP growth in 2024.
- 5.14 Inflation rates are forecast to recover during 2023-24, with rates reducing more significantly from mid-2023. As a result of the energy price guarantee scheme, the impact of interest rates rises and other external factors placing less upward pressure on UK inflation, rates are predicted to fall over the next few years and is forecast at below 2% over the medium term (Monetary Policy Committee projection – Bank of England)
- 5.15 The Chancellor made a number of announcements on the future of Social Care funding with the government making available in 2023-24 £2.8bn funding for Adult and Children’s Social Care. There was also confirmation of additional Adults Social care grant and money to support improved discharges from Hospital. Both of these funding streams will come with conditions which are expected to relate to improvements in performance, capacity and meeting demand.
- 5.16 Local authorities were provided confirmation on the flexibility in Council Tax setting by raising the Council Tax referendum threshold to 3% and additional flexibility to increase the Adult Social Care precept to 2%. An increase of up to 5% in total .
- 5.17 The autumn statement provides a high level view on the overall position and expectation of the economy and also highlights national funding streams that will be utilised to seek to deliver against the Government’s policy objectives. So whilst there were a number of announcements made relating to additional funding to local authorities the ‘council by council’ detail of those announcements will not be known until the provisional local government finance settlement is announced towards the end of December.
- 5.18 Whilst we are able to estimate what we think the local position will be of the national funding that was announced we will not know until the detail is released. The autumn statement was also silent on a number of current funding streams (for example New Homes Bonus) and this creates greater uncertainty for the government funding that has currently been assumed and incorporated into these draft budget proposals.
- 5.19 As we do not know the detailed settlement figures for the authority and have had to make a series of assumptions within the estimates there is a significant chance that the funding position set out in this report will differ when the figures are released. All changes relating to the provisional settlement information will be reported as part of the final budget proposals which will be considered by Cabinet in February 2023.

6. Developing the Draft Revenue Budget

Financial Position 2022-23

- 6.1 The council delivered a small underspend against its 2021-22 budget and published the details in the provisional outturn report that Cabinet has previously considered.

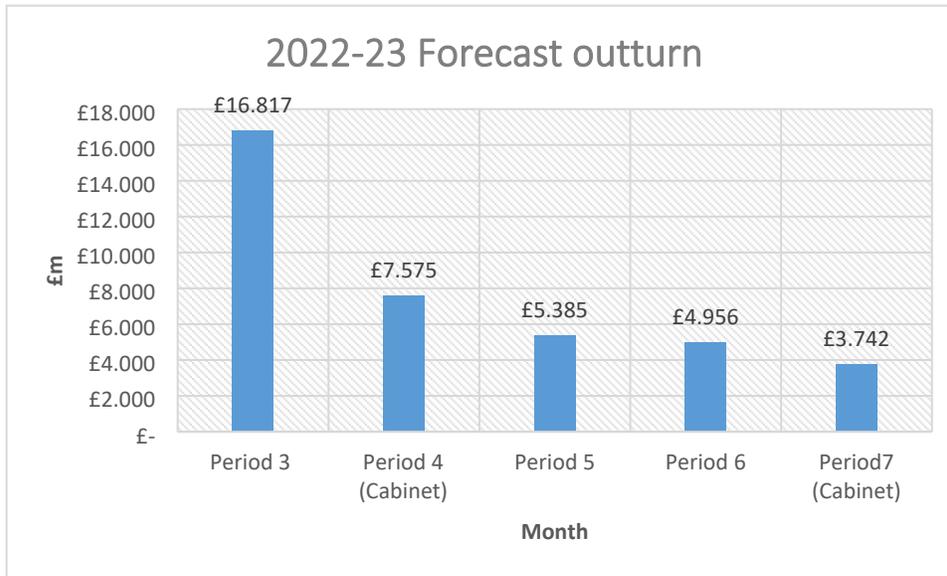
6.2 However, during 2022-23 the Council has seen a significant impact on its finances as a result of a number of external factors beyond its control. The specific drivers of these cost pressures in 2022-23 are highlighted below:

- The Ukrainian war causing unpredictable global economic pressures.
- Inflationary and cost of living pressures impacting on the cost of providing services across the whole organisation. With the Retail Price Index (RPI) standing at 14.2% and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) standing at 11.1% at the time of drafting this report. The highest level of inflation in over 40 years which has an impact on service provision across all of the services delivered by the Council.
- Ongoing financial impact of COVID latent demand allied with the withdrawal of significant COVID funds that had previously been received and had mitigated some income lines that have not recovered to pre pandemic levels.
- Significant demand led and inflationary pressures within the Children's Trust.
- Significant cost and demand led pressures within Home to School Transport.
- Significant demand led pressures within Adult Social Care.
- Cost of living pay award significantly greater than the amount included at the time of setting the budget.

6.3 As a result of these externally driven financial challenges management teams across the organisation focussed on reducing the cost-of-service delivery, or increasing income, in their areas to support the council to deliver spend closer in line with the budget, while ensuring that services are still maintained and that there isn't a corresponding reduction in service provision.

6.4 The 2022-23 Period 7 report is currently forecasting an outturn pressure of £3.7m which is a favourable movement of £3.8m from the position reported previously to Cabinet in September 2022. Focus continues with services working towards the delivery of a balanced position for 2022-23. The significant improvement in the Council's financial position since the start of the financial year has been achieved because of the swift action taken by management when it became apparent that the external factors highlighted earlier in this report were having a significant impact on the Council's finances. Current projected overspend represents a variance of just over 1% of Council's net budget for the year .

6.5 The monthly position of the Council can be summarised in the bar chart below:



6.6 The position has improved significantly from the opening forecast in year underspend of £26.9m because of three main interventions:

- The use of the general contingency budget of £10.1m
- The delivery of significant management actions across the organisation to assist with bringing the overall position back into balance
- The proactive and immediate introduction of a Spending Restrictions Panel (SRP) which considered all expenditure over £500 and all vacant posts and only approved the expenditure if it was deemed to be absolutely essential. By the end of November expenditure of almost £2m had been avoided by taking this approach.

6.7 Whilst management has made huge strides to bring the budget for the current financial year back into balance it will continue to work hard to reach a balanced financial position by the end of the financial year.

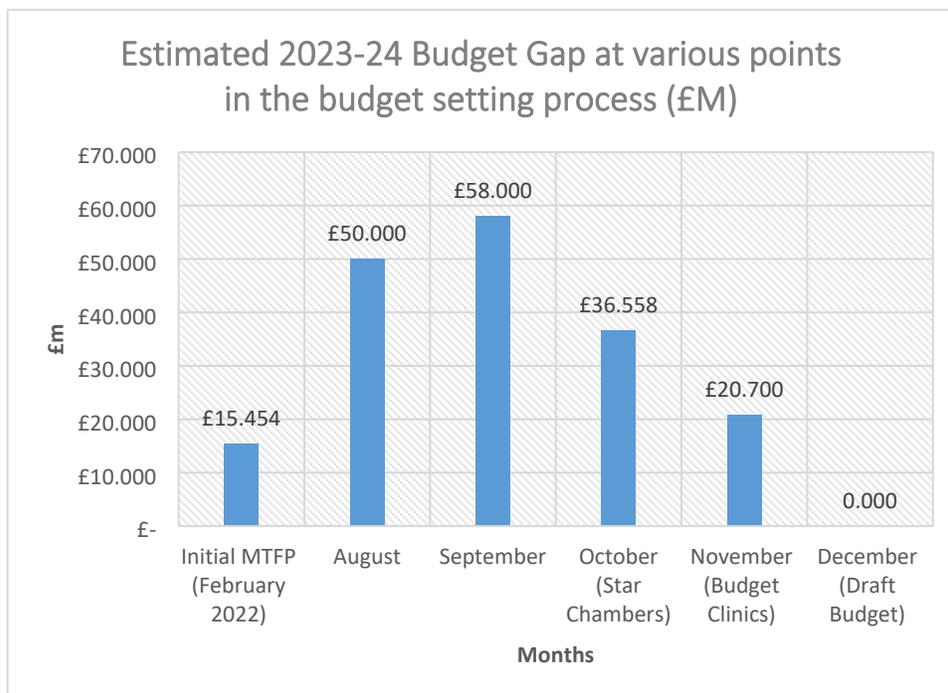
Draft Revenue Budget 2023-24

6.7 The council's 2022-23 financial position forms the cornerstone of the 2023-24 budget setting process, with all known on-going financial issues and opportunities reflected in the draft 2023-24 base budget position.

6.8 Given the external factors that became evident early in this financial year (2022-23) it was no surprise that when the opening position for the 2023-24 budget process was calculated it was significantly greater than the position published in the medium-term financial plan (MTFP) that was presented to full council in February 2022 as part of setting the final budget for 2022-23.

6.9 However, what was a surprise was the scale of financial challenge the authority faced for 2023-24 at the start of the process and the significant amount of work, challenge, effort and ambition that would be required to get the authority even close to a balanced draft budget for next year.

6.10 The chart below sets out the scale of budget deficit from the opening deficit set out in the MTFP in February due to the estimated height of the pressure calculated over the summer through the reduction in the pressure as we went through the different stages of the detailed budget setting process.



6.11 An initial early review of the existing Medium Term Plan was completed prior to the start of the star chambers process to highlight emerging risks and issues given the economic context, impact of increasing inflationary trends and to understand where key changes in expenditure pressures were starting to be incurred.

6.12 This analysis showed that the initial estimate of a budget gap of £15.5m had risen to £50.0m by the end of August and up to a peak of £58.0m by the end of September.

6.13 Whilst these pressures continued to mount management teams across the organisation were dealing with the significant financial impacts head on and were working hard to generate options to reduce costs and increase efficiencies and income.

6.14 This information was brought together as part of the star chambers process which saw the deficit reduce to £36.6m by the end of that process. An additional round of budget clinics were brought in and these saw the deficit position improve further to £20.7m.

6.15 Finally, another round of Cabinet and Senior management team meetings took place to finalise draft proposals and incorporate the outcome of the Government’s Autumn Statement to produce the proposals contained within these draft budgets.

6.16 It is clear that members have had to take some difficult decisions in order to deliver a balanced budget but services have been protected as far as possible and such decisions were required in order to deliver a balanced budget against the backdrop of the budget deficits being faced as a result of the external, national and global issues that were impacting upon the finances.

- 6.17 The proposals put forward provide a balance of moving to areas of good practice across all services, increasing fees and charges where the users of those services have a choice, addressing under-utilisation in some service areas where the same service can be provided elsewhere within the area by being as economic and efficient as possible.
- 6.18 The different stages of the budget process are described in the sections below.

Star Chambers Process

- 6.19 A key part of the budgeting process this year has been the continuation of the 'star chamber' process that was initially developed as part of the 2022-23 budget setting process. This process involved the leader of the Council, all portfolio holders, the Chief Executive, the Chief Finance Officer and his deputy, other Executive Directors, Assistant Directors and members of the Finance, HR and Transformation teams. Each of the main services of the Council were worked through in detail with the relevant Cabinet members and senior officers present to understand the financial pressures of each area as well as the savings and efficiencies that could be delivered to offset some of the pressures.
- 6.20 The purpose was to scrutinise all of the current year's budget and get a view from service directors on:
- Current year financial position including recurrent nature of both pressures and mitigating action plans.
 - Trend analysis and modelling on inflationary and demand led pressures currently experienced in 2022-23, including future year projections.
 - Any projects they wish to highlight within the directorate or current issues to be aware of.
 - Any new efficiencies they could propose to help to close the budget gap that was being forecast and savings over the longer term from strategic initiatives.
 - Staffing and vacancy levels, planned recruitment and restructuring plans

- 6.21 Upon the completion of the star chambers process the budget gap has reduced from a peak of £58m to a revised gap of £36.6m

Budget Clinics

- 6.22 Clearly a budget gap of £36.6m is still significant equating to approximately 11% of the current year's net budget. As a result, a further round of budget scrutiny took place to firm up on some of the budget proposals but to also go through each of the directorate budgets again and consider each budget pressure line by line to ensure that all budget growth put forward was absolutely essential.
- 6.23 At the end of the process the budget gap had reduced further to £20.7m

Cabinet and Senior Management Team meetings

- 6.24 Cabinet received regular briefings throughout the budget process but one of the final sessions considered all of the proposals that had been included in the draft budget which had been developed with portfolio holders throughout the process and also the interpretation of the outcome of the Autumn Statement. The combination of these two things enabled plans to be put together that would deliver a balanced draft budget for next year.
- 6.25 The proposals contained in the detailed appendices stem primarily from these processes to ensure there is a robust budget in place, concerns are listened to and addressed and that there is collective responsibility, ownership and delivery of the budget for 2023-24.

Draft Budget 2023-24 Proposals

The proposed 2023-24 budget proposals are summarised below by theme, and set out in detail within Appendix B.

Pay related costs – Total £9.8m
(Equivalent figure for 2022-23 £5.9m)

- 6.26 The draft Budget includes pay related costs of £9.8m which includes the following:
- Adjustment to base budget to reflect the final 2022-23 pay award at £1,925 per person plus 0.25% in line with the locally agreed pay negotiations. This agreement exceeded what was included as a budget assumption for 2022-23 and therefore we need to include this additional amount in the base budget to ensure it 'catches up' with the current agreement.
 - Contractual and non-contractual increments where staff are not at the top of their pay grade for 2023-24.
 - Cost of living increase for 2023-24 based on 4.5% increase.
 - Provision for increase to National Living Wage.
- 6.27 In addition to the implementation of the new pay structure and associated terms in early 2023, local pay bargaining will commence with the six trade unions recognised for pay negotiation purposes on the pay award for 2023-2024. Negotiations will commence in January and the pay award will be applied from 1 April 2023.

Contract Inflation – Total £19.1m
(Equivalent figure for 2022-23 £8.1m)

- 6.28 Contractual Inflation of £19.1m has been included in the 2023-24 draft budget. These are contractual commitments reflecting a number of inflation indices across all services.
- 6.29 Adult Social Care inflation proposals total £10.2m for 2023-24 that includes £9.2m of inflationary cost related pressures across independent care provision such as residential and nursing placements, homecare, supported living and day care. The calculated inflation takes account of the 9.7% increase in the national minimum wage to £10.42 in April 2023 and forecast rise in Consumer Price Index (CPI). It is critical that social care providers receive uplifts to reflect the significant increase in their costs on staff, energy and fuel in order to continue to deliver safe services to our eligible clients. In addition, provision has been made for the inflationary pressure

on utilities within the service's in house provider homes of £0.6m and the contractual increase in the indexation on the PFI unitary charge for the Specialist care centres of £0.4m.

- 6.30 The Place and Economy Directorate proposals include contract inflation proposals totalling £5.7m which include key contracts such as the collection and disposal of waste, the operation and management of household waste recycling centres, home to school transport, maintenance of the highways street lights. Utilities inflation proposals for properties, street lighting and traffic signals totalling £2.7m are also included.

Unavoidable Base Budget pressures – total £47.3m
(Equivalent figure for 2022-23 £16.8m)

- 6.31 Ongoing pressures total £47.3m in 2023-24. The most material of these pressures are as follows:

Adult Social Care

- 6.32 Adult Social Care Services are experiencing material demand led pressures which have resulted in 2023-24 growth proposals of £20.6m, including;

- £7.0m structural budget adjustment to reflect the current demand and costs for Independent Care seen in 2022-23 across Older Persons and Learning Disability Services
- £4.7m legacy cost avoidance savings that did not reduce overall expenditure in 2022-23 due to demand outstripping planned reductions in unit costs. The planned interventions across these workstreams did assist demand management in 22-23 but were exceeded by an increase in the number of people requiring support at increased cost.
- It is anticipated that there may be new burdens for social care following the Chancellors Autumn Statement announcement on social care funding. The estimated increase in funding will be set aside until it is clearer if there are additional burdens associated with the new funding.
- £1.8m forecast on demographic growth required to cover the increased cost of new clients eligible for social care with increased acuity and complex needs. This has been calculated with forecast population statistics for West Northamptonshire provided by the Institute of Public care. (Office for National Statistics base data)
- The National Discharge fund to support hospital discharge ended on 31st March 2022. This fund supported the costs of discharging individuals that no longer needed to be in hospital. The removal of this funding has increased the requirement for independent care placements in Adult Social Care to maintain hospital flow, with a required growth of £1.7m.

Home to School Transport

- 6.33 There is a cost increase of £5.3m on home to school transport which is a trend that is being experienced nationally and is primarily related to transporting children with special educational needs. The number of children with education, health and care plans has risen which has a direct impact on the children that receive transport. Fuel costs have increased significantly , and

is also a shortage of both drivers and passenger assistants which has resulted in increased wages and price increases. Our policies are also outdated, having last been updated in 2010 and don't reflect best practice or the effects of things like Academies. We also need to update our systems, processes and procurement of drivers to ensure we get best value.

Children's Trust

- 6.34 From 1st November 2020, the Northamptonshire Children's Trust was incorporated to deliver children's social care and targeted early help on behalf of Northamptonshire County Council, and from 1st April 2021 this was delivered on behalf of North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council. The Councils set the strategic outcomes and priorities and the Trust is responsible for delivering those outcomes.
- 6.35 Making a difference to children, young people and families is of high importance to West Northamptonshire Council as a joint owner of Northamptonshire Children's Trust. The financial proposals contained within the NCT business plan build on the recent ILACS Ofsted inspection which was encouraging and highlighted the tangible progress being made and the commitment of colleagues at the Council and the Children's Trust working in partnership in improving services, alongside areas to focus on further development.
- 6.36 A contract sum totalling £150.94m has been provisionally agreed for 2023-24 – a net increase across the County of £13.49m from the current year, which is indicative of the national picture of rising costs of children's social care and lack of supply, and a position that has been informed by the forecast outturn for this financial year. The Contract Sum of £150.94m has been split into two parts, this consists of a Base Contract Sum (£141.43m) and a "drawdown payment" relating to actuals on agreed elements of demand led services (£9.509m) which will be based on the 2022-

23 and 2023-24 outturn position, to ensure we only lock in actual demand costs in the contract sum.

- 6.37 The WNC share of the agreed contract sum is £84.28m, which is a £7.53m increase from the current year, and is included as an unavoidable base budget pressure.
- 6.38 In addition to this, one off revenue investments of £1.25m are included in the draft budget recognising further investment required in the improvement journey and to deliver efficiencies. These are set out in more detail Appendix B.

One-off Budget Pressures - Total £(6.7m)
(Equivalent figure for 2022-23 £10.509m)

- 6.39 One-off pressures are time limited expenditure and funded via one-off funding. This includes £3.9m growth where there is uncertainty about the timing or impact of a planned change, for specific projects or invest to save schemes, including;
- £0.5m Economic Growth Reserve – cash flow enabling major events, expectation to deliver income through events to offset expenditure.
 - £0.45m Vulcan Works – funding in year budget deficit position with funds to be repaid to reserve once surpluses are delivered.
- 6.40 The one-off schemes are funded through various earmarked reserves and there is a requirement to have a strategy where reliance is moved away from the use one off balances for such expenditure. Ongoing revenue expenditure, where there is no plan to move away from the use of one of funds to temporarily fund should never be supported.

Efficiencies and Income Generation -Total £35.6m
(Equivalent figure for 2022-23 £19.3m)

- 6.41 A total of £26.7m efficiencies and £8.9m income generation proposals are included in the draft Budget for 2023-24. These proposals have been aligned into key themes as detailed below with full detail provided in Appendix B6.
- 6.42 This category has been broken down into the following sub-themes:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| • Charging and Income | £8.9m |
| • Demand and Prevention savings | £2.1m |
| • Process and Policy savings | £4.0m |
| • Redesign and Reorganisation savings | £13.9m |
| • Technology and Innovation savings | £1.0m |
| • Buying and Commissioning savings | £0.4m |
| • Technical savings | <u>£5.3m</u> |
| Total Efficiencies and Income Generation | £35.6m |

Charging and Income – Total £8.9m

6.43 These proposals are based on service review of existing charging models to ensure the Council fees are aligned with national benchmarks, we are maximising investment and we have identified all grant funding opportunities. Where appropriate this means maximising income generation, ensuring inflationary increases are incorporated or identifying opportunities for new income generation. Key proposals include:

- £3.2m resulting from the realignment of investment income budget including additional investment returns due to rising interest rates.
- £1.0m Adults Social Care review of external funding opportunities across the Directorate.
- £0.7m following a review of Green Waste charging.

Demand and Prevention – Total £2.1m

6.44 These proposals specifically focus on the review of key services areas experiencing demand led pressures and management of demand levels through the implementation of both prevention strategies and demand management solutions. Key proposals include:

- £1.0m ensuring Adult Social Care services are focused on meeting the needs and optimising outcomes for those West Northamptonshire Residents that are eligible for services.
- £0.5m savings to be driven through Adult Social Care winter planning. Joint working across the health and social care system will drive savings against the expected normal surge in costs and demand over the winter period.
- Maintaining the investment in Childrens Early help and avoid a crisis within families leading to children escalating into care.

Process and Policy - £4.0m

6.45 These proposals look at where services can operate differently and focus on driving improvements through service review of both process and policy , key proposals include:

- Following actuarial advice and a much improved funding position means that the council is able to reduce its pension contribution rate by 3% to ensure an optimum level of resources are invested in the fund.
- Review of home to school transport policy.
- Revenue savings resulting from Street Lighting capital investment.

Redesign and Reorganisation - Total £13.9m

6.46 These include proposals that focus on service redesign, and the continuation of the organisation development following local government reorganisation looking at optimising service operating models and processes. Proposals include:

- £3.0m following a review of high needs placements has identified under utilisation of DSG funding. Further work is being carried out on this proposal to substantiate the level of saving associated with it. Following the conclusion of this work a revised figure will be included in the final budget.
- The restructure of the reablement service has increased the number of people who will benefit from reablement and therapeutic intervention reducing the need for long term care spend, resulting in a proposed saving of £1.7m.
- Domiciliary care aligned to Local Area Partnerships (LAP) to reduce travel time and more efficient deployment of staff alongside the introduction of electronic call monitoring will drive £1.5m of efficiencies against current levels of expenditure in the independent care sector.
- £1.0m driven by the progression and improvement of independent outcomes across Learning Disability services, resulting in individuals receiving the care that they need.

Technology and Innovation - total £1.0m

6.47 Budget proposals where the Council is driving cost reduction through digital innovation, proposals include:

- Optimisation of the use of single handed care, further drive on reducing the need for two carers via use of Assistive Technology £1.0m
- Efficiency savings to be realised through the increased use of Artificial Intelligence. £0.1m

Buying and Commissioning – Total £0.4m

6.48 These proposals look at where the Council can buy things differently or combine legacy contracts to get better economies of scale. Proposals include

- The Adults Social Care new Homecare framework which will be reproced in 2023-24 but will deliver benefits in future years.

Technical Adjustments – Total £5.3m

6.49 These proposals are where there is a saving as a result of a technical or financing change in a particular budget .

General Contingency - Total £11.0m

- 6.50 The 2022-23 budget included a general contingency of £10.1m. The contingency is currently forecast to be fully utilised in 2022-23. This contingency has proved critical in managing the budget for the current financial year and therefore it is proposed that it is maintained for 2023-24.
- 6.51 It has been assumed within the current proposals that all of the contingency is funded through the base budget and there is no ongoing reliance on the general fund cash balances to fund part of the overall contingency as was the case in this financial year.
- 6.52 The need for a general contingency was proven in this financial year and whilst ordinarily you shouldn't need a significant contingency, given the turbulent times we are currently operating in, now is not seen as the time to be withdrawing such a safeguard which has proved invaluable in the overall management of this year's budget. The contingency represents just 3% of the current year's budget.
- 6.53 The general contingency is to cover any associated risks within the budget and will be available to adjust budgets if necessary, given:
- the current financial risks driven by external economic factors outside the Council's control
 - the continued stabilisation of the budgets inherited from predecessor authorities
 - the uncertainty of the economic recovery post pandemic and the subsequent demand for services.
- 6.54 The release of this contingency will be at the discretion of the Executive Director of Finance in consultation with the Finance portfolio holder.

Draft Budget Summary

- 6.55 The following table sets out the total draft budget for 2023-24 by Directorate (excluding DSG). This is based on the split of the 2022-23 baseline plus/minus the budget movements allocated as shown in Appendix B.

| | Opening Base Budget £m | Pay related costs £m | Contract Inflation £m | Unavoidable Budget pressures £m | Budget Pressures - one-off (funded from reserves) £m | Efficiencies and income generation £m | General Contingency £m | Revised MTFP £m |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Adult Social Care | 103.4 | 0.0 | 10.2 | 20.6 | 0.0 | (10.1) | 0.0 | 124.1 |
| Education Services | 4.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | (3.8) | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| Northamptonshire Children's Trust | 69.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.5 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 78.7 |
| Place and Economy | 78.5 | 0.0 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 0.3 | (5.8) | 0.0 | 90.5 |
| Chief Executive Office | 2.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | (0.6) | 0.0 | 2.5 |
| Communities and Opportunities | 10.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 1.4 | (1.7) | 0.0 | 12.2 |
| Corporate Services | 21.4 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | (5.4) | 0.0 | 17.3 |
| Centrally Controlled | 30.5 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 5.9 | 0.6 | (7.6) | 0.9 | 40.2 |
| Finance | 10.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | (0.7) | 0.0 | 10.3 |
| Total Service Expenditure | 331.8 | 9.8 | 19.1 | 47.3 | 3.8 | (35.6) | 0.9 | 377.1 |

Funding Assumptions

- 6.56 The Local Government provisional financial settlement is expected to be announced in December 2022. The latest indication is that it could be published just after Cabinet meet to consider the draft budget. The final settlement details are then expected in February 2023. The final budget proposals will be updated to reflect any issues coming out of the budget consultation exercise as well as the revised position once the government's financial settlement details are known.
- 6.57 Whilst we have made assumptions on what the different funding streams will be for next year we will not have a clear idea until the provisional settlement information is released. As a result there are risks associated with the funding side of these draft budget proposals.
- 6.58 The draft budget assumptions will be updated to reflect the detailed funding announced in the final budget report due to be presented to Council on 22 February 2023.
- 6.59 The Autumn Statement presented by the Government on the 17 November 2022, set out the national economic picture highlighting the material financial challenges currently being experienced on both a national and local basis. The impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, combined with the current energy crisis and its subsequent impact on inflationary pressures and the cost of living, are creating a unique set of economic conditions that present a significant challenge to public sector finances.

6.60 The Autumn statement confirmed that departmental budgets in both 2023-24 and 2024-25 will remain in line with budgets set at the Spending Review last year along with specific funding announcements impacting local government

6.61 Specific funding announcements were:

- £1.3bn funding to be distributed via the Social Care grant for both Adults and Children's social care.
- £600m to be funded via the Better Care Fund to support the hospital discharge process.
- £400m to be distributed through a ringfenced grant to Adults Social Care to support discharge.
- Flexibility in Council Tax setting by raising the referendum threshold to 3% and additional flexibility to increase the Adult Social Care precept by 2%.
- Budgets have been adjusted to reflect the removal of the funding for the Health and Social Care Levy.
- National Living wage will increase for people aged 23 years and over to £10.42 from April 2023. This additional pressure has been built into the draft budget proposals.

6.62 The table below details the funding assumptions applied within the draft budget:

| | 2022-23 MTFP £k | 2023- 24 MTFP £k | Change £k |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Council Tax Income | (225,212) | (240,612) | (15,400) |
| Council Tax Collection Fund | 1,066 | (4,029) | (5,095) |
| Business Rates Income | (53,853) | (53,853) | 0 |
| Business Rates Growth | (5,718) | (12,876) | (7,158) |
| Business Rates - Section 31 Grant | (5,125) | (23,670) | (18,545) |
| Improved Better Care Fund | (10,069) | (10,270) | (201) |
| Social Care Grant | (11,363) | (18,090) | (6,727) |
| New Adult Social Care Grants | 0 | (3,500) | (3,500) |
| Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund | (982) | 0 | 982 |
| 2022/23 Services Grant | (3,457) | (3,457) | 0 |
| New Homes Bonus | (5,152) | 0 | 5,152 |
| Lower Tier Support Grant | (496) | (496) | 0 |
| Rural Services Delivery Grant | (393) | (393) | 0 |
| Transfer From Reserves | (21,564) | (5,885) | 15,679 |
| Total Funding | (342,318) | (377,131) | (34,813) |

6.63 Business Rates income over and above the baseline funding level set by government is retained by the Council, subject to a levy of around 33% that is paid to government. The delay in resetting the baseline means that WNC is able to retain the growth achieved over the last 9 years. In addition to this the government pays Section 31 grants to cover the income lost as a result of the freezing and under-indexation of the business rates multiplier and the impact of small business rates relief and additional reliefs for the retail and hospitality sector. This adds to the total amount of Business Rates we get to keep.

6.64 It is anticipated that when the Government resets business rates there will be a substantial impact on the Council's finances as our business rates income will drop significantly.

- 6.65 As part of the overall calculation of business rates income we also take into account the deficit from 2020-21 that has been spread over three years (£1.4m in 2023-24). The overall net business rates growth retained by WNC is estimated to be £12.9m for 2023-24, an increase of around £7.2m from the estimate included in the MTFP in February 2022 primarily as a result of the expectation that the business rates baseline will not be re-set in 2023-24. We have assumed that the baseline has been reset in 2024-25 ..
- 6.66 The overall Council Tax base for 2023-24 has been calculated and is recommended to be set at 142,060.8, an increase of just over 1.76% from 2022-23 and therefore broadly in line with our medium term planning assumption. Annual increases at 1.5% are assumed to continue throughout the MTFP period. As part of this report there is a recommendation that seeks to set the tax base at this figure.
- 6.67 Council Tax Harmonisation over a three-year period was agreed by the Shadow Authority in February 2021, with rates to be fully harmonised by 2023-24. This means that the average Band D rate in the former Daventry and South Northamptonshire Districts will need to increase by more than 4.99% (if this is set as the average increase) to reach harmonisation.
- 6.68 2023-24 marks the final year in the move to harmonisation whereby all properties across the area will pay the same amount of Council Tax for West Northants services regardless of the previous predecessor authority arrangement they came under.
- 6.69 The table below sets out the average increases in the West Northants Council Band D Council Tax in each area in 2022-23 that are required in order to reach harmonisation in 2023-24.

| | Average Band D Council Tax 2022/23 | Average Band D Council Tax 2023/24 | Increase (£) | Increase (%) |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Ex-Daventry Area | £1,596.06 | £1,693.73 | £97.67 | 6.12% |
| Ex- Northampton Area | £1,624.42 | £1,693.73 | £69.31 | 4.27% |
| Ex-South Northamptonshire Area | £1,607.71 | £1,693.73 | £86.02 | 5.35% |
| Average | £1,613.23 | £1,693.73 | £80.50 | 4.99% |

- 6.70 It should be noted that the percentage increases quoted are the average increases within each of the predecessor Council areas. Individual taxpayers will see different increases depending on the impact of Special Expenses and Parish Precepts as well the increases determined by the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner.

- 6.71 A Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) for 2023-24 has to be agreed by 31 January 2023 for the financial year 2023-24. At the meeting held on 3 November 2022 full council approved an LCTRS for 2023-24 which retains a 20% minimum contribution for working age claimants.
- 6.72 The significant Council Tax Collection Fund Deficit that arose in 2020-21 as a result of Covid-19 has been spread over 3 financial years in line with regulations, with 2023-24 being the final year of the deficit expected at the time of £1.066m. Monitoring of the Collection Fund during 2022-23 shows an actual surplus of £4.029m which is a positive movement of £5.095m on the collection fund which benefits the authority for next year.

Fees and Charges

- 6.73 Income from fees and charges represents an important source of funds to the Council and enables a range of services to be provided within the area and beyond. West Northamptonshire's Draft Budget generates income in the region of £33.6m with approximately £22.3m coming from Fees and Charges set out in Appendix C
- 6.74 In order to deliver a balanced budget all discretionary fees and charges (those not set by statute) have been scrutinised in an attempt to maximise income on services where residents and business have a choice about whether they want to pay for a particular service or not. This has helped to reduce the budget deficit forecast at the start of the process and therefore protect vital front line services.
- 6.75 Many fees have not been increased for several years and therefore have fallen behind even in respect of inflationary pressures you would normally expect them to increase by each year. With inflation running at such high levels which have the impact on increasing the cost of providing the very services funded through fees and charges it is essential that they are thoroughly reviewed for 2023-24. This review is simply good practice as consumers have a choice about whether they want to pay for these services or not. In some cases the review has been carried out by looking at other local authorities fees and charges and carrying out benchmarking based on that information to ensure that the Fees and Charges proposed in Appendix C are not significantly out of kilter with other authorities.
- 6.76 This is the third year that West Northamptonshire Council has been able to set its fees and charges. Since the formation of the Council all fees and charges have been harmonised apart from taxi fees.

General Fund Balances and Earmarked Reserves

- 6.77 The Council has inherited reserves from the former Districts and Boroughs as well as the disaggregated County Council. Many of these were earmarked for a specific purpose, although some are more flexible.
- 6.78 Due to the ongoing audits at the former Councils and the audit of the 2021-22 accounts the opening 2022-23 reserve balances for West Northamptonshire Council are still to be confirmed. Reserve and carry-forward drawdowns were approved in 2021-22 as part of the provisional outturn and should any adjustments be required prior to confirming the final outturn this would also affect the opening balances.

