



Statement of Accounts 2019/20

Preface to the 2019/20 Statement of Accounts

In setting the 2019/20 budget, members continued to give due regard to the financial challenges facing the Council over the medium term. For a number of years the Council has continued to reduce its net revenue expenditure in line with its own efficiency agenda and the impact of the Government's 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review.

Alongside this, the Council has continued to pursue its ambitious agenda, of delivering the Spinning Point & Futures Park Plot 5 developments, progressing our Bacup 2040 Vision Towns Fund Bid, the Haslingden 2040 & The Whitaker National Lottery Heritage Fund Bids and other key areas of work such as progressing the Climate Change agenda.

Despite the difficult budget decisions Members have had to make in recent years, the Council is still delivering high-quality frontline services to Rossendale's residents. Ambitions remain high and we are proud to serve the borough and of the work we, alongside partners, continue to achieve.

We currently find ourselves in uncharted waters, amidst a global pandemic from which the social, economic and health impact are still largely unknown. Unfortunately, we are now faced with unprecedented levels of financial and economic uncertainty as we continue to support our residents, communities and businesses through the pandemic and prepare for the recovery phase.

Despite the financial challenges ahead, members approved a net services budget for 2020/21 of £9,006k including a contribution of £100k towards capital projects. The Council continues to seek savings where possible through efficiencies and being more commercially minded.

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Introduction

This Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020 has been prepared and published in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2019/20, issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

The accounting policies adopted by the Council comply with the relevant recommended accounting practices and the latest revisions to these from 1 April 2019. There have been no major changes in the Council's statutory functions during the year.

The draft Statement of Accounts has been published later than in previous years owing to the coronavirus pandemic. Normally, the draft accounts are published at the end of May with the audited accounts published by the end of July. However, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the Government issued regulations in relation to local authority accounts for the financial year ending 31st March 2020 which have the effect of:

- extending the publication date for audited accounts from 31st July to 30th November 2020, and
- removing the requirement for the public inspection period to include the first 10 working days in June. Instead, local authorities must commence the public inspection period on or before the first working day of September 2020. This means that draft accounts must be published by no later than the 31st August.

The above changes have been made for 2019/20 only.



Audit Report

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

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Disclaimer of opinion on the financial statements

We were appointed to audit the financial statements of Rossendale Borough Council ("the Council") for the year ended 31 March 2020, which comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20.

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

Basis for disclaimer of opinion

On 30 September 2024, the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024 ('The Amendment Regulations') came into force. The Amendment Regulations require the Council to publish its Accountability Statements, which include the financial statements and auditor's opinion for the year ended 31 March 2020, by 13 December 2024 ('the backstop date').

The backstop date introduced by the Amendment Regulations has impeded our ability to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence upon which to form an opinion on the financial statements as there has been insufficient time to perform all necessary audit procedures.

In addition

- We identified several material differences in balances as at 31 March 2019, as presented in the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019, and the comparative balances presented as at that date in the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.
- In accordance with International Standard on Auditing (UK) 580, we requested that management provide written representations relating to our audit of the financial statements. Management has been unable to provide the written representations we requested.

Both matters would have required a modification to our opinion on the financial statements in the absence of the backstop arrangements that have led to a disclaimer of opinion as described above.

Responsibilities of the Director of Resources for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Resources Responsibilities, the Director of Resources is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Director of Resources is also responsible for such internal control as the Director of Resources determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Director of Resources is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Director of Resources is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Council to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to conduct an audit of the Council's financial statements in accordance with International Standards on

Audit Report

Auditing (UK) and to issue an auditor's report. However, because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements. In reaching this judgement we have complied with the requirements of the Code of Audit Practice and have had regard to the Local Audit Reset and Recovery Implementation Guidance published by the National Audit Office and endorsed by the Financial Reporting Council.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Qualified conclusion on Rossendale Borough Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Qualified conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2020, with the exception of the matters described in the 'Basis for qualified conclusion' paragraphs below, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Rossendale Borough Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Basis for qualified conclusion

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General, having regard to the guidance on the specified criterion issued in April 2020, as to whether the Council had proper arrangements to ensure it took properly informed decisions and deployed resources to achieve planned and sustainable outcomes for taxpayers and local people. The Comptroller and Auditor General determined this criterion as that necessary for us to consider in satisfying ourselves whether the Council put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2020.