6.79 The following table provides a breakdown of the current estimated level of reserves and also estimates how those reserves may be utilised over the next year with an estimated level of reserves included at 31 March 2024.

| Description | Opening Balance as at 01/04/22 | 2022/23 Net Commitments | Expected Balance as at 31/03/23 | 2023/24 Net Commitments | Expected Balance as at 31/03/24 |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| General Balance | (40,000) | 5,000 | (35,000) | 0 | (35,000) |
| Risk Reserve | (40,482) | 15,732 | (24,749) | 4,492 | (20,257) |
| Transformation Reserve | (10,373) | 0 | (10,373) | 0 | (10,373) |
| Invest to save | (1,151) | 0 | (1,151) | 0 | (1,151) |
| Service Specific Reserves | (15,981) | 7,280 | (8,701) | 375 | (8,325) |
| Other Reserves Total | (67,986) | 23,012 | (44,974) | 4,867 | (40,107) |
| Section 31 Grants | (19,575) | 12,683 | (6,892) | 0 | (6,892) |
| Ringfenced / Technical | (17,944) | 6,844 | (11,100) | 1,941 | (9,159) |
| Ringfenced / Technical Reserves Total | (37,519) | 19,528 | (17,992) | 1,941 | (16,051) |
| Specific Covid reserves | (4,673) | 3,096 | (1,577) | 1,269 | (308) |
| Specific Covid Reserves Total | (4,673) | 3,096 | (1,577) | 1,269 | (308) |
| Earmarked Reserves Total | (110,178) | 45,636 | (64,543) | 8,077 | (56,466) |
| Grand Total | (150,178) | 50,636 | (99,543) | 8,077 | (91,466) |

6.80 An explanation of the main reserves is included below.

Risk Reserve

6.81 Within the estimated level of reserves there are a number that could be described as ‘smoothing’ reserves. These were set up to deal with fluctuations and volatility in areas such as business rates income. These reserves also includes un-ringfenced COVID funding to be utilised to offset COVID related expenditure pressure during the year. The risk reserve will be continually monitored and released via S151 approval to deal with any unplanned risks identified during the year.

6.82 The 2023-24 movement on the risk reserve includes the one off funding requirement of £3.8m as set out in Appendix B, along with the remaining balance of COVID un-ringfenced funding .

Transformation Reserves

6.83 This includes the £6.2m reserve held to fund any one-off transformational programmes or activities identified during the year and the £4.2m BRR Sustainability Fund.

Invest to save reserves

6.84 During 2021-22 a reserve of £1.2m was set up to be released for invest-to-save initiatives as they come forward. This reserve is released at the discretion of the S151 officer.

Service Specific Reserves

- 6.85 There are reserves set up at the request of services for specific purposes. They are drawn down when the service incurs expenditure for the purpose the reserve was set up for. Many of these reserves were set up by predecessor authorities. The reserves should be reviewed on a regular basis and if no longer required they should be repurposed for another need or transferred to the risk reserve or general fund balances.

Section 31 Funding Reserve & Ringfenced / Technical Reserves

- 6.86 The Section 31 funding reserve is held to offset the risk to the collection fund from the impact of COVID on business rates and council tax income.
- 6.87 Section 31 reserves total £19.6m which will be utilised specifically to offset any collection fund deficit experienced relating to the impact on income collection due to COVID. Based on the current in year position there is a balance of £6.9m that can be utilised at the discretion of the S151 officer.
- 6.88 The ringfenced/technical reserve holds the Public Health grant reserve, Insurance Reserve and Enterprise Zone reserve.

Specific COVID reserves

- 6.89 This includes the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) and community testing funding alongside other specific COVID relate funding and will be released to cover expenditure as its reported via S151 approval. Currently the COMF reserve is estimated to be fully committed in 2022-23.

Medium Term Financial Plan Forecasts

- 6.90 Although the draft Budget for 2023-24 shows a balanced position, there is considerable uncertainty in the medium term due to :
- Economic uncertainty and forecast inflationary levels over future years
 - Establishing post pandemic levels of demand and changes in consumer behaviours over future years.
 - Confirmation of the implementation of Business Rates reform, resetting the business rates baseline and the fair funding review
 - One off Council Tax benefit surpluses which we are benefitting from in 2023-24.
- 6.91 The Council's medium term position is set out in the table below , which builds in know risks and opportunities but also includes a material level of risk given level of unknown factors driven by both the current economic conditions and confirmation on future funding announcements .
- 6.92 The table shows a significant opening budget deficit for 2024-25 of £35.6m. However, it should be noted that the majority of this deficit relates to the potential impact that the rebasing of

business rates could have on the authority if business rates are reset in 2024-25. If this doesn't happen in 2024-25 the deficit (all other things remaining equal) will substantially reduce .

| | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Net Expenditure Budget | 798,332 | 808,000 | 823,381 | 842,615 |
| Funding Budget | (798,332) | (772,363) | (784,860) | (793,944) |
| Budget Gap | 0 | 35,637 | 38,522 | 48,671 |

Other Funds

6.93 The Council also receives ring-fenced grant funding for specific service delivery including Schools and Public Health Services. These are also reviewed within the Council's draft budget proposals and detailed below .

Dedicated Schools Grant

6.94 School Funding is received through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), and is split into four blocks, each with its own formula to calculate the funding to be distributed to each Local Authority (LA), and with specific regulations on what each block of funding can be spent on.

- **Schools Block** – funds primary and secondary maintained schools and academies through the school's funding formula, and growth funding for new and growing schools.
- **Early Years Block** – funds the free entitlement for 2, 3 and 4 years olds in all early years settings in the private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector, as well as maintained nursery schools.
- **High Needs Block** – funds places in special schools, resource units and alternative provision, and top-up funding for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in all settings.
- **Central Schools Services Block** – funds services provided by the local authority centrally for all schools and academies (ongoing responsibilities), for example School Admissions, and historical commitments previously agreed between the local authority and Schools Forum such as pension strain costs.

6.95 The detailed calculation methodology for each block is explained in Appendix D.

6.96 The Secretary of State for Education announced provisional funding allocations for 2023-24 calculated through the schools, high needs and central school services national funding formulae (NFF) on 19 July 2022. As Early Years funding is based on census data at different points in the year, these allocations are published to a different timetable.

6.97 The table below shows the provisional allocation for West Northamptonshire Council from the July announcement. The final allocations are expected to be published at the end of December 2022 close to the expected date of the provisional local government finance settlement.

| | Schools Block £m | High Needs Block £m | Central Schools Services Block £m | Early Years Block £m | Total £m |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2022/23* | 320.5 | 60.9 | 4.3 | 26.6 | 412.3 |
| Provisional 2023/24 | 327.0 | 63.7 | 3.9 | 26.6 | 421.2 |
| Increase /(decrease) | 6.5 | 2.8 | (0.4) | 0.0 | 8.9 |
| % Increase / (decrease) | 2.0% | 4.6% | (9.3%) | 0.0% | 2.2% |

*includes supplementary funding

Autumn Statement 2022 - DSG

6.98 The Autumn Statement included an announcement that the core budgets through the National Funding Formula in England will receive an additional £2.3 billion of funding in 2023-24 and £2.3 billion in 2024-25. This restores 2010 levels of per pupil funding in real terms and provides an average cash increase for every pupil of more than £1,000 by 2024-25, compared to 2021-22.

Schools Block

6.99 For West Northamptonshire Council, the primary unit of funding (PUF) increases from £4,538 in 2022-23 to £4,754 in 2023-24. The secondary unit of funding (SUF) increases from £5,769 in 2022-23 to £6,056 in 2023-24. These rates are final and will be multiplied by the total number of primary and secondary pupils recorded on the October 2022 Census. The additional funding will be passported to schools through the funding formula to support their day to day spending on children and young people.

6.100 The methodology for the distribution of the additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement is expected in the final settlement.

High Needs Block

6.101 The provisional increase in the High Needs Block represents the authority's share of the £570 million national increase for 2023-24. WNC's High Needs Block is increasing by £2.8 million from 2022-23 – 4.6% from 2022-23.

6.102 Nationally, there is an inherent pressure within the High Needs Block relating to the growth in the demand for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). It is seven years since reforms were introduced to better support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and the allocation of funding available to support pupils with high needs has become a national issue.

- 6.103 The current year level of overspend within WNC is forecast at £2m but is not currently at a level that requires a recovery plan to be submitted to the ESFA due, however the council cannot let cumulative, structural deficits continue. There are proposals within the general fund budget that will potentially increase this deficit and these are currently being calculated .
- 6.104 The pressures which have resulted in the High Needs block overspend are expected to continue into future years and this presents risks around affordability of provision for pupils with high needs. Therefore, a range of actions are being proposed or taken as part of the SEND improvement programme to address the predicted financial pressures.
- 6.105 The government currently has in place a 'statutory override' where councils' SEND deficits can be ringfenced away from their core council budget and this is currently due to end at the end of March 2023. Analysis from the County Councils Network (CCN) and the Society of County Treasurers reveals that local authority deficits in SEN are now at approximately £2.4bn in 2022-23 – six times higher than levels in 2018.
- 6.106 In August 2022 the government carried out a voluntary Call for Evidence across local authorities with the objective to understand current and projected DSG financial positions and inform decision making around extending the DSG statutory override beyond March 2023.

Central Schools Services Block

- 6.107 The Central School Services Block (CSSB) comprises two elements, ongoing responsibilities and historic commitments.
- 6.108 The historical responsibilities element for WNC is provisionally decreasing by £0.43m to £1.75m in 2023-24. The Government started to reduce this funding in 2020-21 to withdraw this funding, over time with 20% reduction per year, based on the historic commitments local authorities entered into before 2013-14.
- 6.109 This reduction leaves a funding gap of £0.43m against the expenditure requirement even after a review of service efficiencies and disinvestments which will be met through the WNC general fund .

Consultation

- 6.110 The Council has undertaken a school budget consultation running from 1 November to 30 November 2022 as agreed with Schools Forum, and the outcomes from the consultation will be presented to the December Schools Forum meeting where proposals will be voted on where required. However, the final schools funding formula remains a local authority decision and the submission to the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) is due on 20 January 2023. Full details relating to the DSG consultation are included in Appendix D.

Public Health

- 6.111 The Public Health budget funds a range of local public health activities that aim to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the West Northamptonshire population and reduce inequalities in order to enable people to live healthy, happy and productive lives. The

objectives are defined through Public Health statutory responsibilities, these are categorised under Health Improvement, Health Protection and Healthcare Public Health (three pillars of Public Health) and include:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of individuals or communities through enabling and encouraging healthy lifestyle choices as well as addressing underlying issues such as poverty, lack of educational opportunities and other such areas
- Provide or make arrangements to provide 0-19 Services including maternity and health visitors, school nurses and weighing and measuring of children
- Provide or make arrangements to provide for health checks
- Provide or make arrangements to secure the provision of open access sexual health services in their area
- Provision of a public health advice service, in relation to commissioning health services to the Integrated Care Board
- Provide advice and information to the health and care system to ensure health protection.

6.112 As at October 1st 2022, the Public Health Service has been disaggregated across both North and West Northamptonshire.

6.113 Public Health grant for 2022-23 is £19,107,223 with amounts for 2023-24 to be confirmed . Any additional grant received would be ringfenced for additional public health responsibilities.

Capital Strategy and Draft Capital Programme 2023-24 onwards

6.114 The Capital Strategy demonstrates how the Council will make expenditure and investment decisions in line with the Corporate Plan which sets out the Council's priorities. It sets out the key objectives and broad principles to be applied by the Council when considering capital investment and its funding, and provides the context for how the Medium Term Capital Programme seeks to support the realisation of the Council's vision and corporate priorities.

6.115 The Capital Strategy is not just about finance, it is a whole organisational approach to effective, long term planning and investment for the benefit of our citizens.

6.116 However, affordability will be a key driver when assessing the Council's capital investment portfolio and the authority's policy is to minimise the need for borrowing to fund capital schemes.

6.117 The Strategy also provides details of the Council's planned future capital programme and capital funding expectations. The emphasis will be on ensuring a robust mechanism to deliver our priorities within the finances available – as such the draft budget takes into account the schemes already approved in year through the Capital and Assets Board (CAB) plus new fully funded

schemes only i.e. where there is no financial impact for the authority. These new schemes have been put forward by officers through the Star Chamber process and endorsed by CAB for inclusion in the draft capital programme and a further review will be undertaken of all other proposals to agree prioritisation of schemes before they are submitted for final budget.

6.118 This results in a draft general fund capital programme of £154.8m over the four year period 2023-27 Full details are set out in Appendix E.

6.119 The table below summarises the total draft general fund capital programme by directorate.

| Draft 2023-27 General Fund capital programme | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026- 27+ £k | Total £k |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Adults, Housing & Communities | 7,575 | 7,557 | 6,950 | 2,250 | 24,332 |
| Assets and Environment Capital | 9,552 | 12,360 | 6,618 | 0 | 28,530 |
| Children's | 22,738 | 8,724 | 382 | 0 | 31,843 |
| Corporate | 296 | 56 | 50 | 0 | 402 |
| Economic Growth & Regeneration | 12,178 | 9,050 | 0 | 0 | 21,229 |
| Finance | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Highways and Waste Capital | 31,230 | 14,925 | 2,343 | 0 | 48,498 |
| Total | 83,569 | 52,672 | 16,343 | 2,250 | 154,834 |

6.120 The Capital Strategy is being developed with reference to the requirements of the latest Prudential Code and Treasury Code of Practice and will be brought forward for approval as part of the final budget report in February 2023.

6.121 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) draft capital budget will be presented to Cabinet in December as part of a separate HRA budget setting report.

7. Implications (including financial implications)

Resources and Financial

7.1 The resource and financial implications of the Council's draft plans are set out in the body of, and appendices to, this report.

Legal

7.2 The setting of the budget is carried out in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules set out in the Constitution.

- 7.3 The provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 set out what the Council has to base its budget calculations upon, and require the Council to set a balanced budget with regard to the advice of its Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer).
- 7.4 The robustness of the proposed estimates and the adequacy of the proposed reserves must be addressed in the formal report to be made in February 2022 to the Cabinet by the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) and then recommended by Cabinet to Full Council . This report is required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003.

Risk

- 7.5 The Budget for 2022-23 included a general contingency of £10.1m in recognition of the risks associated with constructing the budget for West Northamptonshire Council as a new organisation. Work has been undertaken during the year to ensure that detailed budgets properly reflect the staffing establishment and the cost of delivering services and is currently ongoing. However given the increased level of risk associated with external economic factors it is proposed therefore that the general contingency remains in place for the financial year 2023-24.
- 7.6 Whilst the progress made in compiling the statutory accounts for predecessor authorities provides some reassurance regarding the levels of inherited reserves, provisions and liabilities, these accounts are still subject to audit and as such there remains a risk that there may be some changes. The level of balances and reserves is considered sufficient to manage these risks.
- 7.7 Significant risks remain in demand led budgets such as Adult and Children Social Care placements, particularly in light of understanding post pandemic demand levels .The pandemic also has potential ongoing impacts on income from fees and charges such as car parking. The draft budgets have been constructed having due regard to these risks.
- 7.8 The detailed General Fund budgets are subject to continual review and refinement. Since vesting day, Directorates and Finance have worked together, reviewing budgets, prioritised by risk, to ensure they are sufficient to cover West Northamptonshire Council's commitments, this is now embedded within the established budget monitoring process .

Consultation process and consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

- 7.9 This draft Budget is presented to Cabinet prior to the start of public consultation.
- 7.10 Budget consultation will commence on 21 December, the day after Cabinet have considered the draft Budget proposals, and will be open for six weeks.
- 7.11 The draft Budget will also be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee who will then be able to provide their views and comments to Cabinet prior to their consideration of the final Budget for recommendation to full council.
- 7.12 The timeline for the rest of the Budget process is as set out below:

- Publish draft Budget 13 December
- Cabinet consider draft Budget 20 December
- Commence draft Budget consultation 21 December
- Overview and Scrutiny consider budget Jan/Feb 2023
- Consultation closes (six weeks) 1 February
- Publish final Budget report 3 February
- Cabinet consider final Budget 13 February
- Council Tax Setting and Budget report published 14 February
- Full authority considers final Budget 22 February

7.13 The response to the budget consultation will be analysed and form part of the final Budget report to Cabinet on 13th February 2023.

Community Impact/Equalities

7.14 The Council has a strong commitment to equality and diversity. This means considering how all groups and individuals within our community get the services they require and are not disadvantaged, and that services are available to them to meet their needs. Equality Impact Assessments help the Council to make informed decisions and to ensure that those who share a protected characteristic are not disproportionately negatively affected by any proposed changes.

7.15 The potential impact of the proposals on those groups has been assessed and, taking into account mitigating action that is planned or that is in place, of the ESAs completed some have led to the need for a full EQIA and these will be published once consultation has concluded and before budget proposals are finalised.

7.16 The Equality Impact Assessments will be reviewed again following an analysis of the results from the budget consultation process.

Climate Impact

7.17 All proposals have been reviewed and considered on an individual basis for any environmental impact .

8. Background Papers

8.1 The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report

- Autumn Statement – November 2022
[Autumn Statement 2022 HTML - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/autumn-statement-2022)
- West Northamptonshire Council budget 2022-23, approved 24 February 2022
[Agenda for Council on Thursday 24th February 2022, 6.00 pm - West Northamptonshire Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/2022/02/24/wnc-budget-2022-23/)

This page is intentionally left blank

**West Northamptonshire Council
Budget Summary**

Appendix A

| | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Net Expenditure Budget B/Fwd (excl DSG Funded) | 342,318 | 377,132 | 386,801 | 402,184 |
| Budget Pressures - prior year reversing | (10,509) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Base Net Budget (DSG Funded) | 421,200 | 421,200 | 421,200 | 421,200 |
| Total Base Gross Budget | 753,009 | 798,332 | 808,001 | 823,384 |
| | | | | |
| Adjustments to Base Budget | | | | |
| Pay related costs | 9,820 | 5,446 | 5,691 | 5,948 |
| Contract Inflation | 19,106 | 9,397 | 8,597 | 8,759 |
| Unavoidable Budget pressures | 47,331 | 5,552 | 7,681 | 6,584 |
| Budget Pressures - 2023-24 one-off (funded from reserves) | 3,758 | (3,758) | 0 | 0 |
| Efficiencies and income generation | (35,621) | (6,969) | (6,589) | (2,060) |
| Increase to General Contingency | 929 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Budget Movement | 45,323 | 9,668 | 15,380 | 19,231 |
| | | | | |
| Net Expenditure Budget (excluding DSG Funded) | 377,132 | 386,800 | 402,181 | 421,415 |
| Net Budget (DSG Funded) | 421,200 | 421,200 | 421,200 | 421,200 |
| Total Net Budget | 798,332 | 808,000 | 823,381 | 842,615 |
| | | | | |
| Funded By: | | | | |
| Council Tax Income | (240,612) | (249,079) | (257,841) | (266,925) |
| Council Tax Collection Fund Deficit | (4,029) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Government Funding/Business Rates Baseline | (53,853) | (54,932) | (56,011) | (57,091) |
| Business Rates Growth | (12,876) | (10,580) | (13,601) | (12,521) |
| Business Rates - Section 31 Grant | (23,670) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DSG Grant | (421,200) | (421,200) | (421,200) | (421,200) |
| Improved Better Care Fund | (10,270) | (10,270) | (10,270) | (10,270) |
| Social Care Grant | (18,090) | (18,090) | (18,090) | (18,090) |
| New Adult Social Care Grant | (3,500) | (3,500) | (3,500) | (3,500) |
| 2022/23 Services Grant | (3,457) | (3,457) | (3,457) | (3,457) |
| Lower Tier Support Grant | (496) | (496) | (496) | (496) |
| Rural Services Delivery Grant | (393) | (393) | (393) | (393) |
| Transfer From Reserves | (5,885) | (365) | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funding | (798,332) | (772,363) | (784,860) | (793,944) |
| | | | | |
| Forecast Budget Gap | 0 | 35,637 | 38,522 | 48,671 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Pay related costs

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2324-B1-001 | Centrally controlled budget | Budget growth in respect of locally negotiated pay inflation. | Pay Inflation | Budget growth in respect of locally negotiated pay inflation. | 9,820 | 5,446 | 5,691 | 5,948 |
| | | | | | 9,820 | 5,446 | 5,691 | 5,948 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Contract Inflation

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|--|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2324-B2-002 | Adult Social Care | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Fee Inflation for independent care placements incorporating National Living Wage pressures for social care providers. | 9,218 | 6,340 | 5,539 | 5,810 |
| 2324-B2-003 | Place and Economy | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Contract inflation in relation to Place Directorate, including the highways contract, the waste collection contracts, waste disposal contracts, home to school transport and Streetlighting contracts. | 5,721 | 2,646 | 2,644 | 2,644 |
| 2324-B2-004 | Place and Economy | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Inflationary pressure on utilities contracts. | 2,676 | 149 | 149 | 149 |
| 2324-B2-005 | Adult Social Care | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Inflationary pressure on utilities contracts. | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B2-007 | Corporate Services | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Contract Inflation in relation to support services | 503 | 150 | 153 | 156 |
| 2324-B2-006 | Adult Social Care | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Contractual annual inflation obligations for PFI contract. | 373 | 112 | 112 | 0 |
| 2324-B2-008 | Finance | Contract Inflation | Contract Inflation | Contract Inflation in relation to financial system contracts. | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | | 19,106 | 9,397 | 8,597 | 8,759 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Unavoidable Growth

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B3-041 | Northamptonshire Children's Trust | Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) contract sum for 2023/24 | Unavoidable Pressure | NCT Contract Increase subject to anticipated levels of demand for social care services. | 7,532 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-002 | Adult Social Care | Adult Social Care base budget correction | Unavoidable Pressure | Base budget correction to reflect current demand and costs for Independent Care across Older Persons and Learning Disability Services. | 6,975 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-043 | Place and Economy | Home to School Transport | Unavoidable Pressure | Home to School Transport growth required to reflect demographic increases and cost pressures. | 4,931 | 1,191 | 1,713 | 1,885 |
| 2324-B3-004 | Adult Social Care | Cost avoidance savings affected by demand in 2022-23 | Unavoidable Pressure | Legacy cost avoidance savings need to be considered against the significant increase in demand for services. Whilst interventions have supported demand management this has been exceeded by an increase in the number of people requiring support at increased cost. | 4,708 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-050 | Adult Social Care | Social Care New Burdens following Autumn Statement 2022 | Unavoidable Pressure | It is anticipated that there will be new burdens for social care following the Chancellors Autumn Statement announcement. Until the councils obligations are clear, this funding will be transferred to an earmarked reserve. | 3,500 | - | - | 0 |
| 2324-B3-020 | Centrally controlled budget | Treasury Budget Growth | Unavoidable Pressure | Growth required in the Council's treasury budget to reflect an increase in net borrowing costs , increases in required insurance provision , and the removal of budget structural deficit balances. | 2,671 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-001 | Adult Social Care | Changes in demographic service pressure | Unavoidable Pressure | Budgeted growth to cover the increased cost of new clients eligible for social care with increased acuity and complex needs. | 1,833 | 2,095 | 2,287 | 2,485 |

Unavoidable Growth

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B3-006 | Adult Social Care | Cost of the removal of National Discharge Funding | Unavoidable Pressure | The National Discharge fund to support hospital discharge ended on 31st March 2022 that supported the costs of discharging individuals that no longer needed to be in hospital. The removal of this funding has increased the requirement for independent care placements in Adult Social Care to maintain hospital flow. | 1,691 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-017 | Centrally controlled budget | Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy alignment | Unavoidable Pressure | Growth required to top up provision to fund the borrowing requirement of the councils capital programme. | 1,651 | 1,399 | 3,151 | 1,810 |
| 2324-B3-044 | Place and Economy | Car park income shortfall due to visitors not returning to pre-covid levels | Unavoidable Pressure | Car park income shortfall due to visitors not returning to pre-covid levels | 1,600 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-042 | Place and Economy | Estimated additional costs of new integrated highways services | Unavoidable Pressure | Provision for estimated additional costs of the new integrated highways service. | 1,033 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-026 | Communities and Opportunities | Increase in Homelessness demand and cost of temporary accommodation | Unavoidable Pressure | Increase in Temporary accommodation budgets aligned to increase in Homelessness cases. | 800 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-045 | Place and Economy | Structural deficit relating to aggregation of services | Unavoidable Pressure | Structural deficit relating to aggregation of services | 797 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-003 | Adult Social Care | Changes in demographic service pressure for Mental Health clients | Unavoidable Pressure | Budgeted growth in the Mental Health client group post pandemic. | 643 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-016 | Centrally controlled budget | Pay and Grading growth requirement | Unavoidable Pressure | Pay and Grading programme budget requirement | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-018 | Centrally controlled budget | External Audit Costs | Unavoidable Pressure | Increase in external audit fees | 540 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-037 | Corporate Services | IT contract growth required to reflect current commitments | Unavoidable Pressure | Additional cost of IT contracts reflecting the councils current usage of IT systems | 507 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-027 | Communities and Opportunities | Growth in Homelessness impacting through to Housing Benefits | Unavoidable Pressure | Housing Benefit Subsidy loss as a result of Temporary Accommodation placements | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unavoidable Growth

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B3-038 | Education Services | Central Schools Services Block DSG funding reduction | Unavoidable Pressure | The Government have announced a 20% annual reduction in the historical funding element of the Central Schools Services Block. This funding supports expenditure on statutory education services which the authority are unable to reduce in line with the reduction in Central Government funding. | 430 | 344 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-034 | Communities and Opportunities | Technical budget adjustment | Unavoidable Pressure | Correction to remove duplicate savings target - replaced by new mitigating proposals in 22/23 | 412 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-007 | Adult Social Care | Removal of Admission Avoidance saving for 2023-24 | Unavoidable Pressure | Removal of admission avoidance saving for 2023-24 following recognition that demand from hospital discharge far exceeds the original savings target. | 400 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-008 | Adult Social Care | Correction of Prevention contract budget | Unavoidable Pressure | Correction of historical budget shortfall where following unitary split West Northants received a greater proportion of Prevention contract savings against disaggregated budgets | 332 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-033 | Communities and Opportunities | Realignment of Civil Penalty income targets | Unavoidable Pressure | Civil Penalty Income targets reduced to reflect current activity and success rates. | 305 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-014 | Centrally controlled budget | Community Infrastructure Levy Repayments | Unavoidable Pressure | Correction of the treatment of Community Infrastructure Levy within the base budget | 289 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-023 | Chief Executive Office | Structural deficit relating to aggregation of services | Unavoidable Pressure | Adjustment required to correct the staffing base budget | 289 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-047 | Place and Economy | Unavoidable growth in waste tonnages | Unavoidable Pressure | Increase waste tonnages | 277 | 390 | 397 | 404 |
| 2324-B3-028 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduction in Leisure contract management fees | Unavoidable Pressure | Reduction in Leisure contract management fee income to better reflect cost of service being delivered | 262 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-051 | Place and Economy | Temporary reduction in income from bus lane enforcement | Unavoidable Pressure | Reduction in income due to relocation of bus lane enforcement camera | 230 | - | - | 0 |

Unavoidable Growth

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B3-046 | Place and Economy | (Potential) unachievable energy savings due to delays with street lighting upgrade | Unavoidable Pressure | Delays with street lighting upgrade | 155 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-036 | Corporate Services | Members Allowances inflation | Unavoidable Pressure | Increases to Members Allowances | 148 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-015 | Centrally controlled budget | Centrally controlled structural deficit requirement | Unavoidable Pressure | Structural deficit - legacy budgets deficit | 138 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-005 | Adult Social Care | Provision for pay inflation and other employee related budget changes | Unavoidable Pressure | Budgeted inflation in National Living Wage incorporating consultation on hourly rates by Low Pay Commission | 133 | 133 | 133 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-029 | Communities and Opportunities | Directorate management budget | Unavoidable Pressure | Reflecting creation of Communities and Opportunities Directorate and management | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-009 | Adult Social Care | Assistant Director for Discharge to Assess | Unavoidable Pressure | Assistant Director for Discharge to Assess. The Directorate requires a permanent senior lead to manage and develop WNC pathways from hospital to ensure optimum outcomes are achieved for our clients given the considerable demand coming from the Acutes. | 127 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-010 | Adult Social Care | Doctors Section 12 Assessments | Unavoidable Pressure | The Liberty Safeguards Protecting Service had previously not been funded for doctors Section 12 assessments under the mental health act | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-040 | Education Services | Reduction in Educational Psychology (EP) traded income | Unavoidable Pressure | National shortage of EP's. Private companies paying significantly more and reducing workload - impact on income generation and statutory performance | 120 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-011 | Adult Social Care | Alignment of Financial operations budget | Unavoidable Pressure | Budget shortfall due to removal of historic finance operations recharges. | 116 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-039 | Education Services | Increased Special Education Needs or Disability (SEND) legal costs | Unavoidable Pressure | Increased SEND Tribunal numbers means increased use of legal advice | 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-030 | Communities and Opportunities | Post Disaggregation budget realignment | Unavoidable Pressure | Libraries staffing adjustment to reflect split between WNC and NNC | 59 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Unavoidable Growth

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B3-024 | Chief Executive Office | Structural deficit - correction of legacy budgets. | Unavoidable Pressure | Historical unachievable service income target carried over from SNC & DDC | 58 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-048 | Place and Economy | Change of legislation (Persistent Organic Pollutants and red diesel) and minor change notices | Unavoidable Pressure | New legislative costs (Persistent Organic Pollutants and red diesel) and minor change notices | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-013 | Adult Social Care | Licence cost for online Financial Assessment system | Unavoidable Pressure | License cost for new online financial assessment systems to enable clients to self serve, this is essential for the service to be able to cope with the number of financial assessments required. | 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-049 | Place and Economy | Reduction in Energy Rebate Income | Unavoidable Pressure | Reduction in Energy Rebate Income | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-031 | Communities and Opportunities | Leisure Services, service delivery income reduction. | Unavoidable Pressure | Income target not deliverable due to redesign of service delivery. | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-025 | Chief Executive Office | Removal of income target due to a change in the charging agreement post COVID. | Unavoidable Pressure | Unachievable income target due to change in recharging agreement post COVID | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-012 | Adult Social Care | Personal Budget Support Service (PBSS) staff | Unavoidable Pressure | Planned disaggregation of PBSS for 1st April 2023 will require additional staff funding | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-035 | Corporate Services | Growth required for applicant tracking system | Unavoidable Pressure | Applicant tracking system (ATS)– Recruitment replacement. | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B3-032 | Communities and Opportunities | Call Care service contract renewal | Unavoidable Pressure | Call Care Contract reviewed reflecting increase in costs of service | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | | 47,331 | 5,552 | 7,681 | 6,584 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Buying and Commissioning Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-061 | Communities and Opportunities | Sport Leisure Management (SLM) contract payment | Buying & Commissioning | Contract amended and this budget no longer required. | (120) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-085 | Education Services | Preventative commissioning | Buying & Commissioning | Children's preventative commissioning | (290) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-038 | Communities and Opportunities | SLA payment to NLT (health walks and street games) | Buying & Commissioning | Reduce legacy grant fund payment by 50% | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-035 | Communities and Opportunities | Consolidation of contracts for recycled furniture provision for temporary accommodation. | Buying & Commissioning | Consolidation of duplicate contracts/funding from legacy district/borough councils towards recycled furniture provision for temporary accommodation. | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | | (425) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Charging and Income Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-017 | Centrally Controlled Budgets | Treasury Management - Additional Investment Returns | Charging and Income | Realigned investment income budget including additional investment returns due to rising interest rates | (3,224) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-003 | Adult Social Care | External Funding Review by Adult Social Care | Charging and Income | Maximise external funding opportunities across the Directorate. | (1,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-112 | Place and Economy | Garden Waste Subscriptions | Charging and Income | Increase Green Waste to an annual charge of £55.00 for residents . | (726) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-010 | Adult Social Care | Alignment of external funding to the base budget for Adult Social Care | Charging and Income | This aligns the base budgets within Adult Social Care to a number of external funding sources | (700) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-002 | Adult Social Care | Additional Client Contributions | Charging and Income | Alignment of client contributions budget with actual income being invoiced in 22-23. This corresponds with the increased number of active clients. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-014 | Centrally Controlled Budgets | Increase in Grant Income | Charging and Income | Forecast increase in central grant income | (266) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-111 | Place and Economy | Network management income | Charging and Income | Additional income to be generated through traffic offences, bus lane enforcement and parking enforcement. | (230) | (300) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-125 | Place and Economy | Asset Disposal Fees | Charging and Income | Dependent on asset disposals and amount each year will be variable. | (125) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-110 | Place and Economy | Air Quality Officer to increase grants | Charging and Income | Employment of a specialist air quality officer to focus on development of action plans and development of grant funded work | (100) | (150) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-069 | Communities and Opportunities | Increase in management recharges to the Housing Revenue Account | Charging and Income | Review of service reflects true cost of providing support to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-101 | Place and Economy | Rectifying Northampton Estate | Charging and Income | A review of the Northampton estate could lead to increased rental income | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-104 | Place and Economy | Regulatory Services | Charging and Income | Income from discretionary services within environmental health, trading standards and licensing | (80) | (150) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-074 | Corporate Services | Registrars income generation | Charging and Income | Additional income from the Registrars Service. | (72) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Charging and Income Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-059 | Communities and Opportunities | Increase income from retail sales at Northampton Museum | Charging and Income | Further development and promotion of retail offer and selling gallery. | (54) | (6) | (7) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-070 | Communities and Opportunities | Alternative funding sources for Community Funding Programme | Charging and Income | Use of external funding to support community funding | (50) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-106 | Place and Economy | More effective fixed penalty notices | Charging and Income | Increased income from more effective use of fixed penalty notices in environmental crime. | (50) | (70) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-124 | Place and Economy | Commercial waste income | Charging and Income | Increase commercial waste fees and charges | (49) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-056 | Communities and Opportunities | Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Coordinator | Charging and Income | Use of grant funding to fund this post. | (45) | 45 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-055 | Communities and Opportunities | Safe Accommodation funding | Charging and Income | Legacy councils grants to domestic abuse refuge providers consolidated service arrangements. | (35) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-130 | Place and Economy | Increase New Roads & Street Works Act (NRSWA) income. | Charging and Income | Recruit resources to generate additional income (over and above their costs). | (35) | (35) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-054 | Communities and Opportunities | Increased income generation through museum service | Charging and Income | Increase in income generation through greater room hire at main museum as well as redeveloping and relaunching the wedding offer for Abington Park Museum to offer a select range of ceremony and reception packages, and increasing school sessions. | (34) | (5) | (6) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-053 | Communities and Opportunities | Recharging of staff time to resettlement programmes | Charging and Income | Time Resettlement Manager spent on resettlement work recharged to grant aided resettlement programmes | (31) | 31 | | 0 |
| 2324-B4-052 | Communities and Opportunities | Community centre funding | Charging and Income | Release unused grant for community centres as facilities/assets have been transferred to Community Spaces Northampton | (28) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-129 | Place and Economy | Charge for replacement bins | Charging and Income | Introduce a contribution towards the delivery of replacement bins to households where bins are repeatedly lost or damaged | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-049 | Communities and Opportunities | Appropriate allocation of staff time to resettlement programmes | Charging and Income | Time Interim Head of Service spent on resettlement work recharged to grant aided resettlement programmes. | (21) | 21 | | 0 |
| 2324-B4-047 | Communities and Opportunities | Changes to HMO Licence Fees | Charging and Income | Removal of early bird discount for new HMO licences, and reduction of early bird discount for renewal HMO licences. | (20) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Charging and Income Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-144 | Place and Economy | Off street Parking Charges | Charging and Income | Increase car park enforcement | (20) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-075 | Corporate Services | Revisited charging model for the Leys | Charging and Income | Charging Northampton and Kettering General Hospital for storage | (18) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-119 | Place and Economy | Charges for bulky waste collection | Charging and Income | Increase charges for bulky waste collection to £30 for 3 items and £50 for 6 items | (18) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-020 | Chief Executive Office | Income generation with external partners | Charging and Income | Provide video and photographic services for partners and external organisations | (12) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-115 | Place and Economy | Increase Commercial Waste Collections | Charging and Income | Increased Commercial Waste Collections across the area | (12) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-066 | Communities and Opportunities | Changes to Housing Civil Penalty Notices | Charging and Income | Removal of early payment discount of 20% for civil penalty notices issued by Private Sector Housing. | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-025 | Communities and Opportunities | Introduction of charging for viability assessments relating to affordable housing delivery. | Charging and Income | Charges for the team that carry out in-house viability assessments to determine the % of affordable housing that can be delivered on a development site. | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-042 | Communities and Opportunities | Home Adaptations cost claim to Better Care Fund (BCF) | Charging and Income | Ensuring effective claiming of the 15% policy agreed discretionary works charge to the BCF Grant Fund. Reliant on spending 100% of the BCF budget annually | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-116 | Place and Economy | Miscellaneous additional small income opportunities | Charging and Income | Increased income from fixed penalty notices from abandoned vehicles | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-037 | Communities and Opportunities | Libraries Inflationary increases in printing charges and room hire | Charging and Income | Increase income by increasing printing charges , room hire. | (6) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-021 | Chief Executive Office | Income generation with external partners | Charging and Income | Provide consultation and engagement services for partner organisations | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-026 | Communities and Opportunities | Housing Need Surveys | Charging and Income | Charging for the completion of housing need surveys to determine housing need in parishes across West Northants. | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-033 | Communities and Opportunities | Inflationary Increase in Library charges for Learning Resources for Education | Charging and Income | Increase income by increasing charges and reorganisation of staffing. Library education service to ensure it remains self funding from income | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Charging and Income Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-024 | Communities and Opportunities | Speed up bringing forward of the Daventry Town Centre vision sites | Charging and Income | Potential to generate capital receipts and new revenue in the medium term while enabling the regeneration of Daventry - Current resourcing issue with officers all being allocated to projects. | 0 | 0 | (100) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-058 | Communities and Opportunities | Income Generation - New income related to letting from 2nd and 3rd floors of 24 Guildhall Road | Charging and Income | New rental level needs to be below market rent as subsidy from government enabling project to come forward, however a new return for the council will still be able to be realised from 2024 onwards. | 0 | (50) | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | | (7,841) | (669) | (113) | 0 |

Car Parking Proposals

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2324-B4-136 | Place and Economy | Car Parking Charges | Charging and Income | General uplift in existing car parking charges | (450) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-145 | Place and Economy | Car Parking Charges | Charging and Income | Replace current Saturday charges with the charged levied on weekdays | (167) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-137 | Place and Economy | Car Parking Charges | Charging and Income | Applying a flat charge of £2 all day on Sundays. | (150) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-143 | Place and Economy | Car Parking Charges | Charging and Income | Parking tariffs at country parks to be harmonised and also introduce new parking access equipment to improve service quality and allow more flexible pricing. | (150) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-134 | Place and Economy | Parking Charges - Racecourse Car Park | Charging and Income | Charge for parking at the Racecourse car park | (60) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-103 | Place and Economy | Parking Payments | Charging and Income | Council's parking payment systems being changed to remove the need for physical tickets and provide easier payment options for the larger car parks. | (55) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Car Parking | | | | | (1,032) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Total Charging and Income

(8,873) (669) (113) 0

Demand and Prevention Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2324-B4-011 | Adult Social Care | Reduction in WNC Service Provision to non WNC Residents | Demand and Prevention | Reduction in WNC service provision to non WNC residents following disaggregation of the county council. | (1,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-012 | Adult Social Care | Winter planning project | Demand and Prevention | Mitigation of winter pressures through whole system working. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-068 | Communities and Opportunities | Temporary Accommodation (TA) prevention and management plan savings | Demand and Prevention | Reduction in TA spend through improved move on and reduced use of expensive nightly purchased accommodation. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-107 | Place and Economy | Concessionary fares | Demand and Prevention | Removal of surplus budget for Concessionary Fares based on updated passenger number forecasts. | (132) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Demand and Prevention | | | | | (2,132) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Process and Policy Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-016 | Centrally Controlled Budgets | Pension Contribution adjustment | Process and Policy | Following the receipt of the Councils Pension Funds Triannual valuation and actuarial advice, a much improved funding position means that the council is able to reduced its contribution rate by 3% to ensure an optimum level of resources are invested in the fund. | (2,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-146 | Place and Economy | Home to school travel assistance - transformation | Process and Policy | Increased operational efficiency and consistency with policies. | (375) | (350) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-105 | Place and Economy | Street lighting | Process and Policy | Revenue savings resulting from Street Lighting capital investment | (255) | (267) | (16) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-135 | Place and Economy | Refuse Collections | Process and Policy | Review collection arrangements in some areas of West Northants that are currently not a three weekly collection cycle | (200) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-097 | Finance | Audit and Risk Management staffing | Process and Policy | Audit and Risk Management Staffing review to deliver efficiencies | (109) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-067 | Communities and Opportunities | Travellers site management changes | Process and Policy | Costs of travellers site management offset by additional income. | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-131 | Place and Economy | Targeted Food Waste Campaign | Process and Policy | To encourage residents to use separate food waste collection, leading to reduced amount of waste in residual bins and therefore reduced treatment costs | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-140 | Place and Economy | Household Waste Recycling Centres | Process and Policy | Efficiencies in HWRC operations, as part of the wider development of the WNC waste strategy which will consider how many sites are required to serve the residents of WNC and where they should be located | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-062 | Communities and Opportunities | Regeneration Service - Reduction in professional fees budget | Process and Policy | Reduce consultancy feasibility spend on projects. | (80) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-108 | Place and Economy | Home to school travel assistance - Policy Change | Process and Policy | Savings associated with proposed changes to policies. | (76) | (153) | 0 | 0 |

Process and Policy Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-087 | Education Services | SEND improvement | Process and Policy | SEND improvement (investment from DSG) to improve processes and reduce number of cases going to tribunal and therefore legal costs | (75) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-013 | Centrally Controlled Budgets | Overhead Recovery | Process and Policy | Recognition that as a new unitary authority, there is an increasing cost of supporting the various services we support outside of the Council Tax funded budgets | (73) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-141 | Place and Economy | Street cleansing | Process and Policy | Seek external contributions to Street Cleaning within Northampton Town Centre | (65) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-139 | Chief Executive Office | Review Publication Costs | Process and Policy | Review all printed publications across the organisation and determine if they are all still required and what the best format for is for publication. | (64) | 64 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-109 | Place and Economy | Document Storage | Process and Policy | Savings from reducing need for document storage contract | (50) | (50) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-138 | Chief Executive Office | Subscription Budget | Process and Policy | Reduction in subscriptions budget | (31) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-121 | Place and Economy | Multi Storey Car Park (MSCP) cleaning contract | Process and Policy | Do not renew the MSCP cleaning contract. The restructured parking team alongside working collaboratively with the Market Operatives to undertake the cleaning functions at MSCP sites. | (26) | (27) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-050 | Communities and Opportunities | Changes to provision of furniture in temporary accommodation. | Process and Policy | Reduction of furniture budget by utilising donations and low cost pre-loved items. | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-071 | Communities and Opportunities | Libraries reduction to book fund | Process and Policy | Reduce book fund by £45K which will be a £22.5k saving for each authority | (22) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-072 | Communities and Opportunities | Council owned temporary accommodation, change in refurbishment methods between lets. | Process and Policy | Current practices of renewing flooring between temporary accommodation placements to be amended. | (21) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Process and Policy Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-019 | Chief Executive Office | Removal of corporate CLA licence (photocopying of journals etc) | Process and Policy | A recent review of Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) licence used across all directorates has concluded it is not required and removal would have minimal impact on the Comms service or wider service areas | (17) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-117 | Place and Economy | Remove recycling bring bank service in Northampton | Process and Policy | Remove the remaining bring banks in Northampton since a comprehensive kerbside recycling service is available. | (14) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-045 | Communities and Opportunities | Budget savings from Buildings Repair and Maintenance budget | Process and Policy | Reduction of Building repair and maintenance budget as not used - no service impact | (13) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-041 | Communities and Opportunities | Reshaping of funding to Nsport | Process and Policy | Reduce general funding provided to NSport. | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-043 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduction in funding to Royal & Derngate for storage | Process and Policy | Offering excess budget previously allocated to Royal and Derngate for storage purposes. Annual grant of £300,000 will remain. | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-040 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduce spend on hire of facilities/venues for sports & leisure activities. | Process and Policy | The school holiday activity programme has been redesigned. The new format reduces hire costs. | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-031 | Communities and Opportunities | Car Mileage and furniture budgets reduced to reflect WNC ways of working | Process and Policy | Reduction in car mileage and furniture budgets across the whole directorate | (8) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-032 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduction in base budget consultancy for Leisure services | Process and Policy | 50% reduction of 'consultancy' budget assigned to support services to older people. | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-034 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduction in equipment budget | Process and Policy | No new equipment can be purchased | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-036 | Communities and Opportunities | Consolidation of Out of Hours Service contracts | Process and Policy | Contracts between legacy district/borough councils and Call Care Out of Hours Service to be aggregated. | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-063 | Communities and Opportunities | Recharging of staff time to resettlement programmes | Process and Policy | Senior management time spent on resettlement work recharged to grant aided resettlement programmes. | (5) | 5 | 0 | 0 |

Process and Policy Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|---|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-114 | Place and Economy | Regulatory Services | Process and Policy | Realignment of budget following reorganisation within the service | (5) | (50) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-029 | Communities and Opportunities | Temporary Accommodation: reduction in the gardening/landscaping budget | Process and Policy | Service can be delivered on a marginally smaller budget for council owned temporary accommodation (held in the General Fund). | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-064 | Communities and Opportunities | Recruitment of property maintenance person | Process and Policy | Recruit in-house resource and reduce costs to various contractors to undertake void works in Temporary accommodation properties. | 0 | (10) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-065 | Communities and Opportunities | Reshaping cleaning arrangements for temporary accommodation. | Process and Policy | Reduction of void costs and external contractor cleaning costs at temporary accommodation properties. | 0 | (10) | 0 | 0 |
| Total Process and Policy Proposals | | | | | (3,955) | (848) | (16) | 0 |

Redesign and Reorganisation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-088 | Education Services | Review of High Needs placements | Redesign & Reorganisation | A review of high needs placements has identified under utilisation of DSG funding | (3,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-006 | Adult Social Care | Strength Based Working Reablement West | Redesign & Reorganisation | Restructure of the service has increased the number of people who will benefit from reablement and therapeutic intervention reducing the need for long term care spend. | (1,666) | (1,666) | (1,666) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-007 | Adult Social Care | Domiciliary Care Redesign | Redesign & Reorganisation | Domiciliary care aligned to Local Area Partnerships (LAP) to reduce travel time and more efficient deployment of staff alongside the introduction of electronic call monitoring. | (1,500) | (1,000) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-004 | Adult Social Care | Progression and improvement of independent outcomes across Learning Disability services | Redesign & Reorganisation | Progression and Improving independent outcomes within Learning Disability services. This will result in individuals receiving the care that they need. | (1,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-079 | Corporate Services | Corporate Services Target Operating Model | Redesign & Reorganisation | Implementation of New Corporate Target Operating Model. | (1,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-009 | Adult Social Care | Positive Living Outcomes | Redesign & Reorganisation | Implementation of a four year Supported Accommodation Strategy that will provide people with care and support needs with sustainable support and housing options. | (660) | (2,075) | (2,490) | (2,075) |
| 2324-B4-100 | Place and Economy | Office Rationalisation | Redesign & Reorganisation | Office rationalisation and intensifying accommodation use. | (655) | (255) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-077 | Corporate Services | Contract Rationalisation | Redesign & Reorganisation | IT Contract rationalisation and review. | (507) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Redesign and Reorganisation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-008 | Adult Social Care | Optimisation of WNC in house provision | Redesign & Reorganisation | Full review of WNC's day service offer to ensure optimal use. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-078 | Corporate Services | In House Legal Services | Redesign & Reorganisation | The creation of an in house Legal Service results in a reduced cost base compared to the current externalised arrangement. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-022 | Chief Executive Office | Chief Executive Services Restructuring | Redesign & Reorganisation | Chief Executive Services restructuring. | (453) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-132 | Place and Economy | Planning restructure | Redesign & Reorganisation | Savings to be achieved through staff restructure, consultancy budget review and additional income initiatives. | (360) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-098 | Finance | Accountancy Budget review | Redesign & Reorganisation | The legacy Statement of Accounts are complete therefore this budget will no longer be required. | (250) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-122 | Place and Economy | Facilities Management | Redesign & Reorganisation | Rationalisation of Facilities Management contracts across the Council's office buildings. | (238) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-086 | Education Services | Consolidation of services | Redesign & Reorganisation | Consolidation of commissioning and business intelligence within Children's Service with Public Health. | (200) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-073 | Corporate Services | Budget realignment | Technical Adjustment | Following a detailed review of Corporate Services, the budget can be amended to more accurately reflect likely spend. | (184) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-126 | Place and Economy | Parking Team Restructure | Redesign & Reorganisation | Restructure CCTV & Transport Facilities team to improve efficiencies in operation. | (128) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Redesign and Reorganisation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-102 | Place and Economy | Events to Northampton Town Council | Redesign & Reorganisation | As previously agreed Northampton Town Council will deliver these services in future. There will be a staged transfer of costs. | (107) | (107) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-080 | Corporate Services | Customer Services review | Redesign & Reorganisation | Customer Services review of current services. | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-142 | Place and Economy | Car Parks | Redesign & Reorganisation | Mayorhold Car Park is significantly under utilised and could use other under utilised car parks in the town. Closing the car park will lead to reduced costs and therefore greater efficiency of the Council's resources. | (87) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-095 | Finance | Revenues and Benefits staffing | Redesign & Reorganisation | Revenues and Benefits - Staffing Budget realignment | (80) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-001 | Adult Social Care | Optimisation of WNC Adult Social Care in-house provision | Redesign & Reorganisation | A full review of WNC's in-house services to ensure optimal usage. | (70) | (380) | (1,930) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-127 | Place and Economy | Regulatory Services Amalgamation | Redesign & Reorganisation | Manager post to be deleted as part of service restructure | (62) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-060 | Communities and Opportunities | Budget savings from Economic Development | Redesign & Reorganisation | Consultancy budget can be reduced. | (60) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-018 | Chief Executive Office | Executive Support - Consultancy Budget | Redesign & Reorganisation | Consultancy budget from Executive Support no longer required for future years. | (54) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-092 | Finance | Customer Engagement restructure | Redesign & Reorganisation | Review of Performance and Governance Service | (50) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-057 | Communities and Opportunities | Economic Development Budget savings due to aggregation | Redesign & Reorganisation | Review of unused budget for Economic Development. | (48) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-133 | Place and Economy | Capitalise bin budget | Redesign & Reorganisation | Currently bins are purchased from revenue | (47) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-123 | Place and Economy | Miscellaneous underspends | Redesign & Reorganisation | Aggregation of small unspent or underspent budgets | (40) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-094 | Finance | Procurement Budget realignment | Redesign & Reorganisation | Staffing Budget realignment | (34) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-093 | Finance | Audit and Risk budget realignment | Redesign & Reorganisation | Budget realignment within Audit and Risk Management following the in-house team being in place since April 2022. | (31) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Redesign and Reorganisation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-076 | Corporate Services | Dividend Income | Redesign & Reorganisation | Opus dividends | (30) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-084 | Education Services | Capitalisation of salaries | Redesign & Reorganisation | Capitalisation of staff salaries due to extensive SEND expansion programme | (29) | 0 | 14 | 15 |
| 2324-B4-051 | Communities and Opportunities | Unallocated community grants. | Charging and Income | Reduction in legacy grant arrangements from district/borough councils. | (27) | (10) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-091 | Finance | Strategic Finance budget review | Redesign & Reorganisation | Reconfiguration of strategic financial support | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-090 | Finance | Procurement budget realignment | Redesign & Reorganisation | Budget realignment within Procurement | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-048 | Communities and Opportunities | Aggregation of Private Sector Housing Teams | Redesign & Reorganisation | Aggregation of Private Sector Housing functions from the three sovereign District Council services | (20) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-120 | Place and Economy | Standby payments | Redesign & Reorganisation | Previous out of hours standby arrangements which were only in place in one predecessor area have been removed, staff previously undertaking service have been paid transitional tapering payment during 22/23, this will cease by April 23 | (20) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-046 | Communities and Opportunities | Predecessor authority wellbeing budget | Redesign & Reorganisation | Remove budget as staff wellbeing is funded corporately through HR. Impact on service mitigated through on-going involvement in working group. | (15) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-118 | Place and Economy | Expand pest control service | Redesign & Reorganisation | Promote existing pest control service to seek additional commercial opportunities | (15) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-044 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduce spend on agency staff for Sport & Leisure | Redesign & Reorganisation | Reduce budget for agency staff, deliverable due to holiday activity programme redesign. | (12) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-039 | Communities and Opportunities | Reduce base budget for consultancy fees in Economic Development | Redesign & Reorganisation | Reduction in base budget | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-089 | Finance | Revenues and Benefits budget | Redesign & Reorganisation | Reduction in training budget | (10) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Redesign and Reorganisation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2324-B4-113 | Place and Economy | Environmental Health | Redesign & Reorganisation | Realignment of budget following reorganisation within the service | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-030 | Communities and Opportunities | Printing and photocopying legacy budget no longer required in Economic Development | Redesign & Reorganisation | Remove these costs from Economic Development budget as no longer required - limited impact as very little spend historically. | (2) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-027 | Communities and Opportunities | Economic Development budget rightsizing | Redesign & Reorganisation | Legacy budget further reviewed and no longer required - no service impact | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Redesign and Reorgansiation | | | | | (13,917) | (5,493) | (6,072) | (2,060) |

This page is intentionally left blank

Technology and Innovation Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--|--------------------|---|---------------------------|--|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-005 | Adult Social Care | Optimise use of single handed care | Technology and Innovation | Further drive on reducing the need for two carers via use of Assistive Technology. | (1,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-082 | Corporate Services | Artificial Intelligence | Technology and Innovation | Efficiency savings to be realised through the increased use of Artificial Intelligence | (50) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-099 | Finance | Revenues and Benefits system efficiencies | Technology and Innovation | Implementation of a single software system for Revenues and Benefits | 0 | 0 | (369) | 0 |
| Total Technology and Innovation | | | | | (1,050) | 0 | (369) | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Technical Adjustments

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 2324-B4-081 | Various | Transformation Team | Technical Adjustment | Transformation Team - removal of initial funding. Funding of the team beyond 2022/23 will be through the Future Use of Capital Receipts policy that we have. | (2,900) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-015 | Centrally Controlled Budgets | Treasury growth realigned | Technical Adjustment | Removal of legacy and future predicted Treasury costs, with more specific revised Treasury forecasts provided. | (2,000) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-083 | Education Services | Corporate Overheads review | Technical Adjustment | Review of inflationary rate applied to corporate overheads chargeable to the central schools services block (CSSB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) | (160) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B4-023 | Communities and Opportunities | Enterprise Zone Admin Budget Changes | Technical Adjustment | Recalculation of budgets, funded from increased Business Rates income via the Enterprise Zone Reserve. Alongside ensuring recharging of resource time to reflect current support. | (110) | (59) | (19) | 0 |
| 2324-B4-096 | Finance | Revenues and Benefits Bad Debt review | Technical Adjustment | Reduction in bad debt provision can lead to a one year release of excess bad debt provision. | (100) | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Technical Adjustments | | | | | (5,270) | 41 | (19) | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

One off Funded Proposals

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026/27 £k |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|----------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| 2324-B5-001 | Various | Reversing the one off funded budgets from 2022-23 | One off Funding | Reversing the one off funded budgets from 2022-23 | (10,509) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-037 | Communities and Opportunities | Economic Growth | One off Funding | Economic Growth Reserve – cash flow enabling major events, expectation to deliver income through events to offset expenditure. | 500 | (500) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-038 | Communities and Opportunities | Vulcan works | One off Funding | Vulcan Works in year budget deficit positions for next 3 years. Funds to be repaid to reserve once surpluses are delivered. | 450 | (450) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-040 | Communities and Opportunities | Community and Voluntary Sector Funding | One off Funding | Community and Voluntary sector funding requirement based on legacy annual grant award. | 170 | (170) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-041 | Communities and Opportunities | Traveller Site Maintenance | One off Funding | Investment in Travellers site, increasing the maintenance allowance for repairs to service blocks whilst longer term future of site is decided. | 100 | (100) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-042 | Communities and Opportunities | Housing Strategy | One off Funding | Consultancy support to support strategy development for Housing Allocations Policy and Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy. These are statutory documents that are required and will need to be delivered by April 2024. | 80 | (80) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-043 | Communities and Opportunities | Housing IT Solution | One off Funding | Investment in a new housing IT solution, to develop a new housing register to implement the new West Northants Allocations Policy. | 50 | (50) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-044 | Corporate Services | Storage Contract | One off Funding | Pressure arising from storage contract and capacity pressures | 120 | (120) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-045 | Finance | Income Management System | One off Funding | Accountancy Income Management System | 100 | (100) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-046 | Finance | Civica Contract Extension | One off Funding | Civica Financial Management System Extension | 88 | (88) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-047 | Place and Economy | Temporary Reduction in Income while Economic Generation is underway | One off Funding | Reduction to income due to Market Square refurbishment | 250 | (250) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-049 | Centrally Controlled | Pay and Grading | One off Funding | Pay and Grading base budget requirement following implementation of a new consolidated pay structure | 600 | (600) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-050 | Northamptonshire Children's Trust | NCT One off Refurbishment funding. | One off Funding | One off refurbishment costs to support children with social care needs. | 164 | (164) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-051 | Northamptonshire Children's Trust | Extend One off Funding for a Further Year for investment in Social Care Services | One off Funding | Investment extension in both Early Help and Fostering Services | 360 | (360) | 0 | 0 |
| 2324-B5-055 | Northamptonshire Children's Trust | One off investment in Valuing Care | One off Funding | One off investment in Valuing Care Project which relates to a managed social care team who will ensure children's outcomes are improved and delivered in a cost effective manner. | 726 | (726) | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | | (6,751) | (3,758) | 0 | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Building Control discretionary fees and charges

The fees and charges for Building Control will include areas previously covered by Northampton Borough Council and South Northants Council and Warwick DC (on behalf of Daventry DC).

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 1 dwelling - Plan Charge | 152.00 | 250.00 | 64.47% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 1 dwelling - Inspection Fee | 452.00 | 602.00 | 33.19% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 1 dwelling - Building Notice Charge | 662.00 | 938.00 | 41.69% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 1 dwelling - Regularisation Charge | 702.00 | 958.00 | 36.47% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 2 dwellings - Plan Charge | 187.00 | 300.00 | 60.43% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 2 dwellings - Inspection Fee | 559.00 | 672.00 | 20.21% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 2 dwellings - Building Notice Charge | 819.00 | 1,069.00 | 30.53% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - 2 dwellings - Regularisation Charge | 869.00 | 1,085.00 | 24.86% |
| New Dwellings up to 300m ² : - For Three or more dwellings, or if the floor area of the dwellings exceeds 300m ² | Charge to be individually determined | Charge to be individually determined | 0.00% |
| Detached garage or car port up to 40m ² - Plan Charge | 246.00 | 373.00 | 51.63% |
| Detached garage or car port up to 40m ² - Inspection Fee | Included in Plan Charge | Included in Plan Charge | 0.00% |
| Detached garage or car port up to 40m ² - Building Notice Charge | 271.00 | 373.00 | 37.64% |
| Detached garage or car port up to 40m ² - Regularisation Charge | 266.00 | 404.00 | 51.88% |
| Attached single storey extension of garage or car port up to 40m ² - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| Attached single storey extension of garage or car port up to 40m ² - Inspection Fee | 144.00 | 223.00 | 54.86% |
| Attached single storey extension of garage or car port up to 40m ² - Building Notice Charge | 266.00 | 373.00 | 40.23% |
| Attached single storey extension of garage or car port up to 40m ² - Regularisation Charge | 288.00 | 404.00 | 40.28% |
| Domestic extension up to 10m ² - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| Domestic extension up to 10m ² - Inspection Fee | 226.00 | 297.00 | 31.42% |
| Domestic extension up to 10m ² - Building Notice Charge | 348.00 | 447.00 | 28.45% |
| Domestic extension up to 10m ² - Regularisation Charge | 377.00 | 485.00 | 28.65% |
| Domestic extension 10m ² to 40m ² - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| Domestic extension 10m ² to 40m ² - Inspection Fee | 316.00 | 418.00 | 32.28% |
| Domestic extension 10m ² to 40m ² - Building Notice Charge | 438.00 | 568.00 | 29.68% |
| Domestic extension 10m ² to 40m ² - Regularisation Charge | 475.00 | 615.00 | 29.47% |
| Domestic extension 40m ² to 100m ² - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| Domestic extension 40m ² to 100m ² - Inspection Fee | 430.00 | 559.00 | 30.00% |
| Domestic extension 40m ² to 100m ² - Building Notice Charge | 553.00 | 709.00 | 28.21% |
| Domestic extension 40m ² to 100m ² - Regularisation Charge | 599.00 | 768.00 | 28.21% |
| A minimum charge for rooms in the roof is - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| A minimum charge for rooms in the roof is - Inspection Fee | 295.00 | 431.00 | 46.10% |
| A minimum charge for rooms in the roof is - Building Notice Charge | 418.00 | 581.00 | 39.00% |
| A minimum charge for rooms in the roof is - Regularisation Charge | 452.00 | 630.00 | 39.38% |
| A Minimum charge for rooms in the roof with dormer - Plan Charge | 123.00 | 150.00 | 21.95% |
| A Minimum charge for rooms in the roof with dormer - Inspection Fee | 350.00 | 484.00 | 38.29% |
| A Minimum charge for rooms in the roof with dormer - Building Notice Charge | 473.00 | 634.00 | 34.04% |
| A Minimum charge for rooms in the roof with dormer - Regularisation Charge | 512.00 | 686.00 | 33.98% |
| Conversion of a habitable room(s) - Plan Charge | 62.00 | 100.00 | 61.29% |
| Conversion of a habitable room(s) - Inspection Fee | 205.00 | 295.00 | 43.90% |
| Conversion of a habitable room(s) - Building Notice Charge | 266.00 | 395.00 | 48.50% |
| Conversion of a habitable room(s) - Regularisation Charge | 288.00 | 428.00 | 48.61% |
| The introduction of insulation as part of a re-roof work, re-rendering/plastering and replacement ground floors that does not include changes to structural members - Plan Charge | 205.00 | 314.00 | 53.17% |
| The introduction of insulation as part of a re-roof work, re-rendering/plastering and replacement ground floors that does not include changes to structural members - Inspection Fee | Included in Plan Charge | Included in Plan Charge | 0.00% |
| The introduction of insulation as part of a re-roof work, re-rendering/plastering and replacement ground floors that does not include changes to structural members - Building Notice Charge | 205.00 | 314.00 | 53.17% |
| The introduction of insulation as part of a re-roof work, re-rendering/plastering and replacement ground floors that does not include changes to structural members - Regularisation Charge | 222.00 | 340.00 | 53.15% |
| Domestic external window & door replacements (up to 5) - Building Notice Charge | 164.00 | 354.00 | 115.85% |
| Domestic external window & door replacements (up to 5) - Regularisation Charge | 178.00 | 275.00 | 54.49% |
| Domestic external window & door replacements (over 5) - Building Notice Charge | To be individually determined | To be individually determined | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--------|
| Domestic external window & door replacements (over 5) - Regularisation Charge | To be individually determined | To be individually determined | 0.00% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Plan Charge | 164.00 | 210.00 | 28.05% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Building Notice Charge | 164.00 | 210.00 | 28.05% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Regularisation Charge | 178.00 | 228.00 | 28.09% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 - Plan Charge | 205.00 | 268.00 | 30.73% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 - Building Notice Charge | 205.00 | 268.00 | 30.73% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 - Regularisation Charge | 222.00 | 290.00 | 30.63% |
| Domestic Internal Alterations, installation of fittings and/or structural work - For schemes exceeding £5,000 estimated contract price | Charge is individually determined | Charge is individually determined | 0.00% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Plan Charge | 205.00 | 232.00 | 13.17% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Building Notice Charge | 205.00 | 232.00 | 13.17% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £0 - 2000 - Regularisation Charge | 222.00 | 250.00 | 12.61% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 - Plan Charge | 246.00 | 290.00 | 17.89% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 - Building Notice Charge | 246.00 | 290.00 | 17.89% |
| Charges for all Non-Domestic Building Work - Estimated Cost of Building Works £2001 - 5000 -Regularisations Charge | 263.00 | 315.00 | 19.77% |
| Electrical Work - minimum charge when not carried out in conjunction | 203.00 | 240.00 | 18.23% |
| Regularisation Charge | 220.00 | 260.00 | 18.18% |
| Fees for Dealing with Dangerous Structures - Surveyors Mileage Costs | 45p per mile | 45p per mile | 0.00% |
| Fees for Dealing with Dangerous Structures - Surveyors Time Costs | Between £20.00 to £31.00 per hour | Between £22.00 to £34.00 per hour | 0.00% |
| Fees for Dealing with Dangerous Structures - Administration | 53.00 | 58.00 | 9.43% |
| Cost of work to make structure safe will depend on the amount and type of work involved | 0.00 | Charge is individually determined | 0.00% |
| Exempt Building Certificate | 40.00 | 44.00 | 10.00% |
| Retrieval of Plans to enable copies of Certificates to be issued | Now part of copies of certificate charge | Now part of copies of certificate charge | 0.00% |
| Copies of Certificates - Per Copy | 45.00 | 50.00 | 11.11% |
| To view Historic / Stored Files | 220.00 | 242.00 | 10.00% |
| Letters of Confirmation of works carried out if files not available | 75.00 | 83.00 | 10.67% |
| Cancellations - Administration fee to cancel application | 60.00 | 66.00 | 10.00% |