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

Rossendale Leisure Trust (the Trust) operates the Council's leisure facilities. We have not been provided with evidence of a formal agreement between the Council and Trust governing the services delivered and payments for those services. During 2019/20, as in previous years, the Council paid the Trust's staff and non-staff costs and was reimbursed by the Trust for those costs. The absence of a contractual agreement exposes the Council to risks of financial loss should the Trust be unable to reimburse the costs. This matter is evidence of the Council not having proper arrangements for working with partners and other third parties.

Furthermore, the Council did not reconcile its bank statements with the balances recorded in its general ledger during 2019/20. The lack of completed bank reconciliations is a significant deficiency in the Council's control framework and is evidence of the Council not having proper arrangements for informed decision making.

Responsibilities of the Council

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

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

We are required under section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and

Audit Report

effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have made statutory recommendations during our audit of the accounts for 2019/20.

We are also required by the Code of Audit Practice, to give an opinion on whether other information published together with the audited financial statements, is consistent with the financial statements. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion section we do not express an opinion on the financial statements. We also do not express an opinion on whether other information published together with the audited financial statements is consistent with the financial statements.

Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the members of Rossendale Borough Council as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Certificate

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



Alastair Newall, Key Audit Partner
For and on behalf of Forvis Mazars LLP

One St Peter's Square
Manchester
M2 3DE

6 December 2024

Narrative Report

Introduction by the Head of Finance

This booklet presents the Council's accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020. It conforms to the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20 (the Code), which is based on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). It also complies with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 including the Narrative Statement and at Note 2 the Expenditure and Funding Analysis. The layout and purpose of each statement is as follows:-

Introductory Statements

- Narrative Report - provides interested parties with an effective guide to the most significant matters reported in the accounts. It should be fair, balanced and understandable for the users of the financial statements, containing a commentary on the major influences affecting the authority's income and expenditure and cash flow, as well as information on the financial needs and resources of the authority. It includes a General Fund Summary which compares the financial out-turn with the Budget set in February 2020.
- Annual Governance Statement – explains the way the Council ensures responsible stewardship of its assets.
- Statement of Responsibilities - explains the responsibilities of the Council and its Chief Financial Officer in relation to the Council's financial affairs and the Statement of Accounts.

Core Statements

- Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) - a summary of the resources generated and consumed by the authority in the year in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Cost of Services section is now presented in the same format as the authority's operational reports. Note 1 presents a reconciliation between the General Fund Summary in the Narrative Report and the CIES figures produced here under statutory accounting practices.
- Movement in Reserves Statement – this statement shows the movement in year on the reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'useable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. It reverses the statutory accounting adjustments in the CIES to get back to the General Fund Balance Sheet Reserve.
- Balance Sheet - this shows the value of the assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the value of reserves held, split between Useable and Unusable reserves.
- Cash Flow Statement - summarises changes in cash and cash equivalents during the year, and how the Council generates and uses cash through operating, investing and financing activities.

Notes to the core financial statements

All the notes to the core statements above are now collected in one place. Notes on the policies used in the preparation of the figures in these accounts, including judgements and assumptions, have been moved to the end of the notes area.

Other Statements

- The Collection Fund – this agency statement reflects the Council's statutory obligation to maintain a separate Collection Fund for its transactions as a billing authority in relation to council tax and non-domestic rates.

Glossary - an explanation of some of the key technical terms used in these accounts.

Narrative Report

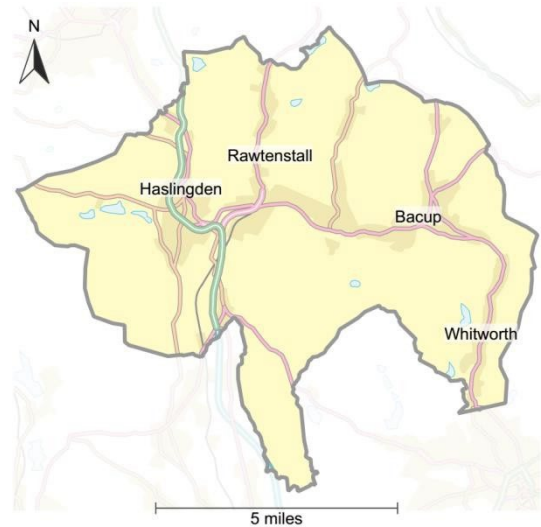
Rossendale – geography, economy and our priorities for 2019/20

Rossendale is an authority in East Lancashire that covers 138 square kilometres and has 14 electoral wards.