Land Charges fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| CON29R and LLC1 | 129.60 | 142.70 | 10.11% |
| CON29R only (excluding LLC1) | 97.60 | 107.50 | 10.14% |
| Additional parcel CON29 | 17.04 | 18.80 | 10.33% |
| Additional parcel LLC1 | 1.50 | 1.70 | 13.33% |
| LLC1 only (excluding CON29) | 32.00 | 35.20 | 10.00% |
| CON29O excluding questions 4 and 22 | 15.00 | 16.50 | 10.00% |
| Question 4 | 16.20 | 17.80 | 9.88% |
| Question 22 | 18.80 | 20.70 | 10.11% |
| Own worded enquiries | 28.40 | 31.30 | 10.21% |
| Commercial LLC1 and CON29 | 156.80 | 172.60 | 10.08% |
| Commercial CON29 only | 124.80 | 137.40 | 10.10% |
| Personal Search | Free | Free | 0.00% |

Planning Policy fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Settlements and Countryside Local Plan | | | |
| Policy Document and Map Booklet | 20.50 | 22.60 | 10.24% |
| Local Development Scheme | 7.25 | 8.00 | 10.34% |
| Statement of Community Involvement (May 2017) | 7.25 | 8.00 | 10.34% |
| Housing Land Availability Report | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Proposed Submission Round 2 (June 2020) and Adopted | | | |
| Policy Document and Policies Maps | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| South Northamptonshire Part 2 Plan - Adopted Plan | | | |
| Policy Document and policies maps | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Village Design Statements (SPG / SPG's) | | | |
| Arthingworth (Feb 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Boughton (May 2017) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Brington and Nobottle (October 2018) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Brixworth | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Byfield (Feb 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Clipston | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Creaton | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Crick | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Daventry | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Farthingstone | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Flore | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Great Oxenden (Oct 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Helliden (Oct 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Hollowell and Teeton | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Long Buckby | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Naseby | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Norton | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Ravensthorpe | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Scaldwell | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Sibertoft | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Spratton | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Walgrave | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Whilton | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Yelvertoft | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Neighbourhood Plans | | | |
| Badby (January 2019) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Barby and Onley (September 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Braunston (February 2017) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Brixworth (December 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Crick (January 2018) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Flore (September 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Guilsborough (January 2019) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Kilsby (July 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Moulton (December 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Spratton (July 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Welford (September 2017) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Welton (January 2019) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| West Haddon (January 2016) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Woodford cum Membris (May 2018) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Conservation Area Appraisals | | | |
| Badby | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Boughton (July 2018) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Braunston (December 2018) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Brixworth (December 2017) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Daventry (December 2017) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Everdon (October 2019) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Flore (June 2018) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Grand Union/Oxford Canal | 7.25 | 8.00 | 10.34% |
| Harlestone (July 2017) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Kilsby (December 2018) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Little Everdon (October 2019) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Moulton (July 2017) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Pitsford (October 2019) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Scaldwell | 7.25 | 8.00 | 10.34% |
| Staverton | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |
| Weedon (October 2018) | 16.00 | 17.60 | 10.00% |

| Development Briefs/Concept Statements | | | |
|--|-------|-------|--------|
| SPG/SPG not listed below | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Sustainability Appraisal | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Report on Consultation | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Other Supplementary Planning Documents / Guidance | | | |
| Biodiversity | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Housing Supplementary Planning Document (July 2017) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Infrastructure and Developer Contributions (Oct 2013) | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Daventry Conservation Area shop Front Design Brief | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Daventry Design Codes | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Daventry Design Codes CD | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Designing House Extensions | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Church Brampton Design Guide | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Design and Location of Agricultural Buildings | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| DIRFT Expansion Design Guide | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| DIRFT Expansion Design Guide CD | 14.00 | 15.40 | 10.00% |
| Braunston Canal Strategy | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Statements of consultation for any of above (where produced) | 7.50 | 8.30 | 10.67% |
| Sustainability Appraisals for any of above (where produced) | 7.50 | 8.30 | 10.67% |
| Self Build and Custom Build Housing | | | |
| Part 1 - Initial Application | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Part 2 - Annual Fee | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |

House and street naming and numbering fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| House Name Change (existing properties) - charge per property | 44.00 | 48.40 | 10.00% |
| Numbering / naming per plot/property | 26.00 | 28.60 | 10.00% |
| Numbering / Naming (new properties) - 1 - 5 Plots - charge per plot | 26.00 | 28.60 | 10.00% |
| Numbering / Naming (new properties) - 6 - 25 Plots - charge per plot | 26.00 | 28.60 | 10.00% |
| Numbering / Naming (new properties) - 26 - 75 Plots - charge per plot | 26.00 | 28.60 | 10.00% |
| Numbering / Naming (new properties) - 76+ Plots - charge per plot | 26.00 | 28.60 | 10.00% |
| Additional charge where this includes Naming of a Building (e.g. Block of Flats) - charge per building | 150.00 | 165.20 | 10.13% |
| Renaming of existing street where requested by residents | 280 plus 30 per property | 310 plus 33 per property | 10.00% |
| Additional Charge to House Numbering where this includes naming of new street - charge per property | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Amending Schedule of development already issued following plot change by developer (per plot affected) | 34.00 | 37.40 | 10.00% |

Waste Services fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Green waste charges | | | |
| Kerbside Garden Waste Collection Subscription (annual fee per bin) | 42.00 | 55.00 | 30.95% |
| Bulky Waste charges | | | |
| Charge for up to 3 items | 25.00 | 30.00 | 20.00% |
| Charge for up to 6 items | 40.00 | 50.00 | 25.00% |
| Trade Waste | | | |
| For the area previously covered by South Northants Council | | | |
| COMMERCIAL REFUSE COLLECTION | | | |
| Residual waste sacks | 65.00 | 71.00 | 9.23% |
| Recycling sacks | 45.00 | 49.00 | 8.89% |
| COMMERCIAL REFUSE COLLECTION - PER LIFT | | | |
| 240 litre bin | 7.75 | 8.50 | 9.68% |
| 360 litre bin | 9.75 | 10.50 | 7.69% |
| 660 litre bin | 14.75 | 16.00 | 8.47% |
| 1100 litre bin | 17.50 | 19.00 | 8.57% |
| COMMERCIAL RECYCLING COLLECTION - PER LIFT | | | |
| 240 litre bin | 5.50 | 6.00 | 9.09% |
| 360 litre bin | 6.50 | 7.00 | 7.69% |
| 660 litre bin | 9.50 | 10.50 | 10.53% |
| 1100 litre bin | 10.50 | 11.50 | 9.52% |
| * Discount of 10% for >5 bins, 20% for >10 bins | | | |
| COMMERCIAL FOOD RECYCLING COLLECTION - PER LIFT | | | |
| 120 litre bin | 3.75 | 4.50 | 20.00% |
| 23 litre caddy | 1.25 | 1.50 | 20.00% |
| ADDITIONAL DOMESTIC BINS | | | |
| 240 litre black bin | 90.00 | 98.00 | 8.89% |
| For the area previously covered by Northampton Borough Council: | | | |
| Prices on quotation from Veolia | | | |
| For the area previously covered by Daventry District Council: | | | |
| Prices on quotation from Daventry Norse | | | |

Regulatory Services fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|------------|
| Miscellaneous Licences | | | |
| Hiring out Horses | £597.40 = 56/44 = £334.55 + £262.85 | 460 app + 197 grant = 657 | 9.98% |
| Acupuncture, Tattooing, Ear-piercing, Electrolysis Premises | 257.50 | 282.50 | 9.71% |
| Acupuncture, Tattooing, Ear-piercing, Electrolysis Practitioner | 103.00 | 113.00 | 9.71% |
| Dangerous Wild Animals | 396 = 56/44 = £221.76 + £174.24 | 305 app + 130.60 grant = 435.60 | 10.00% |
| Dog Breeding | £463.50 = 56/44 = £259.56 + £203.94 | 357 app + 152.85 grant = 509.85 | 10.00% |
| Animal Boarding | £448 = 56/44 = £250.88 + 197.12 | 345 app + 147.80 grant = 492.80 | 10.00% |
| Animal Boarding at home | £412 = 56/44 = £230.72 + £181.28 | 317 app + 136 grant = 453 | 9.95% |
| Combined licensable activities | £556 = 56/44 = 311.36 + £244.64 | 427 app + 184 grant = 611 | 9.89% |
| Combined licensable activities where one activity is Hiring Out Horses | 650 with 56/44 split = £364 + £268 | 500 app + 215 grant = 715 | 10.00% |
| Selling Animals as Pets | £515 = 56/44 = £288.40 + £226.60 | 396.50 app + 170 grant = 566.50 | 10.00% |
| Animals for exhibition | £412 = 56/44 = £230.72 + £181.28 | 317 app + 136 grant = 453 | 9.95% |
| Animal licence admin changes | 25.00 | 27.50 | 10.00% |
| Variation to animal licence (visit required) | 309.00 | Same as application fee for relevant licence | 0.00% |
| Animal star rating appeal (payable if initial decision upheld or star rating goes down) | 309.00 | 339.50 | 9.87% |
| Animal star rating rescore (always payable) | 309.00 | 339.50 | 9.87% |
| Street Trading | 1,000.00 | 1100 | 10.00% |
| Zoo Licence | £618 = 56/44 = £346.08 + £271.92 | 475.85 app + 203.95 grant = 679.80 | 10.00% |
| Sex Establishment | £824 = 461.44 + £362.56 | 634.50 app + 271.90 grant = 906.40 | 10.00% |
| Sex entertainment establishments | £3090 = 56/44 = £1730.40 + £1359.60 | 2379 app + 1020 grant = 3399 | 10.00% |
| Scrap metal site (application) | £412 = 56/44 = £230.72 + £181.28 | 317 app + 136 grant = 453 | 9.95% |
| Scrap metal collector (application) | £309 = 56/44 = £173.04 + £135.96 | 237.65 app + 101.85 grant = 339.50 | 9.87% |
| Scrap metal site & collector (variation) | £154 = 56/44 = £86.24 + £67.76 | 118 app + 51.40 grant = 169.40 | 10.00% |
| Mobile Home Sites Fees | | | |
| New Application | | | |
| 1 to 10 pitches | 168 app + 132 grant = 300 | 230 app + 100 grant = 330 | 10.00% |
| 11 to 30 pitches | 252 app + 198 grant = 450 | 346.50 app + 148.50 grant = 495 | 10.00% |
| 31 to 99 pitches | 319.20 app + 250.80 grant = 570 | 439 app + 188 grant = 627 | 10.00% |
| 100 or more pitches | 397.60 app + 312.40 grant = 710 | 546 app + 235 grant = 781 | 10.00% |
| Annual Fee | | | |
| 1 to 10 pitches | 235.00 | 258.50 | 10.00% |
| 11 to 30 pitches | 300.00 | 330.00 | 10.00% |
| 31 to 99 pitches | 375.00 | 412.50 | 10.00% |
| 100 or more pitches | 450.00 | 495.00 | 10.00% |
| Transfer/amendment | 175.00 | 192.50 | 10.00% |
| Replacement paper licence | 50.00 | 55.00 | 10.00% |
| Lodging rules | 75.00 | 82.50 | 10.00% |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| Training | | | |
| Taught | | | |
| Foundation/Level 2 - various courses | 77.25 | 85.00 | 10.03% |
| Foundation/Level 2 Refresher - various courses | 51.50 | 56.50 | 9.71% |
| Intermediate/ Level 3 - various courses | 257.50 | 283.50 | 10.10% |
| Online | | | |
| Foundation/Level 2 - various courses | 26.00 | 28.50 | 9.62% |
| Intermediate/ Level 3 - various courses | 154.50 | 170.00 | 10.03% |
| Level 2 Personal license Holder eLearning and invigilated exam | 84.50 | 93.00 | 10.06% |
| Invigilated exam resit | 26.00 | 28.50 | 9.62% |
| Other charges | | | |
| Food Surrender Certificate | 129.00 | 142.00 | 10.08% |
| Export Health Certificate | 113.00 | 124.50 | 10.18% |
| Export health Certificate (visit required) | £113 plus officer time/expenses | 124.50 plus officer time/expenses | 10.18% |
| Food Hygiene Rating Scheme Rescore Visit | 283.25 | 311.50 | 9.97% |
| Water Sampling - Swimming pools | | | 0.00% |
| Laboratory Fee (swimming pool basic water) | Price upon application - based on Officers hourly rate, expenses and lab fees | Price upon application - based on Officers hourly rate, expenses and lab fees | 0.00% |
| Courier | Price upon application - based on Officers hourly rate, expenses and lab fees | Price upon application - based on Officers hourly rate, expenses and lab fees | 0.00% |
| Sampling and administration cost recovery hourly rate | 0.00 | Price upon application | 0.00% |
| Cost recovery - Commercial & Business Support | | | |
| Basic cost recovery (qualified officer) | 71.00 | 78.00 | 9.86% |
| Full cost recovery (qualified officer) Primary Authority | 79.00 | 84.24 | 6.63% |
| Mileage cost per mile | 0.45 | 0.50 | 10.00% |
| Strive for 5 | 257.50 | 283.50 | 10.10% |
| SFBB 48 week diary refills | 15.00 | 16.50 | 10.00% |
| SFBB Pack with 48 week diary refill | 25.00 | 27.50 | 10.00% |
| HEALTH PROMOTION | | | 0.00% |
| Radon Enquiry - from solicitors, etc | 62.00 | 68.00 | 9.68% |
| Health & Safety Accident Enquiry - Factual Report | £226.60 + 36p per page for more than 5 pages | £249.50 + 40p per page for more than 5 pages | 10.11% |
| LIQUOR LICENSING | | | |
| Personal | - | 37.00 | 0.00% |
| Premises | - | Price upon application | 0.00% |
| Temporary Events Notices | - | 21.00 | 0.00% |
| Transfers | - | 27.00 | 0.00% |
| Water Sampling | - | | 0.00% |
| Large/Commercial use supplies (each assessment at £68/hour capped at £500) | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| Risk assessment (each assessment at £68/hour capped at £500) | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| Sampling (each visit) | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Investigation | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Granting an authorisation | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Analysing a sample: | | | 0.00% |
| Taken under regulation 10 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 0.00% |
| Taken during Check monitoring | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Taken during Audit monitoring | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| Lotteries | | | 0.00% |
| Small Society Lottery - Initial fee | 40.00 | 40.00 | 0.00% |
| Small Society Lottery - Renewal | 20.00 | 20.00 | 0.00% |
| Environmental Protection | | | 0.00% |
| Contaminated land enquiry | 98.00 | 98.00 | 0.00% |
| contaminated land enquiry commercial | 98.00 | 98.00 | 0.00% |
| Animal Welfare | | | 0.00% |
| Dog Control Order Offences (Fixed Penalties) | | | 0.00% |
| Dog Kennelling | Cost recovery plus statutory charge for release | Cost recovery plus statutory charge for release | 0.00% |
| Release of stray dog | Cost recovery plus statutory charge for release | Cost recovery plus statutory charge for release | 0.00% |
| Dog chipping | 26.00 | | -100.00% |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|---------|
| Pest Control - Disinfestation Charges | | | 0.00% |
| Domestic Dwellings | | | 0.00% |
| - Rats | 78.00 | 86.00 | 10.26% |
| - Mice | 78.00 | 86.00 | 10.26% |
| - Flying Insects | 78.00 | 86.00 | 10.26% |
| - Wasps | 78.00 | 86.00 | 10.26% |
| - Crawling Insects | 78.00 | 86.00 | 10.26% |
| Call out Charge / Advice Visit | 37.00 | 86.00 | 132.43% |
| Commercial and Contract Work | Subject to quote | Subject to quote | 0.00% |
| Fixed Penalty Notices | | | 0.00% |
| Failure to comply with a community protection notice | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to pick up after your dog | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to put dog on lead when directed | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to exclude a dog from a children's play area | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to keep dog on lead in designated area | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to provide the means to pick up after a dog | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Fly tipping | 400 (360 early payment) | 400.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to produce authority to transfer waste | 300 (270 early payment) | 300.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to produce waste transfer documents | 300 (270 early payment) | 300.00 | 0.00% |
| Duty of care offences | 400 (360 early payment) | 400.00 | 0.00% |
| Littering | 150 (135 early payment) | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| Fly posting | 150 (135 early payment) | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| Graffiti | 150 (135 early payment) | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| Unauthorised distribution of free printed matter | 150 (135 early payment) | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| Abandoning a vehicle | 200 (180 early payment) | 200.00 | 0.00% |
| Smoking in a smoke free vehicle | 50 (45 early payment) | 50.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure of a person with management of a smoke free vehicle to prevent smoking | 50 (45 early payment) | 50.00 | 0.00% |
| Failure to display a non smoking sign in a smoke free vehicle | 200 (180 early payment) | 200.00 | 0.00% |
| Environmental permit fees | | As per Statutory fees | 0.00% |
| Car Boots | | | 0.00% |
| 1 - 50 pitches | £16 - Unique to Northampton Market Charter - car boot fee within 6 miles of Northampton market | 17.50 | 9.38% |
| Sliding scale to 176 - 200 pitches | £58.50 Unique to Northampton Market Charter - car boot fee within 6 miles of Northampton market | 64.00 | 9.40% |
| Fee per event | - | | |
| 1 - 50 pitches | £21.50 Unique to Northampton Market Charter - car boot fee within 6 miles of Northampton market | 23.50 | 9.30% |
| sliding scale to 176 - 200 pitches | £53.50 Unique to Northampton Market Charter - car boot fee within 6 miles of Northampton market | 59.00 | 10.28% |
| Public funerals | | | 0.00% |
| Local Authority funerals cost recovered from estate | 567.00 | 624.00 | 10.05% |
| Hourly rate for works in default | - | Subject to quote | 0.00% |
| Street pavement licence | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Make a high hedge complaint | 489.00 | 538.00 | 10.02% |

| | | | |
|---|---|----------------|-------|
| Gambling Act | | | 0.00% |
| New Small Casino and Annual Fee | 8000 / 5000 | 8000 / 5000 | 0.00% |
| New Large Casino and Annual Fee | 10000/10000 | 10000/10000 | 0.00% |
| New Regional Casino and Annual Fee | 15000/15000 | 15000/15000 | 0.00% |
| Bingo Club New and Annual Fee | 3500/1000 | 3500/1000 | 0.00% |
| Betting Premises New and Annual Fee | 3000/600 | 3000/600 | 0.00% |
| Track New and Annual Fee | 2500/1000 | 2500/1000 | 0.00% |
| Family Entertainment Centre New and Annual Fee | 2000/750 | 2000/750 | 0.00% |
| Adult Gaming Centre New and Annual Fee | 2000/1000 | 2000/1000 | 0.00% |
| Small Casino Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 4000/1800/1800 | 4000/1800/1800 | 0.00% |
| Small Casino Provisional Statement / Application after Prov Stmt | 8000/3000 | 8000/3000 | 0.00% |
| Large Casino Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 5000/2150/2150 | 5000/2150/2150 | 0.00% |
| Large Casino Provisional Statement / Application after | 10000/5000 | 10000/5000 | 0.00% |
| Regional Casino Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 7500/6500/6500 | 7500/6500/6500 | 0.00% |
| Regional Casino Provisional Statement / Application after | 15000/8000 | 15000/8000 | 0.00% |
| Bingo Club Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 1750/1200/1200 | 1750/1200/1200 | 0.00% |
| Bingo Club Provisional Statement / Application after | 3500/1200 | 3500/1200 | 0.00% |
| Betting Premises Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 1500/1200/1200 | 1500/1200/1200 | 0.00% |
| Betting Premises Provisional Statement / Application after | 3000/1200 | 3000/1200 | 0.00% |
| Track Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 1250/950/950 | 1250/950/950 | 0.00% |
| Track Casino Provisional Statement / Application after | 2500/950 | 2500/950 | 0.00% |
| Family Entertainment Centre Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 1000/950/950 | 1000/950/950 | 0.00% |
| Family Entertainment Centre Provisional Statement / Application after | 1500/700 | 1500/700 | 0.00% |
| Adult Gaming Centre Vary/Transfer/Reinstalment | 1000/950/950 | 1000/950/950 | 0.00% |
| Adult Gaming Centre Provisional Statement / Application after | 2000/1200 | 2000/1200 | 0.00% |
| Copy of Licence | 25.00 | 25.00 | 0.00% |
| Notification of Change | 50.00 | 50.00 | 0.00% |
| Pre-Application Fees | | | 0.00% |
| LA03 App Form Assistance Small/med Scale - Large Scale | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| LA03 Advertising Assistance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| LA03 Site Visit Small/med Scale - Large Scale | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Street Trading Application Assistance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Street Trading Preliminary Application and Consultation | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Street Trading Site Visit | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Taxi Licensing Application Assistance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Taxi Licensing Driver Suitability Assessment | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Taxi Licensing Vehicle/Operator/Business Suitability | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Taxi Licensing Site Visit/Vehicle Inspection | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Pre-planning application advice for environmental protection advice | £129 additional cost for site visit £80 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Pre-application advice for animal licensing | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |

Physical Activity fees and charges

Leisure operator SLM has responsibility for setting fees and charges for the Leisure Facilities in the area previously covered by Daventry

Leisure operator Northampton Leisure Trust has responsibility for setting fees and charges for the Leisure Facilities in the area previously covered by Northampton Borough Council.

Leisure operator Parkwood Leisure Limited has responsibility for setting fees and charges for the Leisure Centres for the area previously covered by South Northants Council (SNC). SNC does have input into the setting of fees and charges through the contractual agreement with Parkwood – these are set out below.

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Fitness | | | |
| Casual Gym (Member) | 7.25 | 8.00 | 10.34% |
| Casual Gym (Non-Member) | 8.50 | 9.40 | 10.59% |
| Induction | 11.10 | 12.20 | 9.91% |
| Junior Gym (Member) | 3.10 | 3.40 | 9.68% |
| Junior Gym (Non-Member) | 3.80 | 4.20 | 10.53% |
| Concession Gym (Member) | 3.90 | 4.30 | 10.26% |
| Concession Gym (Non-Member) | 4.90 | 5.40 | 10.20% |
| Disabled/Carer Gym | 2.90 | 3.20 | 10.34% |
| All Aerobics Classes (Member) | 5.60 | 6.20 | 10.71% |
| All Aerobics Classes (Non-Member) | 6.40 | 7.00 | 9.37% |
| Concession Aerobics Class (Member) | 4.50 | 5.00 | 11.11% |
| Concession Aerobics Class (Non-Member) | 5.40 | 5.90 | 9.26% |
| GP Referral | 3.50 | 3.90 | 11.43% |
| 20 x GP Sessions | 5.70 | 6.30 | 10.53% |
| Gym Vouchers Adult | 43.50 | 47.90 | 10.11% |
| Gym Vouchers Concession (Member) | 24.95 | 27.50 | 10.22% |
| Gym Vouchers Concession (Non-Member) | 23.90 | 26.30 | 10.04% |
| Personal Training Session 10 x 1hr | 237.00 | 260.90 | 10.08% |
| Personal Training Session 5 x 1 hr | 118.50 | 130.50 | 10.13% |
| Personal Training Session 1 Hr | 26.50 | 29.20 | 10.19% |
| Personal Training Session 1/2 hr | 13.30 | 14.60 | 9.77% |
| Expressions Adult Membership - Fixed | 36.25 | 39.90 | 10.07% |
| Expressions Adult Membership - Flexi | 41.50 | 45.70 | 10.12% |
| Activity on Referral | 22.15 | 24.40 | 10.16% |
| Corporate Membership | 32.45 | 35.70 | 10.01% |
| Joint / Family Membership | 72.50 | 79.80 | 10.07% |
| Active Teen | 12.40 | 13.70 | 10.48% |
| Concession: Off-Peak / 60+ / Student Membership | 26.50 | 29.20 | 10.19% |
| Student Membership 16-18Yr Fixed | 21.00 | 23.10 | 10.00% |
| Room / Pitch hire | | | |
| Sports Hall Hire | 48.15 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Activity Hall - Towcester | 39.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Activity Hall - Brackley | 25.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Party Room - Towcester | 25.75 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Meeting Room - Brackley | 22.15 | TBC | 0.00% |
| ATP Hire - Towcester - FULL pitch - Adult | 46.75 | TBC | 0.00% |
| ATP Hire - Towcester - HALF pitch - Adult | 23.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| ATP Hire - Towcester - FULL pitch - Junior | 39.15 | TBC | 0.00% |
| ATP Hire - Towcester - HALF pitch - Junior | 19.55 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Brackley Grass Pitches- Adult per game | 38.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Brackley Grass Pitches- Junior Training per hour | 19.15 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Main Pool Hire - GENERAL | 89.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Main Pool Swim CLUB - Towcester | 47.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Main Pool Swim CLUB - Brackley | 42.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Main Pool Swim SCHOOLS - Brackley | 63.05 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Learner Pool - Towcester | 69.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Main Pool - PARTIES | 89.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Soft Play Party - Towcester | 87.55 | TBC | 0.00% |
| BLC - SPORTS HALL PARTIES (bouncy castle, football, sports) | 118.45 | TBC | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|--|-------|-----|-------|
| Swimming | | | |
| Adult Swim Member | 3.40 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult Swim Non-Member | 4.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior Swim Member | 2.65 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior Swim Non-Member | 3.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Senior Swim Member | 1.95 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Senior Swim Non-Member | 2.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior / Senior Lunchtime Lanes Member | 2.65 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior / Senior Lunchtime Lanes Non-Member | 3.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult FUN SWIM Member | 4.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult FUN SWIM Non Member | 5.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior FUN SWIM Member | 3.40 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior FUN SWIM Non Member | 4.20 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Family Swim Member | 7.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Family Swim Non Member | 10.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Family FUN Swim Member | 11.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Family FUN Swim Non Member | 14.20 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult Early Riser | 2.50 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult Early Riser Non Member | 3.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Junior Early Riser | 2.75 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Wave Rave Member | 3.35 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Wave Rave Non Member | 4.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Disabled/Carer Swim | 2.70 | TBC | 0.00% |
| SwimLife Lesson - Adult Member | 6.75 | TBC | 0.00% |
| SwimLife Lesson - Adult Non Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Junior Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Junior Non Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Junior Direct Debit | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Junior Direct Debit | 27.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Adult Direct Debit | 29.55 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Swimming Lesson - Adult Direct Debit | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| 1-2-1 Swim Lesson Standard | 18.55 | TBC | 0.00% |
| 1-2-1 Swim Lesson "Special" | 9.20 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult Swim Voucher (Non-Member) | 41.20 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Adult Swim Voucher (Member) | 35.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Concession Swim Voucher | 20.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Early Riser Swim Voucher | 33.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Sports and Activities | | | |
| Badminton - Peak Member | 8.25 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Badminton - Peak Non Member | 10.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Badminton - Off Peak Member | 6.40 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Badminton - Off Peak Non Member | 8.25 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Badminton - No Strings Member | 3.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Badminton - No Strings Non Member | 4.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Table Tennis - Peak Member | 6.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Table Tennis - Peak Non Member | 8.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Table Tennis - Off Peak Member | 5.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Table Tennis - Off Peak Non Member | 6.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Walking Football | 4.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics and Trampolining | | | |
| Gymnastics Lesson - Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Lesson - Non Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Lesson 90 minutes | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Lesson 90 minutes - Non Member | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit60 minutes - Towcester & Brackley | 19.90 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit60 minutes - Towcester | 19.90 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit60 minutes - Brackley | 15.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit60 minutes - Brackley | 18.70 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit90 minutes - Brackley | 28.45 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Gymnastics Direct Debit90 minutes - Brackley | 34.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Trampolining Direct Debit60 minutes - Brackley | 20.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Trampolining Direct Debit60 minutes - Brackley | 24.75 | TBC | 0.00% |

| Other | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----|-------|
| Spectator | 0.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Sauna / Steam Member | N/A | TBC | 0.00% |
| Sauna / Steam Non-Member | N/A | TBC | 0.00% |
| Showers Member | 4.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Showers Non-Member | 4.10 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Centre Membership Adult | 50.50 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Centre Membership Junior / Senior | 24.70 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Centre Membership Family | 67.20 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Equipment Hire | 2.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Deposit for Equipment Hire | 5.00 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Lifeguard Hire - Parties | 12.30 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Camp Adventure | 26.80 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Mighty Atoms Tuesday | 3.60 | TBC | 0.00% |
| Mighty Atoms Saturday | 3.20 | TBC | 0.00% |

School swimming fees shown below:

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| School swimming | | | |
| School swimming lessons - 1 hour | 34.00 | TBC | 0.00% |

Housing (general fund) fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|-----------------------|---|------------|
| Standard HMO Licence Fee - Part 1 | 560.00 | 560.00 | 0.00% |
| Standard HMO Licence Fee - Part 2 | 735.00 | 735.00 | 0.00% |
| Total (FYI Only) | 1,295.00 | 1,295.00 | 0.00% |
| Addition Part 2 per person after 5 | 41.00 | 41.00 | 0.00% |
| Early Bird Discount – Full Application for HMO Licence | -255.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Standard HMO Renewal Fee - Part 1 | 560.00 | 560.00 | 0.00% |
| Standard HMO Renewal Fee - Part 2 | 735.00 | 735.00 | 0.00% |
| Total (FYI Only) | 1,295.00 | 1,295.00 | 0.00% |
| Addition Part 2 per person after 5 | 41.00 | 41.00 | 0.00% |
| Early Bird Discount – Renewal Application for HMO Licence | -555.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Supported Application (per hour) | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Assisted Viewing of Public Register (per hour after 30 minutes) | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Pre-Application Inspection | 180.00 | 198.00 | 10.00% |
| Missed / Cancelled Inspection | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| HMO Licence - Copy of Licence | 38.40 | 42.24 | 10.00% |
| Housing Act 2004 - Improvement Notice | 510.00 | 510.00 | 0.00% |
| Housing Act 2004 - Prohibition Order | 510.00 | 510.00 | 0.00% |
| Housing Act 2004 - Emergency Prohibition Order | 510.00 | 510.00 | 0.00% |
| Housing Act 2004 - Emergency Remedial Action | 510.00 | 510.00 | 0.00% |
| Housing Act 2004 - Emergency Remedial Action (Cost of Works) | Recharged in Full | Recharged in Full | 0.00% |
| Works in Default (£300 or 15% of the cost of works) | 15% of Costs of Works | £330 or 15% of Cost of Works, whichever the greater | 0.00% |
| Works in Default (Cost of Works) | Recharged in Full | Recharged in Full | 0.00% |
| Immigration Compliance Visit and Report | 276.00 | 303.60 | 10.00% |
| Choice Based Lettings | 85.00 | 85.00 | 0.00% |
| Travellers Site Charges - Pitch Fee (per week) | 57.80 | 57.80 | 0.00% |
| Travellers Site Charges - Water (Per week) | 10.50 | 10.50 | 0.00% |
| Charging for housing need surveys (cost per annum) | 9,000.00 | 9,000.00 | 0.00% |
| Charge for undertaking viability assessments that feed into the pre-planning application process (cost per hour) | 120.00 | 120.00 | 0.00% |

Car Parking fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Parking at Daventry Country Park - all day ticket | 2.20 | New pricing structure, see below | 0.00% |
| Parking at Daventry Country Park - 52 week season ticket | 70.00 | New pricing structure, see below | 0.00% |
| Daventry or Brixworth Country Park, up to two hours | N/A | 3.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry or Brixworth Country Park, up to four hours | N/A | 4.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry or Brixworth Country Park, up to six hours | N/A | 6.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry or Brixworth Country Park, up to eight hours | N/A | 8.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry or Brixworth Country Park, all day | N/A | 12.00 | 0.00% |
| Single park season ticket, annual | N/A | 70.00 | 0.00% |
| Dual park season ticket, annual | N/A | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry town centre car parks recovery charge | 195.00 | 195.00 | 0.00% |
| Daventry town centre car parks administration charge (also 1st resident's exemption permit - annual) | 21.00 | 23.00 | 9.52% |
| Daventry town centre car parks skip permit - per month | 28.00 | 31.00 | 10.71% |
| Daventry town centre car parks temporary permit - per month | 21.00 | 23.00 | 9.52% |
| Daventry town centre car parks business loading permit - per month | 28.00 | 31.00 | 10.71% |
| Daventry town centre car parks resident's exemption permit | 21.00 | 23.00 | 9.52% |
| Daventry town centre car parks subsequent resident's exemption permit - per month | 28.00 | 31.00 | 10.71% |
| Daventry town centre car parks reserved Parking Permit - per month | 71.00 | 78.00 | 9.86% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 1 hour (MSCP only) - Saturdays only | Free | New pricing structure, see below | 0.00% |
| Northampton Car Parks - Charges - Up to 1 hours | 1.00 | 1.10 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 2 hours | 2.00 | 2.20 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 2 hours (MSCP only) - Saturdays only | Free | New pricing structure, see below | 0.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 3 hours | 3.00 | 3.30 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 4 hours | 4.00 | 4.40 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Up to 5 hours | 5.00 | 5.50 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks (outside inner ring road) - All Day Charge | 6.00 | 6.60 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks (within inner ring road) - All Day charge | 8.00 | 8.80 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Evening/overnight (selected car parks only) | 2.00 | 2.20 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Overnight (selected car parks only) | 2.00 | N/A | 0.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Sunday | Free | 2.20 | 0.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Charges - Monthly - 7 day | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks Charges - Annual - 7 day | 1,296.00 | 1,425.60 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Permits - Town Centre Annual Parking Permits | 1,296.00 | 1,425.60 | 10.00% |
| Northampton car parks - Permits - Rail Commuter Permits (Chalk Lane, Dodderidge, Marefair) | 600.00 | 660.00 | 10.00% |
| Racecourse, Northampton car park - up to 1 hour | N/A | 1.10 | 0.00% |
| Racecourse, Northampton car park - up to 1 hour | N/A | 2.20 | 0.00% |
| Racecourse, Northampton car park - up to 1 hour | N/A | 3.30 | 0.00% |
| Racecourse, Northampton car park - evening/overnight | N/A | 2.20 | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|---|--------|--------|---------|
| On-street Parking Permits | | | 0.00% |
| Residents annual permit | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Short-term residents permit - 6 months or less | 17.50 | 17.50 | 0.00% |
| Visitor annual permit | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Business annual permit | 350.00 | 350.00 | 0.00% |
| Temporary permit | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Replacement permit | 7.50 | 7.50 | 0.00% |
| Carer permit & healthcare worker permit | 10.00 | 10.00 | 0.00% |
| Generic annual permit | 10.00 | 10.00 | 0.00% |
| Waiver per 5m space for first day | 10.00 | 15.00 | 50.00% |
| Waiver per 5m space for additional consecutive day | 5.00 | 10.00 | 100.00% |
| Waiver per 5m space for full week | 25.00 | 30.00 | 20.00% |
| Bay suspensions per 5m space for first day | 25.00 | 30.00 | 20.00% |
| Bay suspensions per 5m space for additional consecutive day | 10.00 | 15.00 | 50.00% |
| Pay & Display Charges | | | |
| On-street P&D per hour - Northampton | 1.20 | 1.40 | 16.67% |
| Blue badge - Valid for 3yrs | 10.00 | 10.00 | 0.00% |

Room hire fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Lodge Road Offices | | | |
| Council Chamber - Mon - Fri per hour | 100.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Committee Room 1 - Mon - Fri per hour | 23.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Committee Room 2 - Mon - Fri per hour | 23.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Committee Rooms 1 & 2 - Mon - Fri per hour | 42.25 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Committee Room 3 - Mon - Fri per hour | 23.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Audio / Visual - Half Day (Minimum Charge) | 23.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Audio / Visual - Full Day | 46.25 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Refreshments - Minimum Charge for Refreshments | 5.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Refreshments - Juice | 0.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Refreshments - Tea/Coffee | 0.75 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Refreshments - Tea/Coffee & Biscuits | 1.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| The Abbey | | | |
| Voluntary Groups - Rooms 1,2, and 3 | 11.85 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Statutory/Private - Rooms 1,2, and 3 | 23.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Premium for use between 21.30 and 22.00 | 17.75 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| The Forum | | | |
| Mill Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 11.75 | 12.90 | 9.79% |
| Mill Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 23.50 | 25.90 | 10.21% |
| Mount Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 11.75 | 12.90 | 9.79% |
| Mount Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 23.50 | 25.90 | 10.21% |
| Mill & Mount Rooms combined - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Mill & Mount Rooms combined - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 40.00 | 44.00 | 10.00% |
| Civic Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 11.75 | 12.90 | 9.79% |
| Civic Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 23.50 | 25.90 | 10.21% |
| Committee Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 11.75 | 12.90 | 9.79% |
| Committee Room - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 23.50 | 25.90 | 10.21% |
| Chamber - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - community group / charity charge per hour | 50.00 | 55.10 | 10.20% |
| Chamber - Mon - Fri 9am to 9pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 2pm - private company charge per hour | 100.00 | 110.10 | 10.10% |

Museums fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Abington Park Museum | | | |
| Corporate/Private hire | | | |
| NEW RATES | | | |
| Monday - Friday One room half-day: 9am-1pm or 1-5pm | | 350.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday - Friday Both rooms half day: 9am-1pm or 1-5pm | | 600.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday - Friday One room full day | | 600.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday-Friday Both rooms full day | | 1100.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday - Sunday : one room half day: 9am-1pm or 1-5pm | | 450.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday-Sunday : Both rooms half day 9am-1pm or 1-5pm | | 800.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday-Sunday: One room full day | | 800.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday-Sunday Both rooms full day | | 1400.00 | 0.00% |
| Great Hall/Function Room Hire Core Day Time Rates | | | |
| Monday/Friday and Saturday/Sunday, One Room half day: 9am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm | 275.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday/Friday and Saturday/Sunday, Both Rooms half day: 9am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm | 495.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday/Friday and Saturday/Sunday, One Room full day: 9am - 5pm | 495.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday/Friday and Saturday/Sunday, Both Rooms full day: 9am - 5pm | 660.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday - Thursday, One Room half day: 9am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm | 420.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday - Thursday, Both Rooms half day: 9am - 1pm or 1pm - 5pm | 660.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday - Thursday, One Room full day: 9am - 5pm | 660.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday - Thursday, Both Rooms full day: 9am - 5pm | 950.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| 20% discount applies to registered charities | | | 0.00% |
| Great Hall/Function Room Hire Core Evening offer | | | 0.00% |
| New Rates | | | |
| Monday-Thursday early evening 5-8pm | | 400.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday -Thursday late evening 6-11pm | | 600.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday-Sunday early evening 5-8pm | | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday-Sunday late evening 6-11pm | | 700.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday to Sunday Early evening 5pm - 8pm | 300.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday to Sunday Late evening 6pm - 11pm | 500.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Additional hourly daytime rate before 1pm | 75.00 | 75.00 | 0.00% |
| Additional hourly evening up to midnight outside core offer | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| Additional hourly evening rate after midnight outside core offer | 130.00 | 165.00 | 26.92% |
| 20% discount applies to registered charities | | | 0.00% |
| Table hire and cloth hire - all orders incur an additional £17 delivery charge | | | 0.00% |
| 6ft circular table seats up to 8 | 10.00 | 12.00 | 20.00% |
| 4ftcircular seats up to 6 | 7.00 | 9.00 | 28.57% |
| 118" cloth fits 6ft circular table | 11.00 | 12.00 | 9.09% |
| 90" cloth fits 4ft circular table | 8.00 | 9.00 | 12.50% |
| Wedding ceremonies and receptions | | | 0.00% |
| Monday-Thursday one room 2 hrs | 950.00 | 950.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday-Thursday additional hours | 300.00 | 300.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday- Thursday Full Day (from 11am-11pm) | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday one room 2 hours | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday additional hours | 400.00 | 400.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday Full day (from 11am - 11pm) | 3,800.00 | 3,800.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday one room 2 hours | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday additional hours | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday Full day (from 11am - 11pm) | 4,900.00 | 4,900.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday one room 2 hours | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday additional hour | 350.00 | 350.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday Full day (from 11am-11pm) | 3,800.00 | 3,800.00 | 0.00% |
| Refreshments | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Northampton Museum and Art Gallery (NMAG) | | | 0.00% |
| Central Hall | | | 0.00% |
| Monday, Friday - half day [9am-1pm;1pm-5pm] | 450.00 | 600.00 | 33.33% |
| Monday, Friday additional hour rate before 5pm | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| Monday, Friday - full day [9am-5pm] | 900.00 | 1,200.00 | 33.33% |
| Tuesday-Thursday - half day [9am-1pm; 1pm-5pm] | 0.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday-Thursday - additional hour rate before 5pm | 0.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Tuesday-Thursday - full day [9am-5pm] | 0.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Saturday, Sunday - half day [9am-1pm;1pm-5pm] | 500.00 | 800.00 | 60.00% |
| Saturday, Sunday - additional hour rate before 5pm | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| Saturday, Sunday - full day [9am-5pm] | 900.00 | 1,600.00 | 77.78% |
| New Rates | | | |
| Monday-Thursday early evening 5-8pm | | 600.00 | |
| Monday-Thursday late evening 6-11pm | | 1,200.00 | |
| Friday -Sunday early evening 5-8pm | | 700.00 | |
| Friday-Sunday late evening 6-11pm | | 1,400.00 | |
| Monday-Sunday - early evening rate [5-8pm] | 400.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday - Sunday - late evening rate [6-11pm] | 550.00 | superseded | 0.00% |
| Monday-Sunday - additional hourly rate up to midnight | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| Monday-Sunday - additional hourly rate after midnight | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| Studio | | | 0.00% |
| Monday- Sunday [9am-5pm] hourly rate | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| Monday - Sunday - half day [9am-1pm/1-5pm | 300.00 | 350.00 | 16.67% |
| Monday - Sunday - evening rate 5-8pm or 6-9pm | 400.00 | 440.00 | 10.00% |
| Lower ground floor café space | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm, Hourly rate | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00% |
| Gallery spaces [out of hours] | negotiable for special events | negotiable for special events | 0.00% |
| Talks | 90 plus travel costs | | 0.00% |
| Image Reproduction | | | 0.00% |
| Prints (Colour or Monochrome) from existing digital images | | | 0.00% |
| A4 | 32.20 | 36.00 | 11.80% |
| A3 | 38.30 | 43.00 | 12.27% |
| A2 | 76.70 | 86.00 | 12.13% |
| A1 | 115.00 | 129.00 | 12.17% |
| AO | 192.00 | 215.00 | 11.98% |
| High resolution digital image from existing digital images | 38.30 | 43.00 | 12.27% |
| Books | | | 0.00% |
| Print run up to 1000 units single country inner page | 38.30 | 43.00 | 12.27% |
| Print run up to 1000 units single country cover page | 76.70 | 86.00 | 12.13% |
| Print run over 1000 units single country inner page | 76.70 | 86.00 | 12.13% |
| Print run over 1000 units single country cover page | 255.00 | 285.00 | 11.76% |
| Print run over 1000 units world inner page | 127.30 | 143.00 | 12.33% |
| Print run over 1000 units world cover page | 382.00 | 428.00 | 12.04% |
| Magazines and newspapers (including web use for same feature) | | | 0.00% |
| Local - inner page | 38.30 | 43.00 | 12.27% |
| Local - cover page | 76.70 | 86.00 | 12.13% |
| National - inner page | 102.00 | 115.00 | 12.75% |
| National - cover page | 255.00 | 286.00 | 12.16% |
| Television (cable, digital, satellite, terrestrial & web streaming / on-demand) | | | 0.00% |
| Provincial broadcast (two broadcasts) | 63.70 | 72.00 | 13.03% |
| Single country broadcast (two broadcasts) | 127.30 | 143.00 | 12.33% |
| World broadcast (two broadcasts) | 192.00 | 215.00 | 11.98% |
| 5 year buyout | 319.00 | 358.00 | 12.23% |
| All retail DVD, Blu-Ray and direct pay per view will require a five year buyout rights) | | | 0.00% |
| Commercial Web, Product & Site use (e.g., display panels, exhibition guides, greeting cards, stationery etc) | | | 0.00% |
| One time use, local business | 95.60 | 107.00 | 11.92% |
| One time use, Non local business | 159.50 | 179.00 | 12.23% |
| 5 year buyout | 319.00 | 357.00 | 11.91% |

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Images for use in exhibition guides that are not for commercial gain can be utilised free of charge, subject to reasonable use. Where images are used in conjunction with an exhibition where income will be made, the above charges will apply. | | | |
| Prices are exclusive of delivery charge | | | |
| Creating new digital images (where images don't already exist in our library but can be made from our objects in our museum collections) | | | |
| Scanning | 19.20 | 21.50 | 11.98% |
| In-house photography | 38.30 | 43.00 | 12.27% |
| External photography | Negotiable | Negotiable | 0.00% |
| Delivery charges (for print and digital images) | | | |
| By email of FTP | | | |
| By CD | 7.40 | 8.30 | 12.16% |
| UK/International 0-25 | 1.92 | 2.10 | 9.38% |
| UK/International 0-25 | 3.85 | 4.10 | 6.49% |
| UK 25+ | 3.85 | 4.10 | 6.49% |
| International 25+ | 7.70 | 8.00 | 3.90% |
| In additional, all overseas orders (to cover payment costs) | 19.20 | 21.50 | 11.98% |
| Learning Sessions | | | 0.00% |
| Onsite Learning sessions at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery and Abington Park Museum, max number of pupils 35 | | | 0.00% |
| History of shoes KS1 & 2 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Shoemaking KS2 - 1.5 hours | 175.00 | 175.00 | 0.00% |
| Stone Age to Iron Age KS1 & 2 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Archaeological Dig KS1 & 2 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Anglo Saxon and Viking Life KS2 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Toys Reception/KS1 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Ancient Egyptians KS2 - 2 hours | 200.00 | 200.00 | 0.00% |
| Investigating the Victorians KS1 & 2 - 1.5 hours | 140.00 | 140.00 | 0.00% |
| Mileage | Council Mileage Rate | | 0.00% |
| Museum Outreach Sessions: each outreach visit lasts 2 hours & is for 2 classes of 35 pupils, one hour for each class | | | 0.00% |
| Additional classes can be booked on the same day: 1 class of up to 35 pupils - 1 hour £65; 2 classes up to 70 pupils - 2 hours £85 | | | 0.00% |
| Romans/Archaeology | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| Tudors | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| Victorians | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| World War Two | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| Shoemaking | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| Toys | 275.00 | 275.00 | 0.00% |
| Mileage | Council Mileage Rate | Council Mileage Rate | 0.00% |
| Museum Loans Boxes price for up to half a term (approximately 6 weeks) | | | 0.00% |
| In our Shoes | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Shoe Chests | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Toys | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Wooden Toys - Mini Box | 45.00 | 50.00 | 11.11% |
| The Victorian Child | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| The Victorian Home | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| The Second World War - Evacuee Suitcase | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Second World War - The Home Front | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Second World War - Soldier | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| World Culture Boxes | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Medicine Through Time | 75.00 | 80.00 | 6.67% |
| Mileage (if delivered) | Council Mileage Rate | Council Mileage Rate | 0.00% |

Call Care fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Lifelines - Yearly Charge | 239.20 | 263.40 | 10.12% |
| Lifelines - Charge per week | 4.60 | 5.10 | 10.87% |
| Monitoring Charges - Yearly Charge | 41.60 | 45.80 | 10.10% |
| Monitoring Charges - Charge per week | 0.80 | 0.90 | 12.50% |
| Environmental Health - Yearly Charge | 56.28 | 62.00 | 10.16% |
| Environmental Health - Charge per week | 1.00 | 1.10 | 10.00% |

Learning, Skills and Education fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Education Psychology Services | | | |
| 21 days or more: daily rate | 500.00 | 650.00 | 30.00% |
| 11 to 20 days: daily rate | 500.00 | 650.00 | 30.00% |
| 4 to 10 days: daily rate | 500.00 | 650.00 | 30.00% |
| 1 to 3 days: daily rate | 500.00 | 650.00 | 30.00% |
| Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) Training | 600.00 | 650.00 | 8.33% |
| ELSA supervision | 230.00 | 300.00 | 30.43% |
| Centralised training courses (includes Targeted Mental Health in Schools courses) range of charges £35 - £52; average £44 | 44.00 | 44.00 | 0.00% |
| School Effectiveness | | | 0.00% |
| Consultancy Rate - Commissioned Heads | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Traded Headteacher appraisal fee | 550.00 | 550.00 | 0.00% |
| Education Entitlement Team | | | 0.00% |
| Statutory non-school attendance fixed penalty notice paid within 21 days (per parent, per child charge) | 60.00 | 60.00 | 0.00% |
| Statutory non-school attendance fixed penalty notice paid after 21 days (per parent, per child charge) | 120.00 | 120.00 | 0.00% |
| NQT Induction | | | 0.00% |
| Provision of appropriate body function (per term) | 42.00 | 42.00 | 0.00% |
| Leadership and Governance | | | 0.00% |
| Governor Hub (charge per school) | 150.00 | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| Governor Newsletter (annual subscription per school) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Governor conference (charge per delegate) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Moderation | | | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 1: Moderation visit of Y2 Teacher Assessments - single form entry | 303.00 | 303.00 | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 1: Moderation visit of Y2 Teacher Assessments - two form entry | 363.03 | 363.03 | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 1: Moderation visit of Y2 Teacher Assessments - three form entry | 413.02 | 413.02 | 0.00% |
| Partnership heads / consultancy occasional extra Senior School Improvement Manager day (charge per day) | 450.00 | 450.00 | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 1: Statutory assessment training for experienced teachers in Y2 | 133.07 | 133.07 | 0.00% |
| Key stage 2: Monitoring of Y6 tests (unannounced visit) | 79.01 | 79.01 | 0.00% |
| Key stage 2: Moderation visit of Y6 writing teacher assessments - single form entry | 303.00 | 303.00 | 0.00% |
| Key stage 2: Moderation visit of Y6 writing teacher assessments - two form entry | 363.03 | 363.03 | 0.00% |
| Key stage 2: Moderation visit of Y6 writing teacher assessments - three form entry | 403.01 | 403.01 | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 2: Statutory assessment training for teachers new to Y6 | 133.07 | 133.07 | 0.00% |
| Key Stage 2: Statutory assessment training for experienced teachers in Y6 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Moderation workshops (Half day) | 72.06 | 72.06 | 0.00% |

Libraries fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Room Hire (Non Private Space) | | | |
| Computer Hire (Free on Fridays) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Per hour | 3.00 | 3.00 | 0.00% |
| Minimum charge for 20 minutes | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00% |
| Laminating | | | |
| A4 and smaller – per sheet | 1.65 | 1.65 | 0.00% |
| A3 – per sheet | 3.30 | 3.30 | 0.00% |
| Photocopying | | | 0.00% |
| Black & White | | | 0.00% |
| A4 – per sheet | 0.20 | 0.25 | 25.00% |
| Minimum 50 copies from one original sheet | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.00% |
| A3 – per sheet | 0.30 | 0.40 | 33.33% |
| Minimum 50 copies from one original sheet | 0.15 | | -100.00% |
| Colour | | | 0.00% |
| A4 – per sheet | 0.70 | 0.75 | 7.14% |
| Minimum 50 copies from one original sheet | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.00% |
| A3 – per sheet | 1.00 | 1.05 | 5.00% |
| Minimum 50 copies from one original sheet | 0.75 | | -100.00% |
| Printing | | | |
| Black and White | | | 0.00% |
| A4 – per sheet | 0.20 | 0.25 | 25.00% |
| A3 – per sheet | 0.30 | 0.35 | 16.67% |
| Colour | | | 0.00% |
| A4 – per sheet | 0.70 | 0.75 | 7.14% |
| A3 – per sheet | 1.00 | 1.05 | 5.00% |
| Items for Sale – Withdrawn Stock and Donations | | | |
| Adult Books – per book or individually priced | | | 0.00% |
| Hard back Non Fiction/Information | 1.55 | 1.55 | 0.00% |
| Paperback Non Fiction/Information | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.00% |
| Hardback Fiction/novels | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.00% |
| Paperback Fiction/novels | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.00% |
| Children's Books – per book or individually priced | | | 0.00% |
| Hard back Non Fiction/Information | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.00% |
| Hardback Fiction/novels | 0.40 | 0.40 | 0.00% |
| Paperbacks | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.00% |
| Picture Books | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.00% |
| Multimedia | | | 0.00% |
| Audiobooks on CD | 5.00 | 5.00 | 0.00% |
| DVDs | 2.00 | 2.00 | 0.00% |
| Lost or damaged stock items | | | |
| Membership cards | 2.50 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Replacing lost damaged stock handling fee | 5.00 | 5.00 | 0.00% |
| Replacing lost damaged stock | | | |
| Adult Non Fiction Hardback | 16.67 | 16.67 | 0.00% |
| Adult Non Fiction Paperback | 12.25 | 12.25 | 0.00% |
| Adult Fiction Hardback | 14.06 | 14.06 | 0.00% |
| Adult Fiction Paperback | 9.99 | 9.99 | 0.00% |
| Graphic novel | 12.99 | 12.99 | 0.00% |
| Child Non Fiction Hardback | 12.73 | 12.73 | 0.00% |
| Child Non Fiction Paperback | 10.07 | 10.07 | 0.00% |
| Child Fiction Hardback | 11.44 | 11.44 | 0.00% |
| Child Fiction Paperback | 9.88 | 9.88 | 0.00% |
| Young Adult Non Fiction Hardback | 13.97 | 13.97 | 0.00% |
| Young Adult Non Fiction Paperback | 11.07 | 11.07 | 0.00% |
| Young Adult Fiction Hardback | 12.74 | 12.74 | 0.00% |
| Young Adult Fiction Paperback | 10.38 | 10.38 | 0.00% |
| Giant picture book | 16.31 | 16.31 | 0.00% |
| Large Print Adult Non Fiction Hardback | 23.76 | 23.76 | 0.00% |
| Large Print Adult Non Fiction Paperback | 19.17 | 19.17 | 0.00% |
| Large Print Adult Fiction Hardback | 19.17 | 19.17 | 0.00% |
| Large Print Adult Fiction Paperback | 15.83 | 15.83 | 0.00% |
| Audio Books | | | 0.00% |
| Individual CDs | 10.50 | 10.50 | 0.00% |
| Play away audio book and player combined | 50.00 | 50.00 | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|---|--------|--------|---------|
| Late Return Charges | | | |
| Static Library | | | 0.00% |
| Adults – per day | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.00% |
| Maximum | 14.70 | 14.70 | 0.00% |
| 5 – 18's – per day | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.00% |
| Maximum | 2.10 | 2.10 | 0.00% |
| Under 5's | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Audio Books (Tape/CD) | | | 0.00% |
| Adult | 1.80 | 1.80 | 0.00% |
| Child | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.00% |
| CDs - includes sets | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Maximum | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| DVD's | | | 0.00% |
| 1 week loans | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Maximum | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| 3+ discs | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Maximum | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Children's Non Feature | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Maximum | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Language course (single) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00% |
| Maximum | 15.00 | 15.00 | 0.00% |
| Language course (multi-part) | 3.50 | 3.50 | 0.00% |
| Maximum | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Reservation Charges | | | 0.00% |
| Stock – per item (Northamptonshire) | 1.50 | 1.50 | 0.00% |
| British Library other Library | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Stock and Hire Charges | | | 0.00% |
| Audio Books on CD and tape | | | 0.00% |
| Adults – per item | 1.80 | 1.80 | 0.00% |
| Children – per item | 0.80 | 0.80 | 0.00% |
| Drama Sets | | | 0.00% |
| 3 week hire | 5.00 | 5.00 | 0.00% |
| DVDs | | | 0.00% |
| Single DVDs - per item for 1 week | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Sets of 3 discs or more - per set for 2 weeks | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Children's non-feature DVDs - per item | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Story Sacks | | | 0.00% |
| Loan of Story Sacks - charge per weeks | 1.00 | 2.00 | 100.00% |
| Music score sets – up to 50 copies | | | 0.00% |
| Maximum of 10 sets per year of up to 50 copies per set | 280.00 | 325.00 | 16.07% |
| Up to 50 additional copies | 30.00 | 35.00 | 16.67% |
| Individual charge (flat charge for any number of copies) | 35.00 | 40.00 | 14.29% |
| Up to 50 additional copies | 30.00 | 35.00 | 16.67% |
| Late return charge for a 3 week re-hire period (or part of) - per set | 10.00 | 15.00 | 50.00% |

Registration fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Marriage or Civil Partnership Legal Formalities | | | |
| Notice of Marriage/Civil Partnership | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Notice of Marriage/Civil Partnership appointment booking fee (per person and subject to terms and conditions) | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Notice of Marriage for person subject to Home Office Referral | 47.00 | 47.00 | 0.00% |
| Appointment fee between 17:00 and 20:00 weekdays or between 09:00 16:30 on Saturday depending on availability. This is for an up to 30 minute appointment only, the statutory fee also applies and subject to availability. | 0.00 | 50.00 | 0.00% |
| Appointment fee between 17:00 and 20:00 weekdays or between 09:00 16:30 on Saturday depending on availability. This is for an up to 60 minute appointment only, the statutory fee also applies and subject to availability. | 0.00 | 60.00 | 0.00% |
| Copy Certificates | | | |
| Copy of Certificate at time of Registering | 11.00 | 11.00 | 0.00% |
| Copy of Certificate open Register | 11.00 | 11.00 | 0.00% |
| Copy of Certificate closed Register | 11.00 | 11.00 | 0.00% |
| Priority Copy Cert Service | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Supplementary fee for Copy certificate orders placed via telephone to the Customer Service Centre - replaced with new fee, below. | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Post, packaging and handling | N/A | N/A | 0.00% |
| Approved Venues | | | |
| Approved Venue Licence (incl. Religious premises for civil partnerships) | 1,925.00 | 1,950.00 | 1.30% |
| Appeal for licence refusal | 575.00 | 575.00 | 0.00% |
| Addition of a room mid licence (standard fee irrespective of expiry date of approved venue licence) | 575.00 | 575.00 | 0.00% |
| Health and Safety Inspection (commercial premises external open air structure when within 3 licence term) Non-refundable | 75.00 | 75.00 | 0.00% |
| Health and Safety Inspection (domestic premises). Non-refundable | 75.00 | 75.00 | 0.00% |
| Civil Partnership Conversion | | | |
| Standard conversion procedure at the Register Office (providing information and signing in one appointment) | 45.00 | 45.00 | 0.00% |
| Civil Partnership Conversion ceremony Pt 1 providing information to the SR and checking of evidence | 27.00 | 27.00 | 0.00% |
| Civil Partnership Conversion ceremony Pt 2 A ceremony at either a Registration Service venue or an approved venue - See ceremony fees below | 91.00 | 91.00 | 0.00% |
| Note: A deposit for any ceremony taken at the time of booking. The deposit is set at £100.00 (extracted from overall ceremony fee. | 0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Marriage, Civil Partnership, Renewal of Vows* or Naming ceremony* held in an Approved Venue or Registration Office Venue between 08:00 and 18:00 | | | |
| Ceremony held Monday to Thursday | 500.00 | 550.00 | 10.00% |
| Ceremony held on Friday | 555.00 | 600.00 | 8.11% |
| Ceremony held on Saturday | 600.00 | 625.00 | 4.17% |
| Ceremony held on Sunday & Bank Holiday (includes special dates e.g. Valentines, Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Eve, New Years Day). | 650.00 | 680.00 | 4.62% |
| Your Day Your Way (Office registration, celebration ceremony, H&S inspection, NOM/CP, planning meeting with CO) held at a venue of customer's choice between 0800: and 18:00 | | | |
| Ceremony held Monday to Thursday | 645.00 | 645.00 | 0.00% |
| Ceremony held on Friday | 725.00 | 725.00 | 0.00% |
| Ceremony held on Saturday | 760.00 | 760.00 | 0.00% |
| Ceremony held on Sunday & Bank Holiday (includes special dates e.g. Valentines, Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Eve, New Years Day). | 825.00 | 825.00 | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| Registration Office Wedding or Civil Partnership Registration | | | 0.00% |
| Marriage or Civil Partnership Registration, Monday to Friday between 08:00 and 18:00 subject to Office availability (includes the first copy of the certificate) | 57.00 | 57.00 | 0.00% |
| Non-Approved Venue Naming or Renewals of vows ceremony Fee, between 08:00 and 18:00 (does not include Health and Safety Inspection) | | | |
| Attendance of a Ceremony Officer to conduct ceremony Monday to Thursday | 450.00 | 450.00 | 0.00% |
| Attendance of a Ceremony Officer to conduct ceremony Friday | 530.00 | 530.00 | 0.00% |
| Attendance of a Ceremony Officer to conduct ceremony Saturday | 550.00 | 550.00 | 0.00% |
| Attendance of a Ceremony Officer to conduct ceremony on Sunday, Bank Holiday and special dates as noted above | 595.00 | 595.00 | 0.00% |
| Combined wedding or civil partnership 'celebration' ceremony (wedding or civil partnership registration followed by 'celebration'. Fee does not include Health and Safety Inspection (see above for fee) | | | |
| Monday to Thursday | 510.00 | 510.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday | 600.00 | 600.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday | 637.00 | 637.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday, Bank Holiday and special dates as noted above (limited building opening) | 687.00 | 687.00 | 0.00% |
| Combined wedding or civil partnership including a naming ceremony | | | |
| Monday to Thursday | 550.00 | 550.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday | 630.00 | 630.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday | 650.00 | 650.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday, Bank Holiday and special dates as noted above (limited building opening) | 700.00 | 700.00 | 0.00% |
| Combined Renewal of vows and Naming ceremony | | | |
| Monday to Thursday | 450.00 | 450.00 | 0.00% |
| Friday | 530.00 | 530.00 | 0.00% |
| Saturday | 550.00 | 550.00 | 0.00% |
| Sunday, Bank Holiday and special dates as noted above | 600.00 | 600.00 | 0.00% |
| Ceremonies starting after 18:00 (ceremony fee plus hour rate below) | | | |
| Ceremony between 18:00 and 19:00 | 35.00 | 40.00 | 14.29% |
| Ceremony between 19:00 and 20:00 | 45.00 | 50.00 | 11.11% |
| Ceremony between 20:00 and 22:00 | 65.00 | 70.00 | 7.69% |
| Ceremony between 22:00 and 00:00 | 120.00 | 120.00 | 0.00% |
| Ceremony between 00:00 and 08:00 *subject to availability | 200.00 | 200.00 | 0.00% |
| Summer premium (all ceremony types) | | | |
| Additional fee for Fridays and Saturdays from 1st June to 30th September. | 30.00 | 35.00 | 16.67% |
| Ceremony planning meeting | | | |
| Planning meeting at Registration Service office (per meeting) | 42.00 | 42.00 | 0.00% |
| Personal Citizenship Ceremonies (full fee collected at time of booking) | | | |
| Personal Citizenship Ceremony (per adult taking part in the event, children under 18 free) | 175.00 | 175.00 | 0.00% |

| | | | |
|---|-------|-------|--------|
| Other Fees | | | |
| Change of date/time/venue to existing booking | 40.00 | 45.00 | 12.50% |
| Commemorative certificate | 0.00 | N/A | 0.00% |
| Statutory fee for consideration of a reduction of the 28 day notice period to marry or form a civil partnership, per person | 60.00 | 60.00 | 0.00% |
| * by the Superintendent Registrar | 50.00 | 50.00 | 0.00% |
| * by the General Register Office | 75.00 | 75.00 | 0.00% |
| * by the Superintendent Registrar | 75.00 | 75.00 | 0.00% |
| * by the General Register Office | 90.00 | 90.00 | 0.00% |
| Statutory fee for an application to add a forename within 12 months of registration | 40.00 | 40.00 | 0.00% |
| Passports for newly-weds and civil partners (PD2), per passport | | | |
| Administration fee for Superintendent Registrar to complete Part 1 of form PD2. | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |

Archives & Heritage fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Photocopying | | | |
| Black & White | | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| A4 per sheet | 0.90 | 1.00 | 11.11% |
| A3 per sheet | 0.90 | 1.00 | 11.11% |
| Colour | | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| A4 per sheet | 1.90 | 2.10 | 10.53% |
| A3 per sheet | 3.00 | 3.30 | 10.00% |
| Print out from film/fiche | | | 0.00% |
| Printed by staff | 1.90 | n/a | 0.00% |
| Self Service | 1.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| PDF copies of documents | | | 0.00% |
| PDF copy (if could have been photocopied) | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00% |
| PDF of microfiche copy | 3.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| PDF express service 1-10 NOW PDF express service up to 20 copies | | n/a | 0.00% |
| Digital copies | | | 0.00% |
| Copies ordered per scan commercial | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Consecutive pages or additional sheets in an order per page (commercial) | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |
| Copies ordered per scan - non commercial | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |
| Consecutive pages or additional sheets in one order per page | 3.00 | 3.30 | 10.00% |
| Printouts from digital image per sheet | 1.90 | 2.10 | 10.53% |
| Admin & handling electronic transfer (express up to 20 sheets) | 25.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| Enhancement of digital images | 3.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| Stitching together of scans, max 8 | 10.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| Reproduction for publication | | | 0.00% |
| Not for profit publication first image | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |
| Not for profit publication subsequent images | 3.00 | 3.30 | 10.00% |
| Commercial publication | on request | on request | 0.00% |
| Certified copies of archival documents non commercial | 35.00 | 35.00 | 0.00% |
| Certified copies of archival documents commercial | 84.00 | 84.00 | 0.00% |
| Minimum charge for orders by post | | | 0.00% |
| UK | 6.20 | 6.80 | 9.68% |
| Overseas | 12.50 | 13.80 | 10.40% |
| Research Service | | | 0.00% |
| Search up to 30 minutes commercial | 44.00 | 48.40 | 10.00% |
| Search up to 30 minutes | 15.00 | 16.50 | 10.00% |
| Research per hour commercial | 84.00 | 92.50 | 10.12% |
| Research – per hour non commercial | 28.00 | 30.80 | 10.00% |
| Priority research (per request + hourly charge) | 55.00 | n/a | 0.00% |
| Personal Consultation Service | | | 0.00% |
| 30 minutes | 15.00 | 16.50 | 10.00% |
| Per hour | 28.00 | 30.80 | 10.00% |
| Tours and presentations & school visits | | | 0.00% |
| 30 min introduction tour or talk | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Tour during office hours | 60.00 | 66.10 | 10.17% |
| Tour outside office hours | 80.00 | 88.10 | 10.13% |
| School groups - visiting office or being visited | 20.00 | 22.00 | 10.00% |
| Fees for Heritage Education Services | | | 0.00% |
| Teachers packs (paper copy) plus P&P | 5.00 | 5.50 | 10.00% |
| Teachers packs (PDF) | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| CD of images (included with teachers' packs) | 2.50 | 2.80 | 12.00% |
| Consultation fee for heritage projects, preservation advice and cataloguing | 50.00 | 55.10 | 10.20% |
| Archive staff to accompany documents off site | 45.00 | 49.50 | 10.00% |
| Commercial filming at the Record Office | | | 0.00% |
| Normal Opening hours | 120.00 | 132.10 | 10.08% |
| Outside normal hours | 165.00 | 181.70 | 10.12% |
| Online Image Library | | | 0.00% |
| Download of single image | 5.00 | 5.50 | 10.00% |
| Historic Environment Record | | | 0.00% |
| Commercial searches | 84.00 | 92.50 | 10.12% |
| Non commercial searches | 28.00 | 30.80 | 10.00% |
| Priority research (per request + hourly charge) | 55.00 | 60.60 | 10.18% |
| Permit to use a camera in the office | | | 0.00% |
| Per half day | 7.00 | 7.70 | 10.00% |
| Per day | 12.00 | 13.20 | 10.00% |
| Per week | 24.00 | 26.40 | 10.00% |

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|--------|
| Hire of circuit breaker to use electrical equipment | | | 0.00% |
| Per day | 1.00 | N/a | 0.00% |
| Per week | 3.00 | N/a | 0.00% |
| Per calendar month | 10.00 | N/a | 0.00% |
| Coffee/Tea/pencils | | | 0.00% |
| Pencils | 0.50 | 0.60 | 20.00% |
| Temporary withdrawal of documents | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |

Trading Standards fees and charges

All charges quoted are exclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Business advice provided under a Primary Authority partnership - hourly rate | 73.58 | 84.24 | 14.48% |
| Business advice outside of Primary Authority - hourly rate | 73.58 | 80.94 | 10.00% |
| Environmental Searches - positive search | 103.29 | 113.62 | 10.00% |
| Environmental Searches - negative search | 53.58 | 58.94 | 10.00% |
| Special Weighing & Measuring Equipment (Category A) | | | |
| Equipment not covered by B to F below - per hour (minimum charge 15 minutes) | 73.58 | 80.94 | 10.00% |
| Plus support officer hourly rate (where relevant) - per hour (minimum charge 15 minutes) | 45.19 | 49.71 | 10.01% |
| Weights (Category B) | | | |
| Trade weight verification up to 25kg | 12.26 | 13.49 | 10.06% |
| Non-Automatic Weighing Scales - (Category C) | | | |
| Not exceeding 100kg: NAWI reverification | 80.04 | 88.04 | 10.00% |
| Not exceeding 1 tonne: NAWI reverification | 128.32 | 141.15 | 10.00% |
| Exceeding 1 tonne to 10 tonne: NAWI reverification | 185.90 | 204.49 | 10.00% |
| Exceeding 10 tonne: NAWI reverification | 324.06 | 356.47 | 10.00% |
| Additional charge for testing weighing scales which incorporate price-computing, printing, multi-range, or remote facilities | 6.46 | 7.11 | 10.09% |
| Discounts per weighing scale bought into our offices for verification. | -18.90 | -20.79 | 10.00% |
| Discounts per weighing scale for second & subsequent weighing scales tested on site on the same occasion | -18.90 | -20.79 | 10.00% |
| Discount per weighing scale over 1 tonne capacity when submitted provides assistance in testing | -54.17 | -59.59 | 10.01% |
| Automatic Weighing Machines - Automatic Catchweighers (Category D) | | | |
| Automatic Catchweigher Not exceeding 10kg: Reverification | 73.58 | 80.94 | 10.00% |
| Automatic Catchweigher Not exceeding 100kg: Reverification | 147.19 | 161.91 | 10.00% |
| Automatic Gravimetric Filling Instrument Not exceeding 60kg: Reverification | 245.29 | 269.82 | 10.00% |
| Measuring Instruments for Liquid Fuel and Lubricants - (Category E) | | | |
| First nozzle tested per site: Reverification | 144.58 | 159.04 | 10.00% |
| Each additional nozzle tested that site: reverification | 69.72 | 76.69 | 10.00% |
| Testing of ancillary electronic equipment or other additional testing on site - as per Category A plus VAT | 0.00 | | |
| Weight Hire - (Category G) | | | |
| Single day per tonne or part tonne | 56.79 | 62.47 | 9.99% |
| Second and subsequent days | 28.41 | 31.25 | 10.01% |
| Metrology Laboratory Pricing Schedule Calibration of Weights & Poises - (Category H) | | | |
| Up to 25kg: 1st 3 weights | 33.57 | 36.93 | 10.02% |
| Up to 25kg: 4 - 10 weights | 49.07 | 53.98 | 10.01% |
| Up to 25kg: 2nd and subsequent 10 weights | 37.44 | 41.18 | 9.99% |
| Up to 25kg: certificate | 24.53 | 26.98 | 9.97% |
| Above 25kg: 1st 3 weights | 49.07 | 53.98 | 10.01% |
| Above 25kg: 2nd and subsequent 3 weights | 37.44 | 41.18 | 9.99% |
| Certificate | 24.53 | 26.98 | 9.97% |
| Adjustment/Cleaning where necessary per weight | 7.75 | 8.52 | 10.00% |
| Accuracy test for Motorcycle brake testers & other non-automatic weighing scales equal or less than 200kg | 24.53 | 26.98 | 9.97% |
| Certificate | 24.53 | 26.98 | 9.97% |

Highways & Traffic management fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable, unless preceded with a *

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Reports | | | |
| Collision data reports per years data | 48.00 | 55.00 | 14.58% |
| Section 50 NRSWA 1991 – Private Apparatus (up to 200m) | 670.00 | 740.00 | 10.45% |
| Section 50 NRSWA 1991 – Private Apparatus (per additional 200m) | 155.00 | 175.00 | 12.90% |
| Section 50 NRSWA 1991 – No Excavation | 335.00 | 370.00 | 10.45% |
| Section 115(E) Highways Act 1980 – Use of objects on the highway | | | |
| 1-4 Seats | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| 5-10 Seats | 310.00 | 350.00 | 12.90% |
| 11-16 Seats | 445.00 | 500.00 | 12.36% |
| 17-24 Seats | 730.00 | 800.00 | 9.59% |
| Section 116 Highways Act 1980 – Stopping up of the highway | 4,660.00 | 5,150.00 | 10.52% |
| Section 116E Promotions | | | |
| Large - weekday | 220.00 | 245.00 | 11.36% |
| Large - weekend | 290.00 | 320.00 | 10.34% |
| Small - weekday | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Small - weekend | 220.00 | 245.00 | 11.36% |
| Section 139 Highways Act 1980 – Skip | | | |
| First week | 21.00 | 25.00 | 19.05% |
| Subsequent weeks | 21.00 | 25.00 | 19.05% |
| Pedestrian area in larger towns - per week | 131.00 | 145.00 | 10.69% |
| Additional weekly charge for occupying on-street P&D in Northampton - per bay | 25.00 | 30.00 | 20.00% |
| Extra over for unlicensed skip | 185.00 | 205.00 | 10.81% |
| Section 142 Highways Act 1980 – Cultivation of verge | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Section 169 Highways Act 1980 – Scaffold | | | |
| <5m per month | 70.00 | 80.00 | 14.29% |
| 5m-10m per month | 115.00 | 130.00 | 13.04% |
| 10m-20m per month | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Plus for each additional 20m (or part of) over 20m per month | 40.00 | 45.00 | 12.50% |
| Extra over for unlicensed scaffold | 185.00 | 205.00 | 10.81% |
| Section 171 Highways Act 1980 – Deposit of building materials | 115.00 | 130.00 | 13.04% |
| Extra over for unauthorised storage | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Section 171 Highways Act 1980 – Excavation in the highway road opening | 260.00 | 290.00 | 11.54% |
| Section 171 Highways Act 1980 – road opening additional 200m | 155.00 | 175.00 | 12.90% |
| Section 172 Highways Act 1980 – Hoarding | | | |
| <5m per month | 70.00 | 80.00 | 14.29% |
| 5m-10m per month | 115.00 | 130.00 | 13.04% |
| 10m-20m per month | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Plus for each additional 20m (or part of) over 20m | 40.00 | 45.00 | 12.50% |
| Extra over for unlicensed hoarding | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Section 176 Highways Act 1980 - Construction of bridge over the highway | 615.00 | 680.00 | 10.57% |
| Section 177 Highways Act 1980 – Construction of Building over highway | 615.00 | 680.00 | 10.57% |
| Section 177 Highways Act 1980 – Over sailing of crane over the highway | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Section 179 Highways Act 1980 – Construction of a Cellar under a street | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Plus additional charge for Section 171 | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Section 180 Highways Act 1980 – Control of cellar opening/lights under a street | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Plus additional charge for Section 171 | 265.00 | 300.00 | 13.21% |
| Section 184 Highways Act 1980 – Vehicular access | 260.00 | 300.00 | 15.38% |
| Section 1 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Permanent traffic order | 4,050.00 | 4,455.00 | 10.00% |
| Section 14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Temporary traffic order | 2,000.00 | 2,200.00 | 10.00% |
| Section 14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Temporary traffic notice | 1,565.00 | 1,725.00 | 10.22% |
| Section 14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Emergency temporary traffic notice | 1,065.00 | 1,175.00 | 10.33% |
| Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Temporary traffic order for events | 1,970.00 | 2,170.00 | 10.15% |
| Section 23 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Pedestrian crossing notice | 1,970.00 | 2,170.00 | 10.15% |
| Temporary traffic signs - Administration fee | 140.00 | 155.00 | 10.71% |
| Temporary traffic signs - Fee per sign | 29.00 | 35.00 | 20.69% |
| Sections 65/66 Highways Act 1980 - Footway to Cycle Track conversion notice | 2,000.00 | 2,200.00 | 10.00% |
| Section 90C Highways Act 1980 – Road hump notice | 2,000.00 | 2,200.00 | 10.00% |
| Access Road Marking | 175.00 | 195.00 | 11.43% |
| Disabled/Access Road Marking | 205.00 | 230.00 | 12.20% |
| If sign requires a post | 145.00 | 160.00 | 10.34% |
| Rights of Way - Deposit of a Statement and Map | 160.00 | 180.00 | 12.50% |
| Rights of Way - Submission of Declaration of an Existing Deposit | 65.00 | 75.00 | 15.38% |

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------|---------|
| Rights of Way - Extract of the Definitive Map - Scale 1:10000 | | | |
| A4 Map Size | 65.00 | 75.00 | 15.38% |
| A3 Map Size | 85.00 | 95.00 | 11.76% |
| A2 Map Size | 97.00 | 110.00 | 13.40% |
| A1 Map Size | 105.00 | 120.00 | 14.29% |
| A0 Map Size | 110.00 | 125.00 | 13.64% |
| Additional copies:- | | | |
| A4 Map Size | 6.50 | 10.00 | 53.85% |
| A3 Map Size | 13.00 | 15.00 | 15.38% |
| A2 Map Size | 19.00 | 25.00 | 31.58% |
| A1 Map Size | 26.00 | 30.00 | 15.38% |
| A0 Map Size | 33.00 | 40.00 | 21.21% |
| Rights of Way - Extract of the Working Copy of the Definitive Map - Scale 1:10000 | | | |
| A4 Map Size | 23.00 | 30.00 | 30.43% |
| A3 Map Size | 29.00 | 35.00 | 20.69% |
| A2 Map Size | 35.00 | 40.00 | 14.29% |
| A1 Map Size | 41.00 | 50.00 | 21.95% |
| A0 Map Size | 46.00 | 55.00 | 19.57% |
| Additional copies:- | | | |
| A4 Map Size | 6.50 | 10.00 | 53.85% |
| A3 Map Size | 13.00 | 15.00 | 15.38% |
| A2 Map Size | 19.00 | 25.00 | 31.58% |
| A1 Map Size | 26.00 | 30.00 | 15.38% |
| A0 Map Size | 33.00 | 40.00 | 21.21% |
| Rights of Way - Public Path Orders | 5,880.00 | 6,470.00 | 10.03% |
| CON29 Required Enquiries | | | |
| *All CON29 Required Enquiries | 26.00 | 30.00 | 15.38% |
| Individual CON29 Required Enquiries | | | |
| *Q2 (a) Roads | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| *Q2 (b) Roads | 1.70 | 5.00 | 194.12% |
| *Q2 (c) Roads | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| *Q2 (d) Roads | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| *Q2.2/2.3/2.4 Rights of Way | 6.30 | 10.00 | 58.73% |
| *Q3.1 Land required for Public purposes | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| *Q3.2 Land to be acquired for road works | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| *Q3.4 Nearby Road Schemes (a-l) | 4.60 | 10.00 | 117.39% |
| *Q3.6 Traffic Schemes (a-l) | 4.60 | 10.00 | 117.39% |
| *Q3.7 Outstanding Notices (e) | 2.25 | 5.00 | 122.22% |
| *Q3.11 Compulsory Purchase | 1.15 | 5.00 | 334.78% |
| CON29 Optional Enquiries | | | |
| *Q4 Part 11 Road proposals by private bodies | 4.60 | 10.00 | 117.39% |
| *Q22 Part 11 Registered Common Land & Town or Village Green | 11.50 | 15.00 | 30.43% |
| Additional Highway Information - coloured plan 1:1250 scale - A4 | 65.00 | 75.00 | 15.38% |
| Additional Highway Information - coloured plan 1:1250 scale - A3 | 85.00 | 95.00 | 11.76% |
| Additional questions (each) | 13.00 | 15.00 | 15.38% |

Adult Learning fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Hourly full fee rate (ESFA Funded) | | | |
| * One day courses (or longer) - £5.50 per hour plus £5 registration fee (courses with life models have an additional fee of £10 per learner) | 5.50 | 5.50 | 0.00% |
| *Two hour courses - £5.50 per hour with registration fee waiver | 5.50 | 5.50 | 0.00% |
| *One hour courses - £5.50 with registration fee waiver | 5.50 | 5.50 | 0.00% |
| ESOL (English for Speakers of other Languages) – Speaking and Listening all levels up to L2 -charge for the course and qualification | 300.00 | 300.00 | 0.00% |
| ESOL – Reading -charge for the qualification all levels up to L2 – charge for the course and qualification | 150.00 | 150.00 | 0.00% |
| ESOL - Writing – all levels up to L2 – charge for the course and qualification | 225.00 | 225.00 | 0.00% |
| Hourly Remitted fee rate (ESFA Funded) | | | |
| Calculated at 30% of the full fee (£5.50 per hour) plus a £5 registration fee | 1.65 | 1.65 | 0.00% |
| *Two hour courses – 30% of full fee plus £5 registration fee | 8.30 | 8.30 | 0.00% |
| Hourly Fee Rate (Non ESFA Funded) | | | 0.00% |
| Leisure Course Programme | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Dyslexia: NCC Services Staff - Post assessment support / Hour | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |

Northamptonshire Adult Social Services fees and charges

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Activity | | | |
| Stand Alone Equipment Installation | 29.16 | 29.16 | 0.00% |
| Basic Life line | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% |
| Plus Life Line | 6.50 | 6.50 | 0.00% |
| SERT Monitoring | | | |
| Social Care Response Bronze | 2.50 | 2.50 | 0.00% |
| Social Care Response Silver | 7.50 | 7.50 | 0.00% |
| Social Care Response Gold | 12.50 | 12.50 | 0.00% |
| SERT Rehab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |

Freedom of Information fees and charges

FOI and EIR responses are provided electronically free of charge. Where a printed copy is requested a charge of 10p per side is made plus the additional disbursement cost of postage. In addition, where a department has a published charge for information (such as for a planning certificate) your request will be passed to that service to arrange payment and release of the information.

The Council may charge £25.00 per hour to respond to a Freedom of Information request under the Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations where the cost of compliance exceeds 18hrs of time (£450).

Requests for CCTV footage attract a charge. Viewing to determine if footage is held is always free. The cost of extracting and downloading the footage to the specified media or preparing it for transmission is £25 for 1 hour plus £10 for a licenced copy of the viewing software as the protected footage cannot be viewed with any other proprietary software. In addition, where applicable, the cost of the memory stick and tracked postage will be charged at cost. No charge is made for packing.

Most requests for reuse of public sector information are free under the open government licence. Where a charge is made this will not exceed the cost of collating and maintaining the information.

Subject Access Requests (SAR's) under Article 15 of the GDPR are provided electronically free of charge however if a paper copy of an electronic file or additional copy is required a charge may be made that does not exceed the cost of production and supply. Printed copies are charged at 10p per side. Postage and packing will also be charged if the documents are not collected.

Development Management

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Small scale developments | | | |
| Householder - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Householder - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Householder - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 180.00 | 197.00 | 9.44% |
| Adverts - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Adverts - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Adverts - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 180.00 | 197.00 | 9.44% |
| Listed Building Advice - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Listed Building Advice - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Listed Building Advice - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 180.00 | 197.00 | 9.44% |
| Telecommunications - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Telecommunications - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 300.00 | 329.00 | 9.67% |
| Telecommunications - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| Telecommunications - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Shopfronts - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 90.00 | 99.00 | 10.00% |
| Shopfronts - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Shopfronts - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 180.00 | 197.00 | 9.44% |
| Trees and Hedgerows - Site Visit and Verbal Advice - 10 working days | 75.00 | 82.00 | 9.33% |
| Trees and Hedgerows - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Trees and Hedgerows - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 300.00 | 329.00 | 9.67% |
| Trees and Hedgerows - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| | | | |

| Minor Applications (including all residential developments) | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Residential developments | | | |
| 1 new residential dwelling - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| 1 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 300.00 | 329.00 | 9.67% |
| 1 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| 1 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| 2-4 new residential dwelling - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| 2-4 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| 2-4 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| 2-4 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| 5-9 new residential dwelling - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| 5-9 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| 5-9 new residential dwelling - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| 5-9 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| 10-24 new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,680.00 | 1,840.00 | 9.52% |
| 10-24 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| 25-49 new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,615.00 | 9.55% |
| 25-49 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| 50-99 new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 4,200.00 | 4,600.00 | 9.52% |
| 50-99 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| 100-149 new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 4,800.00 | 5,260.00 | 9.58% |
| 100-149 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| 150-499 new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 6,000.00 | 6,570.00 | 9.50% |
| 150-499 new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 660.00 | 725.00 | 9.85% |
| 500+ new residential dwelling - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 7,200.00 | 7,900.00 | 9.72% |
| 500+ new residential dwelling - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 720.00 | 790.00 | 9.72% |
| | | | |
| Agricultural, Forestry, Glasshouse Development | | | |
| Up to 465sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 48.00 | 53.00 | 10.42% |
| Up to 465sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 72.00 | 79.00 | 9.72% |
| Up to 465sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 96.00 | 105.00 | 9.38% |
| 465-540sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 180.00 | 197.00 | 9.44% |
| 465-540sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 210.00 | 230.00 | 9.52% |
| 465-540sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 270.00 | 295.00 | 9.26% |
| Over 540sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | £270 + £150 per 75sqm over 540sqm | £295 + £165 per 75sqm over 540sqm | 9.52% |
| Over 540sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | £330 + £150 per 75sqm over 540sqm | £360 + £165 per 75sqm over 540sqm | 9.38% |
| Over 540sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | £390 + £150 per 75sqm over 540sqm | £430 + £165 per 75sqm over 540sqm | 10.19% |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------|--------|
| Hotels, residential institutions, HMOs and communal housing of elderly and handicapped | | | |
| Less than 200sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 300.00 | 329.00 | 9.67% |
| - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Between 200 - 400sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 400 - 800sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| | | | |
| Other developments | | | |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5 - 0.75 hectares - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| Floorspace is between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5 - 0.75 hectares - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| Floorspace is between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5 - 0.75 hectares - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5 - 0.75 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| | | | |
| Major Applications | | | |
| Hotels, residential institutions, HMOs and communal housing of elderly and handicapped | | | |
| Between 800 - 1,500sqm - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 800 - 1,500sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 1,500 - 2,500sqm - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| Between 1,500 - 2,500sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| | | | |

| Other developments | | | |
|---|----------|----------|-------|
| Floorspace is between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 15 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 15 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| Floorspace is between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Floorspace is between 7,500 - 15,000sqm and site area is between 1.5 - 3 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 4,800.00 | 5,260.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 7,500 - 15,000sqm and site area is between 1.5 - 3 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is between 15,000 - 20,000sqm and site area is between 3 - 4 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 6,000.00 | 6,570.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is between 15,000 - 20,000sqm and site area is between 3 - 4 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 660.00 | 725.00 | 9.85% |
| Floorspace is more than 20,000sqm or site area is more than 4 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 7,200.00 | 7,900.00 | 9.72% |
| Floorspace is more than 20,000sqm or site area is more than 4 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 720.00 | 790.00 | 9.72% |
| Anemometer masts or single wind turbines less than 100m in height - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| Anemometer masts or single wind turbines less than 100m in height - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| Anemometer masts or single wind turbines less than 100m in height - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| Anemometer masts or single wind turbines less than 100m in height - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| Wind / Solar Farms - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 7,200.00 | 7,900.00 | 9.72% |
| Wind / Solar Farms - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 720.00 | 790.00 | 9.72% |
| | | | |

| Change of Use | | | |
|---|----------|----------|--------|
| Hotels, residential institutions, HMOs and communal housing of elderly and handicapped | | | |
| Less than 200sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Less than 200sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 300.00 | 329.00 | 9.67% |
| Less than 200sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| Less than 200sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 120.00 | 132.00 | 10.00% |
| Between 200 – 400sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 200 – 400sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Between 200 – 400sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| Between 200 – 400sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 400 - 800sqm - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| Between 400 - 800sqm - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| Between 400 - 800sqm - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 400 - 800sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| Between 800 - 1,500sqm - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 800 - 1,500sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 1,500 - 2,500sqm - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| Between 1,500 - 2,500sqm - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| Between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| | | | |

| Other developments | | | |
|---|----------|----------|-------|
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is less than 1,000sqm and site area is less than 0.5 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 240.00 | 263.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is less between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5 - 0.75 hectares - Written Advice Only - 15 working days | 960.00 | 1,050.00 | 9.38% |
| Floorspace is less between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5- 0.75 hectares - Written Advice with meeting - 20 working days | 1,080.00 | 1,185.00 | 9.72% |
| Floorspace is less between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5- 0.75 hectares - Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 25 working days | 1,200.00 | 1,315.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is less between 1,000 - 2,500sqm and site area is between 0.5- 0.75 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 360.00 | 395.00 | 9.72% |
| Floorspace is between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 15 working days | 2,400.00 | 2,630.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 2,500 - 5,000sqm and site area is between 0.75 - 1 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 480.00 | 526.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit - 15 working days | 3,300.00 | 3,620.00 | 9.70% |
| Floorspace is between 5,000 - 7,500sqm and site area is between 1 - 1.5 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 540.00 | 592.00 | 9.63% |
| Floorspace is between 7,500 - 15,000sqm and site area is between 1.5 - 3 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 4,800.00 | 5,260.00 | 9.58% |
| Floorspace is between 7,500 - 15,000sqm and site area is between 1.5 - 3 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 600.00 | 657.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is between 15,000 – 20,000sqm and site area is between 3 - 4 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 6,000.00 | 6,570.00 | 9.50% |
| Floorspace is between 15,000 – 20,000sqm and site area is between 3 - 4 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 660.00 | 725.00 | 9.85% |
| Floorspace is more than 20,000sqm or site area is more than 4 hectares - Detailed Written Advice with meeting and Site Visit – Based on maximum of 30hrs work, additional hours charged at £150 per hour - Timeframe TBA | 7,200.00 | 7,900.00 | 9.72% |
| Floorspace is more than 20,000sqm or site area is more than 4 hectares - Advice in Principle only - 10 working days | 720.00 | 790.00 | 9.72% |

Minerals and Waste

We do not currently charge for pre-application advice relating to minerals and waste development. However, many submissions we receive progress as Section 73 applications (Application for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following Grant of Planning Permission) that cost £234 rather than full planning applications.

In these instances, the council fails to recoup costs, particularly where a specific Section 73 application is complex, contentious and time consuming.

To avoid this failure to recoup costs, the council reserves the right to make pre-application charges when the application is reasonably expected to result in a Section 73 application. The charges that will apply are:

£150, or part thereof, for meetings with planning officers. If the meeting is outside of the planning officer's base travel time will be charged as a cost.

£30 per item for letters, emails, and phone calls with or to applicants regarding specific enquiries.

Teleconferences will be charged the same as a face-to-face meeting.

Pre-application charges will be refunded if, because of meetings and advice, a full application is subsequently submitted.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| All other charges, including enquiries and copies | | | |
| Basic Enquiries Charge (including, but not limited to (i) planning history searches, (ii) advice on how to check our records to establish whether permitted development rights have been removed from a residential dwelling, (iii) general advice on the procedure for discharge of conditions or non-material amendments to existing permissions, (iv) advice on how to seek pre-application advice, fill out application forms and fees) | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| General Planning Policy Advice | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| Ecology Advice | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| Confirmation of compliance with a S106 / conditions / compliance with a notice | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| Application for a Certificate of Compliance with the Local Development Order | 400.00 | 440.00 | 10.00% |
| Pre-Validation Checking Service: | | | 0.00% |
| · Householder, advertisement and prior notification applications – £60 | 60.00 | 65.00 | 8.33% |
| · Minor and similar applications – £110 | 110.00 | 120.00 | 9.09% |
| · Major and similar complex applications – £250 | 250.00 | 275.00 | 10.00% |
| Charging for invalid applications (that have not been made valid within 56 days): | | | 0.00% |
| · Householder, advertisement and prior notification applications – £60 | 60.00 | 65.00 | 8.33% |
| · Minor and similar applications – £110 | 110.00 | 120.00 | 9.09% |
| · Major and similar complex applications – £250 | 250.00 | 275.00 | 10.00% |
| Advice which is not covered by any of the above Categories | 150.00 | 165.00 | 10.00% |
| Copy of Decision Notice, TPO, Appeal Decision Notice, Enforcement Notice | 30.00 | 33.00 | 10.00% |
| Copy of S106 agreement | 75.00 | 82.00 | 9.33% |
| Charges for paper copies of planning applications: | | | 0.00% |
| Charge per application:- | | | 0.00% |
| · £25 per householder | 25.00 | 27.50 | 10.00% |
| · £50 minor | 50.00 | 55.00 | 10.00% |
| · £100 major | 100.00 | 110.00 | 10.00% |
| In the case of Parish Councils, an annual fee is charged based on average number of applications received in that parish. | | | |
| Charges per plan are based on the below photocopying charges plus the cost of postage:- | | | |
| · A0 - £8.04 (£6.70 + £1.34) | 8.04 | 8.80 | 9.45% |
| · A1 - £6.90 (£5.75 + £1.15) | 6.90 | 7.55 | 9.42% |
| · A2 - £5.94 (£4.95 + £0.99) | 5.94 | 6.50 | 9.43% |
| · A3 - £5.52 (£4.60 + £0.92) | 5.52 | 6.00 | 8.70% |
| · A4 - £4.68 (£3.90 + £0.78) | 4.68 | 5.10 | 8.97% |
| A4 Subsequent Copies - £0.52 (£0.44 + £0.08) | 0.52 | 0.57 | 9.62% |

Country Parks

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Car Parking | | | |
| Parking (up to 4 hours) ALL YEAR | 3.50 | 3.90 | 11.43% |
| Parking (5 to 8 hours) ALL YEAR | 5.50 | 6.10 | 10.91% |
| Parking (up to 12 hours) ALL YEAR | 7.50 | 8.30 | 10.67% |
| Parking season ticket (one park) | 38.00 | 41.80 | 10.00% |
| Parking season ticket (all parks) | 51.50 | 56.70 | 10.10% |
| Parking season ticket (additional car) | 5.10 | 5.60 | 9.80% |
| Parking season ticket (changed car) | 5.00 | 5.50 | 10.00% |
| Parking season permit (Per car charge for additional ticket for vehicles registered to same address) | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |
| | | | |
| Room Hire | | | |
| Brixworth – Mackintosh Centre | | | |
| Lapwing and Woodpecker rooms | 22.00 | 24.00 | 9.09% |
| | | | |
| Activities | | | |
| Education Ranger standard activities | 4.50 | 11.00 | 144.44% |
| Education Ranger standard activities- 2 session discount | 7.00 | 11.00 | 57.14% |
| Education Ranger survival skills - Children | 7.50 | 11.00 | 46.67% |
| Education Ranger survival skills - Adults | 10.00 | 11.00 | 10.00% |
| Education Ranger team building - Children | 7.50 | 11.00 | 46.67% |
| Education Ranger team building - Adults | 7.50 | 11.00 | 46.67% |
| Education Ranger team building - Adults | 18.00 | 19.80 | 10.00% |
| | | | |
| Nature Tots | 4.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| | | | |
| Other | | | |
| Mobility Scooter hire - Up to 2 hours | 5.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |
| Mobility Scooter hire - Season ticket | 30.00 | 0.00 | -100.00% |

Everdon

All charges quoted are inclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Residential Young People | | | |
| <u>High Season</u> | | | |
| 5 Day Visit - per person | 225.00 | 247.70 | 10.09% |
| 2 Nights | 125.00 | 137.60 | 10.08% |
| 1 Night | 65.00 | 71.60 | 10.15% |
| <u>Low Season</u> | | | |
| 5 Day Visit - per person | 190.00 | 209.20 | 10.11% |
| 2 Nights | 105.00 | 115.60 | 10.10% |
| 1 Night | 55.00 | 60.60 | 10.18% |
| | | | |
| Activity Days | | | |
| School age per child | 11.00 | 12.10 | 10.00% |
| Pre-Schools per child - full day | 11.00 | 12.10 | 10.00% |
| Pre-School age per child - half day - no mini bus | 8.00 | 8.80 | 10.00% |
| Forest School Courses 6 week half day per child - with mini bus | 9.00 | 9.90 | 10.00% |
| Forest School Courses 6 week half day per child - without mini bus | 7.00 | 7.70 | 10.00% |
| Forest School Leaders Courses | | | |
| Adult Courses over 2 weeks per year plus Observation Days - per person | 895.00 | 985.40 | 10.10% |
| Forest school assistants course | 330.00 | 363.30 | 10.09% |
| Professional Development | | | |
| Science in the Outdoors - day | 65.00 | 71.60 | 10.15% |
| Maths in the Outdoors - day | 65.00 | 71.60 | 10.15% |
| Literacy in the Outdoors - day | 65.00 | 71.60 | 10.15% |
| INSET training (on school site) | 310.00 | 341.30 | 10.10% |
| Bunkhouse Accommodation | | | |
| Per Night - per person | 22.00 | 24.20 | 10.00% |
| Hall Hire | | | |
| Full Day | 145.00 | 159.60 | 10.07% |
| Half Day | 95.00 | 104.60 | 10.11% |

| Day Visits & Outreach Work With Schools & Academies | | | |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| <u>Ranger For A Day</u> | | | |
| 1 session | 204.00 | 224.60 | 10.10% |
| <u>Ranger For Half A Day</u> | | | |
| 1 session | 105.00 | 115.60 | 10.10% |
| Travel charged @ .45p/mile | 0.45 | 0.50 | 11.11% |
| Holiday Activity Days | | | |
| Dinky Discoverers | 6.50 | 7.20 | 10.77% |
| | | | |
| Minibus Training | | | |
| Standard Midas | 155.00 | 170.70 | 10.13% |
| Accessible Midas | 180.00 | 198.20 | 10.11% |
| Refresher | 95.00 | 104.60 | 10.11% |
| Accessible Midas - refresher | 105.00 | 115.60 | 10.10% |

Daventry Country Park and Borough Hill Charges

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Facility Hire | | | |
| Private Use (e.g. children's party, group activities) | 26.00 | 26.36 | 1.39% |
| General Use (e.g. fun run, bike ride) | 16.00 | 15.82 | -1.15% |
| Outdoor Activities (use of Northern Field, Lovells Bay or Classroom) | 63.00 | 63.26 | 0.42% |
| Field hire (small/private events - max 50 people) | 63.00 | 63.26 | 0.42% |
| Field hire (events up to 150 people) | 264.00 | 263.60 | -0.15% |
| Field hire (additional days for setup/take down) | 53.00 | 52.72 | -0.53% |
| Field hire for Charity events | Donations welcome | Donations welcome | 0.00% |
| Activities | | | |
| Educational Visits (per child, min 20 children) | 1.00 | 1.05 | 5.44% |
| Environmental Visits (Team expenses only, additional fee for equipment purchases) | 121.00 | 121.47 | 0.39% |
| Orienteering Maps | 1.00 | 1.05 | 5.44% |
| Commemorative Programme - Trees and benches | On application | On application | 0.00% |
| Commemorative Programme - Planting, Installation and Maintenance one-off fee | 81.00 | 80.98 | -0.03% |
| Open Water Swimming (payable to Northamptonshire Sport) | 3.50 | 3.50 | 0.00% |
| Hire of Equipment | | | |
| Pond Dipping (nets, identification cards & use of pond) | 5.00 | 5.27 | 5.44% |
| Mini-Beast Hunting (nets, identification cards & use of meadows) | 5.00 | 5.27 | 5.44% |
| Fishing (Env Agency Rod licence required) | | | |
| Adult (max 2 rods) | 5.00 | 5.27 | 5.44% |
| Concession/Junior | 3.00 | 2.64 | -12.13% |
| Adult Season Ticket | 63.00 | 63.26 | 0.42% |
| Concession/Junior Season Ticket | 32.00 | 31.63 | -1.15% |
| Licence Agreement | | | |
| Non-powered water sports (April - October) | 15.00 | 15.00 | 0.00% |
| Land Use licence (e.g. circus or fair) | 1,250.00 | 1,250.05 | 0.00% |
| Personal fitness training licence | 54.00 | 53.77 | -0.42% |
| Animal grazing licence (conservation grazing) Borough Hill | 150.00 | 158.16 | 5.44% |
| Animal grazing licence (conservation grazing) Cracks Hill | 150.00 | 158.16 | 5.44% |
| Animal grazing licence (conservation grazing) Daventry Country Park Hay Meadow | 150.00 | 158.16 | 5.44% |
| Animal grazing licence (conservation grazing) Daventry Country Park Main Meadow | 150.00 | 158.16 | 5.44% |
| Commercial Filming & Photography (Licence required) | | | |
| Filming | 74.00 | 73.81 | -0.26% |
| Filming | 100.00 | 100.17 | 0.17% |
| Photography | 58.00 | 57.99 | -0.01% |
| Car Parking | | | |
| Car Parking - Daventry Country Park | 2.20 | 2.17 | -1.25% |
| Car Parking - Daventry Country Park Season ticket | 70.00 | 76.04 | 8.62% |
| Car Parking - Borough Hill | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00% |
| Administration charge for changes or lost season ticket | 20.00 | 20.64 | 3.20% |

Executive Support

This proposals is still in the early stages and need to be further explored.

All charges quoted are exclusive of VAT where applicable.

| Description of charge | 2022/23 charges (£) | Proposed 2023/24 charges (£) | % Increase |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| Charges for delivery of Armed Forces Covenant training | 0 | TBC | 0.00% |

Taxi fees

It has not yet been possible to synchronise the taxi fees so West Northants Council will run 3 sets of fees for respective geographical areas in 2023/24:

| Description of charge | 2022/23 Northampton Borough Council charge (£) | 2022/23 Daventry Borough Council charge (£) | 2022/23 South Northants Council charge (£) | Proposed 2023/24 Northampton Borough Council charge (£) | Proposed 2023/24 Daventry Borough Council charge (£) | Proposed 2023/24 South Northants Council charge (£) |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| Taxi - Hackney Carriage and Private Hire | - | | | | | |
| New Private Hire Vehicle | £99 (six month licence) | 173.00 | 270.00 | £99 (six month licence) | 173.00 | 270.00 |
| Vehicle Renewals Private Hire | £93 (six month licence) | 161.00 | 250.00 | £93 (six month licence) | 161.00 | 250.00 |
| New Private Hire / Hackney Carriage Vehicle | £99 (six month licence) | 173.00 | 292.00 | £99 (six month licence) | 173.00 | 292.00 |
| Vehicle Renewals Hackney Carriage | £93 (six month licence) | 161.00 | 272.00 | £93 (six month licence) | 161.00 | 272.00 |
| New Driver's Licence (1 year) | 190.00 | 117 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 114 (combined badge) | 190.00 | 117 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 114 (combined badge) |
| New Driver's Licence (3 year) | 190.00 | 200 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 200 (combined badge) | 190.00 | 200 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 200 (combined badge) |
| Driver's Licence Renewal (1 year) | 140.00 | 105 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 96 (combined badge) | 140.00 | 105 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 96 (combined badge) |
| Driver's Licence Renewal (3 year) | 140.00 | 187 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 200 (combined badge) | 140.00 | 187 (not combined. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers need specific/separate licence but fee same for both) | 200 (combined badge) |
| Operator's Licence (Private Hire only) (1year) | N/A | £95.00 plus £28.00 per vehicle | £140.00 plus £20.00 per vehicle | N/A | £95.00 plus £28.00 per vehicle | £140.00 plus £20.00 per vehicle |
| Operator's Licence (Private Hire only) (5year) | scale depending on number of vehicles see below) | £268 .00 plus £28.00 per vehicle | £230 .00 plus £20.00 per vehicle | scale depending on number of vehicles see below) | £268 .00 plus £28.00 per vehicle | £230 .00 plus £20.00 per vehicle |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|-------|--------------------|--|-------|
| New application | 1,550.00 | - | - | 1,550.00 | | |
| Renewal 0 vehicle | 1,450.00 | - | - | 1,450.00 | | |
| Renewal 1 vehicle | 1,100.00 | - | - | 1,100.00 | | |
| Renewal 2 - 5 vehicle | 1,600.00 | - | - | 1,600.00 | | |
| Renewal 6 - 20 vehicle | 1,750.00 | - | - | 1,750.00 | | |
| Renewal 21 - 50 vehicle | 2,050.00 | - | - | 2,050.00 | | |
| Renewal 51- 100 | 2,650.00 | - | - | 2,650.00 | | |
| Renewal 101 - 200 | 3,850.00 | - | - | 3,850.00 | | |
| Renewal 201 - 300 | 6,250.00 | - | - | 6,250.00 | | |
| Renewal 301 - 400 | 11,050.00 | - | - | 11,050.00 | | |
| Renewal 400 + vehicles | 20,650.00 | - | - | 20,650.00 | | |
| Operator change of name | 220.00 | - | - | 220.00 | | |
| New private hire driver | | | | | | |
| Initial appointment | 30.00 | - | - | 30.00 | | |
| Induction day including test fees | 100.00 | - | - | 100.00 | | |
| Induction retake fee | 55.00 | - | - | 55.00 | | |
| Driver safety awareness course | 200.00 | - | - | 200.00 | | |
| Spoken English Test | - | - | 40.00 | - | | 40.00 |
| Safeguarding Training | - | - | 30.00 | - | | 30.00 |
| Knowledge test | £55 (Hackney only) | 40.00 | 40.00 | £55 (Hackney only) | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| Driver's badge - replacement | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| Magnetic Door Signs | - | - | 20.00 | - | - | 20.00 |
| Licence - replacement | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 |
| Vehicle Plate - replacement - external | 35.00 | 35.00 | 35.00 | 35.00 | 35.00 | 35.00 |
| Vehicle Plate - replacement - internal | - | - | 10.00 | - | - | 10.00 |
| Owner/Temp Vehicle Transfer | 22.00 | £115 (includes vehicle compliance check) | 52.00 | 22.00 | £115 (includes vehicle compliance check) | 52.00 |
| Vehicle Bracket | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 |
| DBS & DVLA checks | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 |

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix D

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

1 Grant Background and Calculation

1.1 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is a ring fenced specific grant allocated to the Local Authority (LA) by the Government to support a range of education related services. The majority (c90%) of the DSG is allocated to the LA and paid to providers based on a national formula which funds direct education provision including schools (local authority maintained and academies), early years' providers and high needs education in further education (age 16 to 25). The remaining c10% is paid to nurseries, schools and higher education institutions for:

1.1.1 pupils and students with special education needs and disabilities (referred to as high needs 'top ups'),

1.1.2 funding to cover in-year increases in pupil and student numbers (referred to as 'growth funding')

1.1.3 maintained school de-delegations (funding top sliced from the maintained individual school's budgets (ISB) at their approval, and managed centrally by the LA, for example trade union facility time), and

1.1.4 funding for historic and ongoing commitments.

1.2 The ISB for academies and funding for high needs 'places' in academies (set prior to the start of academic year) are paid to academies directly from the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) reflecting the shift in responsibility for the funding of academies. This funding is taken off the DSG before the grant is paid to LAs and is termed 'recoupment'.

1.3 Academies are independent of the local authority and are accountable directly to the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE agency responsible for all school related funding is the ESFA.

1.4 Maintained schools continue to receive funding directly from the Council through the DSG.

1.5 The DfE currently operate a four block funding model for funding schools and pre-16 education including early years as set out in the following table:

| Dedicated Schools Grant | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Schools Block | Early Years Block | High Needs Block | Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) |

1.6 Each of the blocks covers different elements of education funding with the respective funding allocations being based on different underlying formulae and data sets.

1.7 The total DSG that the Authority receives is largely based on all schools' pupil and children numbers as per census data for the county whether maintained or academy. But each of the four blocks is allocated to the LA on a different basis.

Schools Block:

- The vast majority of funding allocated to the LA is driven by pupil numbers and the Primary Unit of Funding (PUF) and Secondary Unit of Funding (SUF) as set by the DfE
- allocated to schools for day to day spending in their individual school budgets through the schools funding formula and;
- includes the Pupil Growth Fund for new and growing schools.

Early Years Block:

- allocated to the LA based on Early Years censuses are used to drive funding, the January before and the financial year for the first 5 months and the January census during the financial year for the last 7 months
- funds the free entitlement for all early years' settings for 2, 3 and 4 year olds with a statutory minimum of 95% of the 3 and 4 year old funding required to be allocated to schools, other private, voluntary and independent early years education providers and childminders through the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)
- Schools Forum annually approve up to the remaining 5% of the 3 and 4 year old funding to be used to fund LA central functions to manage and administer the early years' arrangements.

High Needs Block:

- allocated to LAs based on proxy indicators (population, deprivation, ill health, disability, prior attainment), special school pupils from autumn census, hospital and outreach and free special schools
- funds places in special schools, resource units and alternative provision, and top up funding for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in all settings including academies, independent special schools and further education colleges.

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB):

- 55.3% of funding allocated to the LA is based on the school autumn census data and 44.7% of funding is historically based (the latter is being unwound by Government and is reducing 20% each year)
- funds historic commitments previously agreed between the Schools Forum and the LA for example pensions costs and ongoing responsibilities that the authority has in respect of education for example School Admissions.

DSG Context

- 1.8 Within West Northamptonshire, there are currently 5 maintained nursery schools, 61 primary and 3 special maintained schools. There are also 87 primary, 17 secondary, 5 all-through and 8 special academies.
- 1.9 The DSG must be deployed in accordance with the conditions of grant and the latest school and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations. Detailed guidance for each block is contained within various operational documents issued by the EFSA.
- 1.10 The LA consults with Schools Forum each year on the allocation of DSG funding in accordance with the legislation and guidelines issued by the ESFA. This includes the local formula factors to be applied in the calculation of the school's individual budgets.
- 1.11 As well as the requirement to consult with the Schools Forum on changes to formula funding, the Forum authorises the central expenditure budgets for ongoing commitments, movements of funding between blocks and the growth fund policy.
- 1.12 Schools Forum membership is made up of representatives from maintained and academy, primary and secondary schools, nurseries and Council Officers. The meetings are open to the public and are held every 2-3 months. The Forum have a statutory role in ensuring that school funding across the county is equitable and fair by considering proposals from the council for such areas as the school funding formula and central expenditure from the DSG.

2 School Budget Consultation

- 2.1 The LA has undertaken a school budget consultation running from 1 November – 30 November 2022 as agreed with Schools Forum.
- 2.2 The outcomes from the consultation will be presented to the December Schools Forum meeting who will vote on the proposals where required however the final schools funding formula remains an LA decision.
- 2.3 The proposals consulted on are as follows:

- Continuation of Specialist Services (sensory impairment and SEND support service) using the current methodology via a top slice of the schools and academies budgets for a total of £2.2m, equating to approximately 0.67%. This was the preferred option for 2022-23 and required a ministerial disapplication of the legislation as it was above the maximum 0.5%. If Schools Forum are not supportive of this preferred approach for 2023-24 then the alternative proposal is top slicing by just the maximum legislated 0.5% (c£1.63m) to fund the SEND support service (£1.05m) and to offset the high needs overspend for 2023-24 (£0.58m). The sensory impairment service would then need to be purchased directly by schools who need them from their individual budgets.
- Growth Fund Policy and pupil numbers for growth to be added to the formula budgets for new and growing schools
- Central Schools Services Block expenditure
- Split site funding policy
- Maintained schools de-delegations (top slices from their individual budgets for specific purposes) for trade union facility time, redundancy funding and school improvement grant.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix E WNC Draft General Fund Capital Programme 2023-27

1. Background

- 1.1 The draft general fund capital programme has been developed to support the realisation of the Council's vision and corporate priorities with an emphasis will be on ensuring a robust mechanism to deliver our priorities within the finances available.
- 1.2 Services submitted their general fund capital requirements for 2023-24 and the medium term through the Star Chamber process.
- 1.3 In contrast to the previous budget setting process, a smaller number of schemes have been submitted. However, some of these are high value, requiring significant financial contribution from WNC and further challenge and prioritisation is required to ensure an outcome that is affordable and sustainable. The quantum of draft budget proposals has been considered by the Capital and Assets Board who recommended that, at this stage of the budget setting process, only schemes which are fully funded are included for consideration as part of the draft budget setting process.
- 1.4 The draft budget therefore takes into account the schemes already approved in year through the Capital and Assets Board (CAB) plus new fully funded schemes only i.e. where there is no financial impact for the authority. A further review will be undertaken of all other proposals to agree prioritisation of schemes before they are submitted for final budget.

2. Overview of Draft Budget Setting Process

- 2.1 Services were asked to consider their capital needs over the medium term and present their requirements to their Star Chambers where they were subject to initial challenge.
- 2.2 Given the current climate, the existing capital programme is experiencing some shortages of materials and suitable contractors. This has resulted in some projects being delayed with works slipping into the next financial year.
- 2.3 Finance have worked with services to determine their needs, priorities and what is achievable for the authority both in terms of staff availability and cost. Basic scheme details were provided and will be worked through in more detail before final budget.
- 2.4 Prioritisation has initially focused on:
 - Fully funded schemes
- 2.5 Following an initial review, it was recognised that there are a number of schemes which are not funded and that these would be considered on an individual basis in terms of prioritisation. These will be:
 - Invest to save
 - Schemes required to meet statutory duties

- Meeting increasing service pressures
- Any other proposals

2.6 All proposals have been collated and categorised as follows:

- Fully funded
- Invest to save
- Part funded schemes – where some element of WNC contribution is required to access grant
- Essential schemes (unfunded)
- Other / desirable schemes (unfunded)

3. Summary of General Fund Capital Proposals – 2023-24 onwards

3.1 30 proposals totalling £154m over the medium term were submitted.

3.2 The Capital and Assets Board recommended that, the draft budget includes only fully funded schemes i.e. where there is no financial impact for the authority, and that a further review will be undertaken of all other proposals to agree prioritisation of schemes before they are submitted for final budget.

Fully funded schemes

3.3 4 fully funded schemes have been submitted totalling £24.4m.

3.4 The funding for these schemes is as follows:

| Fully Funded Scheme Summary | 2023-24 £k | 2024-25 £k | 2025-26 £k | 2026-27+ £k | Total £k |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Capital cost* | 12,219 | 12,219 | 2,250 | 2,250 | 28,938 |
| <i>Funded by:</i> | | | | | |
| Department for Transport Grant | 12,219 | 12,219 | 0 | 0 | 24,438 |
| MHCLG Grant | | | 2,250 | 2,250 | 4,500 |
| Total Capital Funding | 12,219 | 12,219 | 2,250 | 2,250 | 28,938 |
| | | | | | |

**Please note these are indicative costs from the DfT and MHCLG. The actual grant allocation will be notified to authorities before the start of the financial year.*

- Fully funded schemes are annual grant allocations from central government

| Scheme | 2023-24 £k | 2024-25 £k | 2025-26 £k | 2026-27 £k | Total £k | Funding Source |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Integrated Transport Block | 1,550 | 1,550 | 0 | 0 | 3,100 | DfT Grant |
| Highways Maintenance Block – Needs Element | 4,742 | 4,742 | 0 | 0 | 9,484 | DfT Grant |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Highways Maintenance Block – Incentive Element | 1,185 | 1,185 | 0 | 0 | 2,370 | DfT Grant |
| Potholes Fund | 4,742 | 4,742 | 0 | 0 | 9,484 | DfT Grant |
| Disabled Facilities Grant (2023-24 to 2024-25 included in current budget) | 0 | 0 | 2,250 | 2,250 | 4,500 | MHCLG Grant |
| Total | 12,219 | 12,219 | 2,250 | 2,250 | 28,938 | |

3.5 The fully funded proposals have been added to the existing approved capital budget for 2023-24 onwards resulting in a draft general fund capital programme of £154.8m over the four year period 2022-27.

| West Northants GF Capital Budget | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 onwards | Total |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | £k | £k | £k | £k | £k |
| Approved Budget 2022-23 as reported Q2 | 71,350 | 40,453 | 14,093 | 0 | 125,896 |
| New capital bids (fully funded only) | 12,219 | 12,219 | 2,250 | 2,250 | 28,938 |
| Total | 83,569 | 52,672 | 16,343 | 2,250 | 154,834 |

| WN Revised Capital Financing | 2023/24 £k | 2024/25 £k | 2025/26 £k | 2026-27+ £k | Total £k |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Capital receipts | 85 | 85 | 0 | 0 | 170 |
| Prudential Borrowing | 20,437 | 15,195 | 10,118 | 0 | 45,750 |
| Internal Borrowing | 231 | 244 | 0 | 0 | 474 |
| S106 | 6,119 | 3,750 | 0 | 0 | 9,869 |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) | 14,117 | 1,000 | 393 | 0 | 15,510 |
| Grant Funding | 38,864 | 22,198 | 5,832 | 2,250 | 69,144 |
| Funded from Reserve | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revenue Funding | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| External Funding | 3,716 | 10,200 | 0 | 0 | 13,916 |
| Total Funding | 83,569 | 52,672 | 16,343 | 2,250 | 154,834 |

** Some of the s.106 and CIL funding will be received several years after the completion of the project in some cases. Those schemes will be forward funded with Discretionary funding, which will be repaid when the relevant CIL and s.106 are received. The funding table shows the eventual funding source for these, rather than the forward funding.

The two main schemes to which this applies are the Northampton North West Relief Road, and the A45 Daventry Development Link.

3.6 It is recommended that these schemes are approved as part of the draft budget setting process.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET

20 DECEMBER 2022

CABINET MEMBER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOUSING, CULTURE AND LEISURE - COUNCILLOR ADAM BROWN

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Report Title | Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2023/24 and Medium Term Financial Plan |
| Report Author | Martin Henry, Executive Director of Finance Martin.henry@westnorthants.gov.uk |

Contributors/Checkers/Approvers

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| West MO | Catherine Whitehead | 12/12/2022 |
| West S151 | Martin Henry | 12/12/2022 |
| West Communications team | Becky Hutson | 12/12/2022 |

List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft HRA Revenue Budget and MTFP Summary

Appendix 2 – Draft Growth, Efficiencies, and Investment Proposals

Appendix 3 – Draft HRA Capital Programme

Appendix 4 – Draft Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) Management Fee

Appendix 5 – Draft Schedule of Service Charges

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present for consultation the draft HRA revenue budget for 2023-24, including the forecast rent increases, and the draft HRA Capital Programme 2023-28.
- 1.2 To approve for consultation the draft 2023-24 Management Fee proposals for Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) based on the draft 2023-24 budget proposals.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet:

- 2.1 approves for the draft HRA budget 2023-24
- 2.2 approves for consultation the 7% (£6.79) increase in average rents from £97.00 to £103.79 per week in accordance with the government's amended Rent Standard with effect from the 3rd April 2023.
- 2.3 approves for consultation the draft HRA Capital Programme and financing for 2023/24, as detailed in appendix 3 and notes the forecast programme from 2024/25 to 2027/28.
- 2.4 approves for consultation the 10% increase in tenants and leaseholder service charges with effect from the 3rd April 2023 as set out in Appendix 5
- 2.5. approves for consultation the 10% increase in garage rents and commuter surcharges with effect from the 3rd April 2023 as set out in Appendix 5
- 2.6 note the draft 2023-24 Total Fees proposed for NPH in appendix 4 to deliver the services in scope.
- 2.7 note that the Council has made an application in partnership with NPH for Wave 2 of the Social Housing Decarbonisation fund for £1.28m and approve delegated authority to the Executive Director of Finance to enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) if successful in the bid process.
- 2.8 approves for consultation the setting up of a new hardship/ management contingent budget within general management to provide help for tenants facing difficulties arising from energy and food poverty.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 3.1 The HRA reflects the statutory requirement under Section 74 of the Housing and Local Government Act 1989 to account separately for local housing services. It is a ring-fenced account which records the cost of managing the Council's housing stock. These costs are offset by tenants' rents, tenants/leaseholders' services charges and other contributions. The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced HRA and avoid going into deficit.

4. Issues and Choices

4.1 Background to the Report

- 4.1.1 Local housing authorities are required by Section 74 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (the 1989 Act) to keep a HRA. The HRA reflects a statutory obligation to account separately for local authority housing provision. It identifies the major elements of the HRA expenditure and how these are funded, mainly from rents and service charges. The HRA budget process incorporates the calculation for the continuation of delivery of the HRA services by the Council's Arms-Length

Management Organisation (ALMO), Northamptonshire Partnership Homes (NPH). This report sets out the proposed total fee for NPH for 2023-24 to provide the services in scope.

4.1.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility for the HRA and therefore retains management of the HRA. NPH, as well as being the delivery partner, also provides the council with information on its activities, and advice on how to make best use of the resources within the HRA.

4.1.3 It should be noted that the total fee for NPH in 2023-24 will be subject to approval of the HRA and General Fund budgets by full Council at its meeting in February 2023.

4.2 Economic Context

4.2.1 There continues to be uncertainty around the national and global economic outlook, caused by various factors including the impact of the war in Ukraine and the consequent high energy and food prices, the ongoing fallout from the Covid pandemic and the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. Therefore, the draft budget is built on prudent assumptions around inflation, interest rates, the continuing strong demand for housing, and the impact of high numbers of instances of homelessness.

National and Local Policy

4.2.2 Since the introduction of self-financing in 2012 there have been a host of government policy initiatives that have impacted upon housing finances. Some of the major ones are:

- the legislative backed 1 % rent reductions for four years from 1 April 2016
- the encouraging of right to buy (RTB) by increasing RTB discounts; and
- the introduction of Universal Credit and Benefit Cap.

4.2.3 The Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill currently going through Parliament provides changes which will impact on the supply of social and affordable housing. These could have implications for the capital programme and the future provision of housing.

4.2.4 Concerned with the very high levels of inflation in 2022, the Government went out to consultation in August to make a temporary amendment to the CPI plus 1% Rent Setting policy. The Government initially proposed a 5% cap on rents, but also asked providers of social housing to consider 3% and 7% caps.

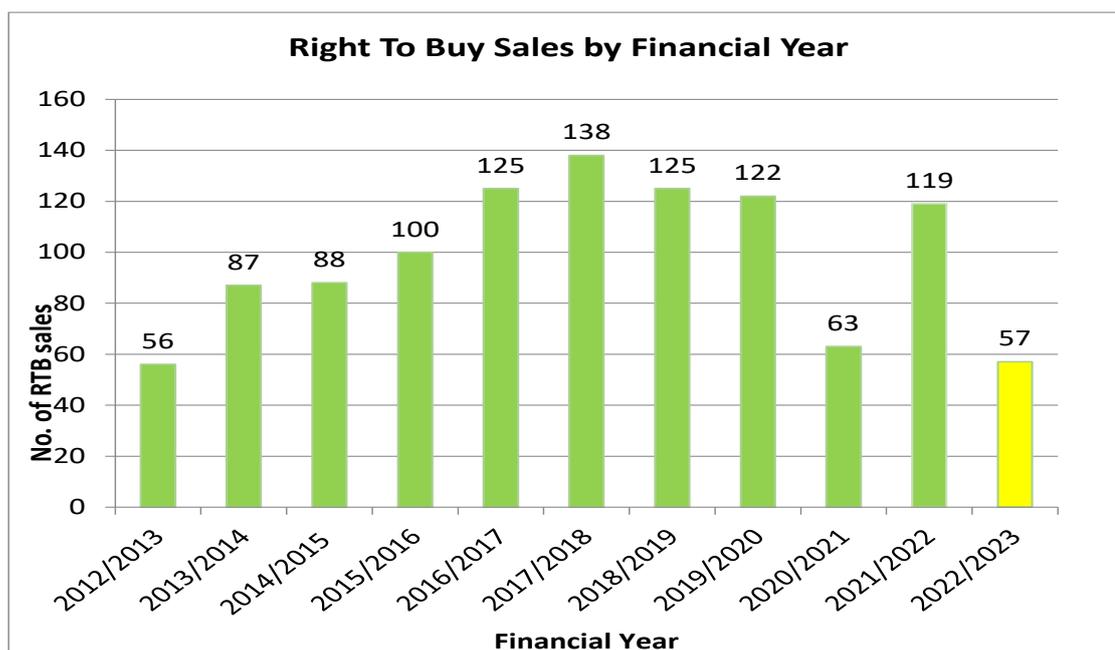
4.2.5 On the 17 November 2022 the Chancellor announced in the Autumn Statement that rents for social and affordable housing would be capped at 7%.

4.2.6 Since the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower, building and fire safety has become a key national and political priority. The Building Safety Act came into force on 28 June 2022 and is the most important piece of building safety legislation in recent years. The Act introduces significant changes to building safety regulation, as recommended in the

Hackitt Review, including a new, more stringent, regime for higher-risk buildings and a Building Safety Regulator.

- 4.2.7 Central Government has set a clear and challenging goal for the UK to meet net zero by 2050. The Council's long-term target is Net Zero Northants 2045. We are committed to delivering new homes at high energy efficiency levels, to maintaining and improving the number of existing homes at decent homes standard and to retrofitting existing stock. The housing sector has a huge role to play and challenge helping to meet this goal. Through the support of government funding, over 500 council homes which are expensive to heat and energy inefficient due to their age and the way they were built, are receiving improved insulation, ventilation, new windows and new heating systems.
- 4.2.8 The social housing sector has already invested in energy efficiency and new heating technology for many years resulting in social housing being more energy efficient on average than any other homes.
- 4.2.9 However, the scale of the challenge is very significant and will require a huge programme of work of an unprecedented scale. There is currently and probably will be in the future some level of financial support from central government towards improvements. The 'major works' investment may be able to be reprofiled to incorporate some works.
- 4.2.9 New Council house build and the use of one for one right to buy (RTB) receipts enables NPH to work closely with the Council on a 10-year development plan for delivering new affordable homes. The Council's Housing Strategy covering the whole WNC area will be a key driver as to how this new build programme will be developed and delivered going forward. The new build programme is kept under constant review to ensure that it maximises HRA capacity, safeguards the use of one for one RTB receipts and, where there is a robust business case, enables the delivery of affordable housing.
- 4.2.10 This programme is also leveraging in grant funding from Homes England to support some of the new build projects. It should be noted under current rules that grant funding of schemes cannot occur where one for one RTB receipts are applied
- 4.2.11 RTB sales continue to be relatively high due to the increase in discount levels introduced from April 2012. However, the recent increases in mortgage interest rates have seen a reduction in sales. The annual level of stock loss through RTB sales is set out in Graph 1, over the page.

Graph 1 Actual Right To Buy Sales



4.2.12 It can be seen from Graph 1, that whilst there was a drop in sales in 2020-21 due to the Covid 19 restrictions, the actual sales in 2021-22 were back to pre-pandemic levels. However, due to rising inflation and the increase in interest and mortgage rates sales have fallen in the third quarter of 2022-23, with 57 sales completed.

4.2.13 In April 2021 the Government announced changes to the rules surrounding the use of RTB receipts. These include the extension of the timeframe for spending RTB receipts on replacement homes from 3 to 5 years, increasing the proportion of a replacement home that can be funded from 30% to 40% and extending the scope to include shared ownership and first homes.

4.2.14 The rules allow deductions from the gross receipt to determine the amount which must be spent on the 1-4-1 replacement of housing stock. These are restricted receipts and must be used within 5 years. Set out in Table 1a is the estimated number of restricted receipts which will be received and used over the medium-term financial plan, (MFTP)

Table 1a Restricted RTB Receipts for 1-4-1 Replacement of Dwellings

| Description | Estimate | Estimate | Estimate | Estimate | Estimate |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2023-24 £,000 | 2024-25 £,000 | 2025-26 £,000 | 2026-27 £,000 | 2027-28 £,000 |
| Receipts Brought Forward 1st April | (9,615) | (3,354) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Receipts Received in Year | (3,507) | (3,542) | (3,577) | (3,613) | (3,649) |
| Receipts used to finance New Dwellings | 9,768 | 6,896 | 3,577 | 3,613 | 3,649 |
| Receipts Carried Forward 31st March | (3,354) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

4.2.15 It can be seen from Table 1a that the proposed growth in the capital programme will result in all the restricted receipts being used by the end of 2024-25. This will mean that for subsequent years the council will only be able to use the receipt generated in

the year which will impact on the new build programme and the HRA, unless it can secure Homes England grant for specific future projects.

- 4.2.16 The unrestricted element of the RTB receipts can be used for any capital purpose and set out in Table 1b is an estimate of the capital receipts available to fund the housing capital programme. As it can be seen from the table all the receipts received are planned to be used in year.

Table 1b Unrestricted RTB Receipts to finance any capital expenditure

| Description | Estimate 2023-24 £,000 | Estimate 2024-25 £,000 | Estimate 2025-26 £,000 | Estimate 2026-27 £,000 | Estimate 2027-28 £,000 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Receipts Brought Forward 1st April | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Receipts Received in Year | (2,487) | (2,524) | (2,561) | (2,599) | (2,637) |
| Receipts used to finance CAPEX | 2,487 | 2,524 | 2,561 | 2,599 | 2,637 |
| Receipts Carried Forward 31st March | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Borrowing In the HRA

- 4.2.17 In October 2018 the Chancellor announced in his budget the removal of the cap on HRA prudential borrowing. This was to enable local authorities to deliver more affordable homes.
- 4.2.18 The HRA currently has an agreed Capital Programme and whilst proposals have been submitted to amend and increase that capital programme going forward it has been determined that the preferred approach is to ‘cash freeze’ the current capital programme until a wider piece of work has been carried out on the delivery plan for the Housing Strategy and how that aligns with the borrowing expectations of the authority. When this piece of work has been completed the capital programme will be re-cast to reflect the outcome of it.
- 4.2.19 The new build programme is kept under constant review to ensure that it maximizes HRA capacity, safeguards the use of one for one RTB receipts and, where there is a robust business case, enables the delivery of affordable housing. This programme is also leveraging in grant funding from Homes England to support some of the new build projects. It should be noted under current rules that grant funding of schemes cannot occur where one for one RTB receipts are applied.

4.3 Housing Strategy

- 4.3.1 The West Northants Housing Strategy 2022-2025 was approved by Cabinet in September 2022. This strategy is built around four themes and their associated objectives:
- **Theme 1:** Deliver homes people need and can afford
 - **Theme 2:** Improve the quality, standard and safety of homes and housing services
 - **Theme 3:** Support residents to live healthy, safe, independent and active lives
 - **Theme 4:** Support thriving and sustainable communities
- 4.3.2 The housing strategy is a high-level document, which forms one of the cornerstones for delivering our Corporate Plan 2021-2025. It sets out the main housing related issues and how we plan to deliver our key themes and objectives. Underpinning the strategy is the importance of partnership working and without this we will not be able to tackle

the big challenges that lie ahead. The Council will create the leadership and conditions needed for this to happen.

- 4.3.3 It is important to recognise that a delivery plan needs to be developed for the implementation of the Housing Strategy which will include the financial implications associated with it. This delivery plan will need to reflect the borrowing ambitions of the authority and the consequential number of properties that will therefore be funded by the authority and those that will have to be funded by third party organisations.

4.4 HRA Revenue and Capital Position 2022-23

- 4.4.1 In September, Cabinet approved the Quarter 1 re-phasing of the HRA capital programme 2022-23. Included in the re-phasing were several new build schemes which were due to be completed and let this year. It is therefore, anticipated that because of this delay the rent income will be £0.6 million less than originally budgeted in the current year.
- 4.4.2 However, the re-phasing of the capital programme has resulted in significantly lower borrowing in 2022-23. The reduction in borrowing has reduced capital financing charges to the revenue account by £1.4 m. The savings in capital financing charges has been partly offset by £0.6m lower rent income and a £0.5m increase in the cost of repairs and maintenance due to a skills shortage and difficulties with the supply chain. A full report of the current year HRA position is considered elsewhere on this agenda.

4.5 HRA Draft Budget 2023-24

- 4.5.1 The proposed draft budget provides the necessary resources to deliver HRA services for the next financial.
- 4.5.2 There are several rules surrounding what can be charged to this account and much of the income and expenditure is dictated by legislation. The HRA estimates proposed for 2023-24 reflect the Council's latest financial assumptions. This is set out in Table 2.

Table 2 HRA Budget Summary 2023/24

| Description | Budget 2022/23 £,000 | Draft Budget 2023/24 £,000 | Movement £,000 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Income | | | |
| Rents - Dwellings | (53,050) | (56,188) | (3,137) |
| Rents - Non Dwellings | (951) | (1,094) | (143) |
| Service Charges | (2,435) | (3,372) | (938) |
| Other Income | (16) | (9) | 8 |
| Total Income | (56,452) | (60,663) | (4,211) |
| Expenditure | | | |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 14,892 | 17,953 | 3,061 |
| General Management | 9,391 | 10,808 | 1,417 |
| Special Services | 5,277 | 6,086 | 808 |
| Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges | 302 | 302 | - |
| Increase in Bad Debt Provision | 400 | 400 | - |
| Total Expenditure | 30,263 | 35,549 | 5,286 |
| Net Cost of Services | (26,190) | (25,114) | 1,076 |
| Net Recharges from the General Fund | 2,650 | 2,650 | - |
| Interest & Financing Costs | 8,802 | 7,273 | (1,529) |
| Revenue Contributions to Capital | 1,238 | 1,492 | 254 |
| Depreciation | 13,500 | 13,699 | 199 |
| Contribution to / (from) Reserves | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Deficit/(Surplus) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Changes from 2022-23 Budget**Dwelling Rents**

- 4.5.3 Rental income is the largest single budget within the HRA and is calculated in accordance with national rent policy. The Rent Standard was introduced on the 1st April 2020 and applies to all registered social landlords including local authorities and housing associations.
- 4.5.4 The Rent Standard 2021 allows all registered providers to increase both social and affordable rent by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 1%. The CPI is that published by the Office of National Statistics in the September prior to the year of the increase. Due to the high levels of inflation this year the Government went out to consultation in August to temporarily amend the CPI plus 1% policy. In the Autumn Statement, the Chancellor announced that rents would be capped at 7%.
- 4.5.5 Social rents are calculated in accordance with an agreed formula prescribed in the Rent Standard. The formula rent considers such factors as the national average rent, the relative earnings for Northamptonshire, the number of bedrooms and the relative property value. The council operates a policy so that where current rents are below formula rent the rents are moved to formula rent when the property is relet.

- 4.5.6 The increase in dwelling rents is essential to ensure the continuing investment in high-quality housing service for our tenants. Failure to increase the rents by the statutory amount will not only have a significant impact on income in the current year but also in each year going forward. It is estimated that a 1% reduction in the rent increase would reduce the rental income by approximately £0.5m in the current year. This potential loss of 1% would be compounded over the life of the 40-year HRA business plan resulting in approximately £34m reduction in revenues to reinvest into the stock over the business planning period.
- 4.5.7 The CPI in September 2022 was 10.1% and had the rent increase not been capped at 7%, rents could have increased up to 11.1%. The reduction of 4.1% in the rent increase represents a significant shortfall in income to the HRA, when compared to the comparative cost inflation, and especially when compounded over the 40-year life of the Business Plan.
- 4.5.8 Vulnerable tenants would be offered protection through the welfare system with increases in welfare announced by government in the autumn statement as matching Septembers CPI of 10.1%.

Garage Rents

- 4.5.9 The HRA manages and maintains a total of 2,072 garages at 1 April 2022. It is proposed to increase garage rents and the commuter surcharge on garages by 10%. This will increase the average rent per garage from £9.96 to £10.96 and the commuter surcharge from £15.83 to £17.41 per week respectively. This proposed increase has been reflected in the draft budget.

Service Charges

- 4.5.10 The schedule of draft service charges for 2023/24 is set out in Appendix 5. The level of service charges should be set to enable the full recovery of the costs of providing the service. It is proposed that general service charges are increased by 10% in line with CPI at September 2022. The additional service charge income has been reflected in the draft budget position.
- 4.5.11 A key feature in the calculation of service charges is that tenants and leaseholders pay the actual cost of providing the service. Initially tenants and leaseholders pay for services based on the estimated costs. Then when the final costs are known, an adjustment is made to their accounts.

Repairs and Maintenance

- 4.5.12 The revenue repairs and maintenance budget represents the costs of responsive and cyclical maintenance programmes. These are determined both with current service levels and the latest stock condition survey information. All responsive and cyclical maintenance is delivered by NPH, and these costs are reflected in the management fee. The increasing costs of repairs and maintenance are reflected in the growth proposals in Appendix 2.

Supervision and Management

- 4.5.12 The total housing stock is also managed on behalf of the Council by NPH. This includes the delivery of special services such as caretaking, cleaning, and grounds maintenance. The costs of managing the properties, tenant's liaison and the delivery of special services are all contained in the NPH management fee.
- 4.5.13 The management costs also include a budget to help tenants who are experiencing energy and food poverty during this time of high inflation. The arrangement for supporting tenants who are facing difficulties will be confirmed in the new year.

Welfare Reform, Rent Arrears and Bad Debt Provision

- 4.5.14 Universal Credit (UC) and other welfare support is available to people who are on a low incomes or are out of work. It aims to make the welfare system simpler by replacing six benefits and tax credits with a single monthly payment. New claims to legacy benefits are now closed and the migration of existing benefit claims will follow, expected to be completed by the end of 2024.
- 4.5.15 The Council continues to monitor closely the impact of welfare reforms which will have an impact on rent collection for the Council and therefore impact on the overall HRA position. The level of arrears and required level of bad debt provision will continue to be monitored, but the latest estimates show that due to proactive arrears management the forecast rent arrears continue to rise but at a much lower rate than previously anticipated. However, because of the current challenging economic climate, this report proposes the creation of a hardship fund financed from revenue which will be administered to provide support to the most vulnerable where appropriate.

Interest and Capital Financing Costs

- 4.5.16 It is estimated that the interest and capital financing costs charged to the HRA in 2023-24, will be £7.4m. This reflects the move to Self-financing in 2012 where Northampton Borough Council (NBC), under the Government's directive, took on the debt for its stock as calculated by the Self- Financing Determinations and also the continued investment into new council housing.
- 4.5.17 NBC took advantage of the preferential rates provided to Councils at that time from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) to borrow £193m. The debt is subject to close management with rigorous monitoring to ensure that the financial position for the HRA is optimised.

5. NPH Management Agreement and Fee 2023/24

5.1 Management Agreement

- 5.1.1 The HRA is the Council's statutory account for the provision of landlord services, The Council pays NPH a contractual management fee ("Total Fee") to provide those services, which is charged to the HRA. In addition, NPH receive a fee for the provision of Housing General Fund (HGF) services for £382k which is paid from the General Fund.
- 5.1.2 The NPH Management Agreement provides for the contractual payment, referred to as the "Total Fee", which will comprise of the majority of HRA budgets including the

capital programme, repairs and maintenance and other operational budgets. The capital programme (Improvement programme) and the repairs and maintenance budgets are managed budgets, whilst the operational budgets are devolved budgets.

5.2 Draft NPH Management Fee 2023/24

- 5.2.1 The proposed 2023-24 draft “Total Fee” has been discussed in partnership with NPH, and takes into account the economic drivers, legislative requirements, current level of budgets and the changes in available funding. NPH have been working with the Council to ensure that a balanced budget can be achieved while trying to mitigate the impact on services.
- 5.2.2 It should be noted that further work with NPH is ongoing and the HRA Business Plan is to be updated and will inform the final budget and medium-term forecasts, which will lead to changes. This includes any further government announcements. The draft NPH fee will be formerly confirmed by the NPH Board at its meeting scheduled in February 2023. Table 3 shows a summary of the draft 2023-24 Total Fee proposed. A more detailed breakdown can be found in Appendix 4.

Table 3 NPH Management Fee

| Description | Budget 2022/23 £,000 | Draft Budget 2023/24 £,000 | Movement £,000 |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Management - HRA (including Special Services) | 15,276 | 16,882 | 1,606 |
| Management - GF Housing | 281 | 382 | 101 |
| Maintenance - Managed Budget Responsive | 10,250 | 12,385 | 2,135 |
| Maintenance - Managed Budget Cyclical | 3,062 | 3,699 | 637 |
| Capital - Managed Budget Improvement to Homes | 66,826 | 54,780 | (12,046) |
| Capital - Managed Budget Improvement to Environment | 2,625 | 2,815 | 190 |
| Capital - Managed Budget ICT | 496 | 480 | (16) |
| Total Management Fee | 98,816 | 91,423 | (7,393) |

- 5.2.3 Included in the above table is a request from NPH for an additional £4.378 m to fund additional budget pressures, as set out in appendix 2, mainly because of the effect of inflationary pressures, plus real increases in costs for materials and labour where repairs and maintenance works are subcontracted. £729k of the above relates to increase in ‘special services’ due to higher energy costs but will be recoverable through service charges.
- 5.2.4 Prior to the final HRA budget being approved in February 2023 the Council will continue to work on the draft budgets and the medium-term financial plan. Medium term planning pressures and any emerging pressures and savings will need to be built into NPH future budget plans.
- 5.2.5 The Executive Director of Finance will recommend the final Management Fee as part of the final budget submission to Cabinet and Council in February 2023.

6 HRA Reserves and Minimum level of Working Balances

6.1 HRA Reserves

6.1.1 It is prudent to set aside funds into specific HRA reserves to finance future HRA expenditure including capital financing, risks of leaseholder claims, service improvements, and an insurance reserve. The use of the capital reserve is incorporated into the capital programme financing considerations included later in this report.

6.1.2 Table 4 shows the estimated balance of reserves at the end of 2023-24 together with the estimated movement during the year. It is estimated that during the year there will be no contribution to reserves. At this stage it is not envisaged that any of the reserves will be used to finance any shortfalls of resources. It should be noted that the reserve balances are still provisional at this stage until such time as the legacy Statement of Accounts for 2020-21 are signed off by audit and therefore are subject to change.

Table 4 Provisional HRA Reserves

| Reserves | Provisional Balance 01/04/2023 £'000 | Received in Year £'000 | Applied in Year £'000 | Balance 31/03/2024 £'000 |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HRA General Reserve | (502) | 0 | 0 | (502) |
| HRA Leaseholder Reserve | (500) | 0 | 0 | (500) |
| HRA Service Improvement Reserve | (900) | 0 | 0 | (900) |
| ERP Agresso Reserve | (50) | 0 | 0 | (50) |
| HRA Insurance Reserve | (300) | 0 | 0 | (300) |
| Total HRA Reserves | (2,252) | 0 | 0 | (2,252) |
| | | | | |
| Min Level of Working Balances | (5,000) | 0 | 0 | (5,000) |
| | | | | |
| Total HRA Reserves | (7,252) | 0 | 0 | (7,252) |

6.1.3 These reserves can be drawn down as required, to finance the future strategic requirements of the service, and will be subject to change as forecasts of funding are updated. These reserves can only be used for the HRA.

6.2 Estimated Minimum level of Working Balances

6.2.1 A prudent level of working balance, along with appropriate application of reserves, should be part of the overall budget. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 places a duty of the Section 151 Officer to report on the adequacy of reserves.

6.2.2 The Executive Director of Finance will review the level of balances required to support the HRA spend annually as part of the formulation of the budget. The view of the Executive Director of Finance is that the HRA balance should remain at the current level of £5m for 2023/24.

6.2.3 The current level is the minimum designed to cope with unpredictable circumstances, which cannot be addressed by management or policy action within the year. Further work is ongoing, taking into account the government's Autumn Statement, to assess

the level of working balances in conjunction with NPH and any changes will be reported to Council in February 2023.

7 Capital Strategy

- 7.1 The aim of the Capital Strategy is to provide a clear framework for capital funding and expenditure decisions in the context of the Council's vision, values, objectives and priorities, financial resources and spending plans. The overall strategy has been refreshed and will be part of the budget setting documentation that is considered by the full Council in February 2023.

8 HRA Capital Programme

HRA Capital Programme

- 8.1 The HRA is an asset driven service and capital expenditure is essential in order to maintain and improve housing stock as well as delivering new affordable housing. Capital expenditure is a key part of the delivery of a high-quality housing service.
- 8.2 In partnership with NPH the Council has adopted the "Northampton Standard" for the maintenance and improvement of housing stock. The higher standard has associated costs which are built into the capital programme.
- 8.3 In the current financial year the Council approved a revised Housing Strategy. A delivery plan now needs to be worked on to understand the potential impact on the Housing Revenue Account and therefore the Council's finances. This must include the impact on borrowing for the authority and the level to which any additional borrowing is supported.
- 8.4 Until this work has been completed it is proposed that the current capital programme that is in operation is 'cash frozen' and not increased until this additional work has been carried out and can be factored into a revised capital programme.
- 8.5 As a result, the capital programme set out within this report should be viewed as an 'interim' capital programme which could be amended substantially in the year once the Housing Strategy has been developed into a delivery plan and aligns with the borrowing intentions of the authority.

HRA Capital Programme 2022-23

- 8.6 In September 2022, Cabinet approved the Quarter 1 re-phasing of the 2022-23 HRA capital programme. Included within the re-phasing were several new build schemes which were due to be completed and let this year. This re-phasing was due mainly to design and planning constraints along with material shortages. These schemes will be rolled forward into 2023-24.

HRA Draft Capital Programme 2023/24

- 8.7 As described earlier the re-phased Capital Programme will be cash frozen until the work has taken place on the Housing Strategy in conjunction with the borrowing intentions of the authority to be able to properly re-cast the capital programme.

- 8.8 The cash frozen position for 2023-24 reflects the latest in year delivery position forecast by NPH on the following areas, Major Repairs and Improvements, Environmental Works, Disabled Adaptations and New build and acquisitions. The Council manages the Buybacks and Spot Purchases budgets with NPH managing the rest of the capital programme.
- 8.9 Set out in Table 5 is a summary of the latest forecast for 2022-23 and the proposed draft capital programme for 2023-24.

Table 5 HRA Capital Programme 2023/24

| Description | Period 7 Budget 2022/23 £,000 | Draft Budget 2023/24 £,000 | Movement £,000 |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| External Improvements | 16,806 | 21,610 | 4,805 |
| Internal Works | 2,466 | 2,134 | (332) |
| Structural Works and Compliance | 858 | 461 | (397) |
| Disabled Adaptations | 1,500 | 1,285 | (215) |
| Environmental Improvements | 2,890 | 2,815 | (75) |
| IT Development | 409 | 480 | 71 |
| New Build Programme/Major Projects | 14,807 | 29,291 | 14,484 |
| Buybacks and Spot Purchases | 4,409 | 11,250 | 6,841 |
| - Capital Programme Freeze Adjustments | | (7,885) | (7,885) |
| Total Capital Expenditure | 44,144 | 61,440 | 17,296 |
| Capital Financing | | | |
| Major Repairs Reserve/Depreciation | (13,500) | (13,699) | (199) |
| Capital Receipts - RTB (excl 1-4-1) | (2,735) | (2,487) | 247 |
| Capital Receipts - RTB 1-4-1 | (3,480) | (9,768) | (6,288) |
| Grant Funding | (12,073) | (10,094) | 1,979 |
| Revenue/Earmarked Reserve | (1,238) | (1,492) | (255) |
| Borrowing / CFR | (11,119) | (23,900) | (12,781) |
| Total Capital Financing | (44,144) | (61,440) | (17,296) |

Proposed Capital Investment

- 8.10 The draft budget reflects ongoing investment in new council housing to deliver existing committed schemes and new proposed pipeline schemes over the medium term. This investment, as well as delivering new council houses, enables the council to fulfil its agreement with Treasury with regards to spending retained one for one right to buy receipts on additional affordable housing. These new build schemes include the developments at Berkeley House, Derwent Drive and New Southbridge Road.
- 8.11 The 'one for one' right to buy receipts can fund up to 40% of a new build scheme with the balance of funding taken up by borrowing. Where schemes qualify the Council bids for grant funding from Homes England to substitute use of 'one for one' right to buy receipts. The need to borrow reflected in the MTFP is likely to be reduced by further

successful grant bidding processes over the MTFP that are currently not known. Borrowing would increase if more investment in new build properties is undertaken in future years. The capital finance requirement in the current year is forecast to be at £255m.

- 8.12 The capital programme has a direct impact on the revenue position of the HRA because the cost of borrowing is reflected in the capital financing charges that are charged to the revenue account. In addition, the funding of the capital programme depends on a direct contribution from revenue.

Investment in Decarbonisation

- 8.13 Although the focus of the Capital Programme is to maintain and improve the Council's homes, there is also a focus on environmental improvements and an increased focus on providing low carbon sustainable homes.
- 8.14 Built into the current year budget and 2023-24 proposed budget External Improvements programme is a significant investment in decarbonisation. Successful funding bids, through the government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Programme (SHDF) has enabled the scope of planned investment programme to be optimised into a whole retrofit programme for a selection of over 500 properties across two SHDF waves.
- 8.15 The SHDF scheme, grant funded by the Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), has seen the Council in conjunction with NPH, receive grant funding in excess of £9 million to deliver these schemes. A further bid for SHDF wave 2 has recently been submitted. If successful, this could bring in a further £1.2m of funding to support the retrofit of a further 100 council properties.
- 8.16 As part of the successful bids the Council, as the grant recipient has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with BEIS. The MoU sets out conditions that the council must adhere to when it accepts the grant, including what the grant may be used for and the reporting requirements.
- 8.17 The SHDF funding for BEIS cannot as a rule be mixed with other forms of Grant funding however BEIS have agreed that a discrete (and complementary) package of works can be funded alongside each other. The Council, in conjunction with NPH has attracted grant funding of £180k through Green Homes Grant (LAD2) funding for a mixture of air source heat pumps and solar PV package of works on 36 council homes.

9 Consultation

- 9.1 This cabinet meeting starts the Formal consultation with the public and stakeholders including local businesses and will continue for six weeks. Subject to any changes made following consideration of the consultation feedback and any further Government announcements on the latest financial position. Cabinet will consider the final budget for 2023-24 on 13 February 2023 for recommendation to the full Council meeting on 22 February 2023

10 Choices (Options)

- 10.1 Cabinet are requested to approve for consultation the draft budget proposals for 2023-24 for the HRA and the interim HRA Capital programme and indicative budgets for 2024-25 to 2027-28 as summarised in the appendices to this report for information.
- 10.2 Cabinet are requested to approve for consultation the proposed rent increase of 7% for 2023/24 and increases in service charges and garage rents of 10%.

11 Implications (including financial implications)

11.1 Resources and Risk

11.1.1 HRA budgets may be subject to further changes to reflect the Government's provisional settlement detail which is expected towards the end of December and any relevant legislative developments.

11.1.2 The HRA 40 Year Business Plan for 2023-2024 onwards will continue to be reviewed and updated.

11.2 Legal

11.2.1 The Council has a legal duty to set a balanced budget each year, bearing in mind its fiduciary duties to the taxpayer, and the HRA is not allowed to go into deficit by law. In exercising these duties, the Council must comply with various legislation and administrative duties.

11.3 Equality and Health

11.3.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requires the Council to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out its activities. Failure to comply with this duty would be challengeable in the courts.

11.3.2 Equality impact assessments are 'living' documents and relevant feedback from the consultation process will be considered with any mitigations to limit its impact implemented alongside the final options taken forward and approved in February 2023.

12 Environmental implications (including climate change issues)

12.1 Any potentially negative environmental impacts, especially with regard to climate change issues, were considered as part of each of the medium-term planning options submitted. They seek to avoid any negative environmental impact.

12.2 Northampton Partnership Homes ('NPH') has a published Sustainability Strategy underpinned by One Planet Living Principles which are being embedded into its entire operation.

12.4 NPH is integrating sustainability and biodiversity into both its new build programme and neighbourhood investment. Examples include:

- Reviewing waste strategies for new build schemes both in construction and in occupation once completed
- Installing renewable energy into many of the new build housing schemes such as photovoltaic panels at Oak Tree Rise supported housing scheme and air source heat pumps in the Moray Lodge supported housing scheme.
- Inclusion of car charging points in new build schemes and reviewing feasibility in existing apartment schemes.
- Installing loft insulation (where it is absent) and internal insulation and where this is not possible external wall insulation as part of the internal works programme to properties
- Creating secure bicycle storage for tenants living in apartment blocks as part of the wider neighbourhood investment.
- Installation of bat boxes, bug hotels and swift boxes in new build schemes.
- Installation of LED lighting in communal areas of existing apartment blocks and in new build schemes
- Providing opportunities for tenants in apartments to grow their own food through the installation of raised beds and water butts in communal gardens.
- Piloting new 'fabric first' approaches to whole house retrofit on solid wall properties
- Promoting energy and water monitoring

13. Background Papers

None

This page is intentionally left blank

Housing Revenue Account Budget Summary 2023-2028

| Description | Estimate 2023/24 | Estimate 2024/25 | Estimate 2025/26 | Estimate 2026/27 | Estimate 2027/28 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| INCOME | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Rents - Dwellings Only | (56,188) | (57,271) | (58,652) | (60,175) | (61,540) |
| Rents - Non Dwellings Only | (1,094) | (1,149) | (1,206) | (1,267) | (1,330) |
| Service Charges | (3,372) | (3,528) | (3,690) | (3,860) | (4,039) |
| Other Income | (9) | (9) | (9) | (9) | (9) |
| Total Income | (60,663) | (61,956) | (63,557) | (65,310) | (66,917) |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 17,953 | 18,585 | 19,243 | 19,614 | 19,993 |
| General Management | 10,808 | 10,234 | 10,342 | 10,475 | 10,692 |
| Special Services | 6,086 | 6,185 | 6,303 | 6,433 | 6,568 |
| Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges | 302 | 302 | 302 | 302 | 302 |
| Increase in Bad Debt Provision | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Total Expenditure | 35,549 | 35,706 | 36,591 | 37,224 | 37,955 |
| Net Cost of Services | (25,114) | (26,250) | (26,966) | (28,086) | (28,962) |
| Net Recharges from the General Fund | 2,650 | 2,650 | 2,650 | 2,650 | 2,650 |
| Interest & Financing Costs | 7,273 | 7,808 | 8,539 | 8,865 | 9,151 |
| Revenue Contributions to Capital | 1,492 | 2,207 | 2,283 | 2,845 | 2,981 |
| Depreciation | 13,699 | 13,585 | 13,494 | 13,726 | 14,180 |
| Contribution to / (from) Reserves | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Remaining Deficit / (Surplus) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

This page is intentionally left blank

| Proposal Ref | Directorate | HRA Service Area | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------|--|---------------|
| 2324-H10-001 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Repairs and Maintenance | Pay increase costs proposed | Pay Inflation | Salary increase of 5%, 3% above prior assumption to cover pay progression | 429 |
| 2324-H10-002 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Repairs and Maintenance | Material cost increase above inflation | Contract Inflation | Material cost increases impact using current run rate of work plus inflationary pressure 8% | 819 |
| 2324-H10-004 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Repairs and Maintenance | Contractual and other inflation related pressures | Contract Inflation | Subcontractor costs increase impact using current run rate of work plus inflationary pressure 8% | 1,404 |
| 2324-H10-006 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Repairs and Maintenance | Compliance regulatory requirements. | Unavoidable Pressure | Regulatory requirement changes on Electrical testing - 5 year programme | 215 |
| 2324-H8-001 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | General Management | Pay increase costs proposed | Pay Inflation | Salary increase of 5%, 3% above prior assumption to cover pay progression | 337 |
| 2324-H8-002 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | General Management | ICT revenue projects | Unavoidable Pressure | Software Licensing increases | 29 |
| 2324-H8-003 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | General Management | Regulator of Social Housing Annual Survey increase in costs to deliver | Unavoidable Pressure | Increase in requirements to comply with the regulator | 45 |
| 2324-H9-001 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | Pay increase costs proposed | Pay Inflation | Salary increase of 5%, 3% above prior assumption to cover pay progression | 115 |
| 2324-H9-002 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | Cleaning Contract increase to reflect actual cost | Unavoidable Pressure | Reflecting cost of service | 52 |
| 2324-H9-003 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | Cleaning Contract inflationary increase | Contract Inflation | Inflationary increase of 8% | 62 |
| 2324-H9-004 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | Grounds Maintenance contract inflationary increase | Contract Inflation | Inflationary increase of 8% | 29 |
| 2324-H9-005 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | New Blocks communal areas costs and utilities | Unavoidable Pressure | New blocks communal costs and utilities covered off by service charge income | 481 |
| 2324-H9-007 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Special Services | Lifelines | Unavoidable Pressure | Inflationary increase of 8% | 43 |
| 2324-H5-001 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Recharges from General Fund for services | Removal of Procurement service to NPH | Service Reduction | NPH to no longer receive WNC Procurement services | (50) |
| 2324-H5-002 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Recharges from General Fund for services | Planning Officer HRA Focus | Service Investment | Additional Planning Officer time to focus on New build programme | 67 |
| 2324-H5-002 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Recharges from General Fund for services | Assets Officer HRA Focus | Service Investment | Additional Asset officer time to focus reviewing estates and land for development | 67 |
| 2324-H5-003 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Recharges from General Fund for services | Legal Services support on Court costs | Unavoidable Pressure | Inflationary increase of 8% | 56 |
| 2324-H5-004 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | Recharges from General Fund for services | Assumption 5% increase in recharges | Pay Inflation | Salary increase of 5%, 3% above prior assumption to cover pay progression | 178 |
| Total Growth Proposals submitted by NPH | | | | | | 4,378 |
| 2324-H5-005 | Communities & Opportunities - HRA | General Management | Tenancy Support | Unavoidable Pressure | Management Costs to provide tenannt support | 908 |
| Total Growth | | | | | | 5,286 |

| Efficiencies and Income | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Proposal Ref | Directorate | HRA Service Area | Proposal Title | Category | Proposal Description | 2023/24 £k |
| 2324-H1-001 | Communities and Opportunities - HRA | Dwelling Rent | Dwelling Rent increases | Income Generation | Rent increase options in line with government rent policy - maximum increase capped at 7% | (3,137) |
| 2324-H2-001 | Communities and Opportunities - HRA | Non Dwelling Rents | Non Dwelling rent increases | Income Generation | Garage Rent increases in line with CPI 10% | (95) |
| 2324-H3-001 | Communities and Opportunities | Other charges for Services | Service charge new charges as per Growth | Income Generation | Service charges increases in line with CPI 10% plus additional income from new units | (978) |
| Total | | | | | | (4,211) |

Capital Programme 2023-24 to 2027-28 - HRA

| Capital Programme | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | Total |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| External Improvements | 21,610 | 11,652 | 13,767 | 12,446 | 8,981 | 68,455 |
| Internal Works | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 2,134 | 10,668 |
| Structural Works and Compliance | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 461 | 2,303 |
| Disabled Adaptations | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 1,285 | 6,425 |
| Environmental Improvements | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 14,075 |
| IT Development | 480 | 430 | 395 | 340 | 450 | 2,095 |
| New Build Programme/Major Projects | 29,291 | 30,301 | 33,311 | 44,503 | 46,000 | 183,406 |
| -Capital Programme Freeze Adjustments | 0 | 0 | 0 | (17,623) | (17,981) | (35,604) |
| Buybacks and Spot Purchases | 11,250 | 11,250 | 11,250 | 0 | 0 | 33,750 |
| -Capital Programme Freeze Adjustments | (7,885) | (934) | 8,233 | 0 | 0 | (586) |
| Total HRA Capital Programme | 61,440 | 59,393 | 73,649 | 46,360 | 44,144 | 284,986 |

| | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2026-27 | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| FINANCING: | | | | | | |
| Major Repairs Reserve/Depreciation | (13,699) | (13,585) | (13,494) | (13,726) | (14,180) | (68,684) |
| Capital Receipts - RTB (excl 1-4-1) | (2,487) | (2,524) | (2,561) | (2,599) | (2,637) | (12,808) |
| Capital Receipts - RTB 1-4-1 | (9,768) | (6,896) | (3,577) | (3,613) | (3,649) | (27,502) |
| Grant Funding | (10,094) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (10,094) |
| Revenue/Earmarked Reserve | (1,492) | (2,207) | (2,283) | (2,845) | (2,981) | (11,807) |
| Borrowing / CFR | (23,900) | (34,181) | (51,734) | (23,578) | (20,698) | (154,092) |
| Total Financing - HRA | (61,440) | (59,393) | (73,649) | (46,360) | (44,144) | (284,986) |

This page is intentionally left blank

Schedule 5 - NPH Management Fee

| Housing Management & Maintenance(HRA) | | 2023/24 Estimate | 2024/25 Estimate | 2025/26 Estimate | 2026/27 Estimate | 2027/28 Estimate |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Total | Repairs & Maintenance | 16,084 | 16,665 | 17,262 | 17,584 | 17,916 |
| Total | General Management | 8,043 | 8,291 | 8,380 | 8,473 | 8,622 |
| Total | Special Services | 5,406 | 5,498 | 5,605 | 5,717 | 5,834 |
| Total | Recharges | 3,432 | 3,509 | 3,588 | 3,669 | 3,752 |
| TOTAL HRA | | 32,965 | 33,963 | 34,834 | 35,443 | 36,124 |

Housing General Fund

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Total | Travellers Site | 302 | 319 | 333 | 348 | 364 |
| Total | Home Choice & Resettlement | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| TOTAL GF HOUSING | | 382 | 399 | 413 | 428 | 444 |

TOTAL REVENUE

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 33,347 | 34,362 | 35,248 | 35,871 | 36,568 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|

HRA Capital Programme (See Notes)

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 58,075 | 49,077 | 54,166 | 46,360 | 44,144 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|

GRAND TOTAL

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 91,423 | 83,439 | 89,414 | 82,231 | 80,712 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|

Analysed by Funding Pots

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Management - HRA (including Special Services) | 16,882 | 17,298 | 17,573 | 17,859 | 18,208 |
| Management - GF Housing | 382 | 399 | 413 | 428 | 444 |
| Maintenance - Managed Budget Responsive | 12,385 | 12,832 | 13,291 | 13,540 | 13,795 |
| Maintenance - Managed Budget Cyclical | 3,699 | 3,833 | 3,970 | 4,044 | 4,121 |
| Capital - Managed Budget Improvement to Homes | 54,780 | 45,832 | 50,956 | 43,205 | 40,879 |
| Capital - Managed Budget Improvement to Environment | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 | 2,815 |
| Capital - Managed Budget ICT | 480 | 430 | 395 | 340 | 450 |
| Total | 91,423 | 83,439 | 89,414 | 82,231 | 80,712 |

Notes:

HRA Capital programme includes additional schemes pending Council approval February 2023

All figures are subject to the annual approval, by Council, of the HRA and General Fund budgets in accordance with clause 10

Estimated figures for future years are shown in real terms including inflation on supplies and services.

Indicative year 5 included to comply with management agreement (based on 24/25 figures). Subject to HRA Business planning refresh.

Medium Term Planning Pressures could affect NPH Fee in future years

This page is intentionally left blank

SCHEDULE OF RENTS & SERVICE CHARGES 2023/24

| <u>WEEKLY RENTS & SERVICE CHARGES</u> | | PRESENT | PROPOSED |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | £ | £ |
| Garages (+VAT in some cases) | | 9.96 | 10.96 |
| Commuter Surcharge on Garages (+VAT in some cases) | | 15.83 | 17.41 |
| Communal Heating | | 11.12 | 12.24 |
| Sheltered Charges - Level 1 Low | | 6.66 | 7.32 |
| Brookside Meadows New Build - Service Charges | | | |
| - Tarmac and Block Paving | | 4.16 | 4.58 |
| - Electric Gates | | 1.16 | 1.28 |
| Centenary House New Build - Service Charges | | | |
| Communal Area Maintenance | | 1.85 | 2.04 |
| Communal Area Cleaning | | 3.64 | 4.00 |
| Grounds Maintenance | | 1.21 | 1.33 |
| Electric | | 3.60 | 3.96 |
| Little Cross Terrace New Build - Service Charges | | | |
| Communal Area Cleaning | | 1.93 | 2.12 |
| Grounds Maintenance | | 1.28 | 1.40 |
| TV Aerials | | 0.33 | 0.36 |
| Eleanor Lodge - Service Charges | | | |
| Grounds Maintenance | | 1.03 | 1.14 |
| Electric | | 5.05 | 5.55 |
| Gas | | 3.42 | 3.77 |
| Water | | 6.46 | 7.11 |
| Furniture | | 5.08 | 5.59 |
| Electric (Self-contained areas) | | 3.46 | 3.80 |
| Gas (Self-contained areas) | | 2.35 | 2.58 |
| CCTV | | 4.10 | 4.50 |
| Grounds Maintenance | | 2.23 | 2.46 |
| <u>Non- Standard Service Charges</u> | | | |
| Electricity Communal | Low | 0.12 | 0.14 |
| | High | 7.50 | 8.25 |
| Estate Services - Cleaning and Caretaking | | | |
| | - Service Level 1 | 0.42 | 0.46 |
| | - Service Level 2 | 1.02 | 1.12 |
| | - Service Level 3 | 1.26 | 1.39 |
| | - Service Level 4 | 1.68 | 1.85 |
| | - Service Level 5 | 2.53 | 2.78 |
| | - Service Level 6 | 3.79 | 4.17 |
| | - Service Level 7 | 5.04 | 5.55 |
| | - Service Level 8 | 5.04 | 5.55 |

This page is intentionally left blank