Rossendale is a proud valley area with a rich industrial heritage, filled with friendly and welcoming communities in a number of vibrant market towns and villages.

Rossendale is a distinctive part of East Lancashire with its dramatic scenery, rich heritage and characterful features.

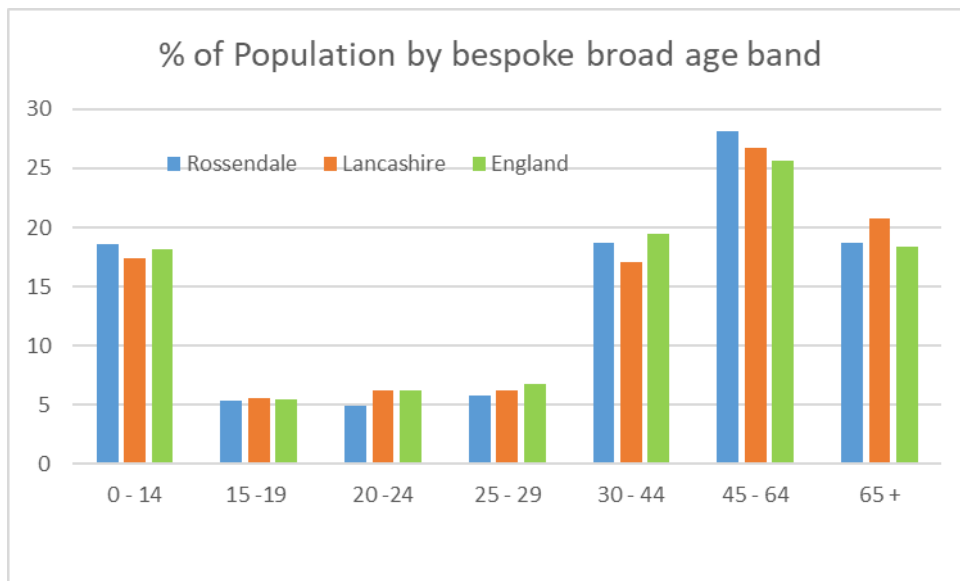
Sitting on the western slopes of the Pennines Rossendale is well connected to Lancashire, Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire.



Our Vision: Rossendale, a place where people want to live, visit, work and invest

Our people:

In 2019 the population estimate for the Rossendale area was 71,482. The age demographic make-up of the population compared with Lancashire and England is shown in the table below:-



The population of Rossendale is growing and it is estimated that between 2016 and 2041 the population will increase by 5.7%.

Housing:

There were 32,200 dwellings in the borough at the beginning of 2019/20, 85% of which were owner occupied or private rented. In common with other East Lancashire authorities, Rossendale has a high proportion of its housing stock in the lowest category 'A' council tax band, almost 51% and around 3.6% of dwellings were vacant in 2019.

A total of 12.1% of Rossendale households were in fuel poverty in 2017 compared to the England average of 10.9%. The main factors that determine this are the energy efficiency status of the property, the cost of energy, and household income. The 2019 national indices of deprivation revealed that Rossendale was the 91st most deprived area out of the 317 districts and unitary authorities in England.

Narrative Report

Our businesses:

As in most places, the manufacturing sector has shed jobs over the years whilst the service sector has grown to become a far greater source of employee jobs. However there still continues to be a bias towards a larger proportion of employees in the manufacturing sector in Lancashire and Rossendale than is the national norm and a lower proportion of jobs in the service sector. Rossendale does, however, maintain a relatively high percentage of private-sector jobs with 2,710 active enterprises in Rossendale and we are proud that two local companies recently won a Queen's Award for Enterprise, namely Slingco Ltd in Bacup and Orthoplastics Ltd in Bacup.

Our area:

Though Rossendale is not served by the main railway network it does have excellent road links with the M66 heading south to Greater Manchester and the M62 corridor over the Pennines and the M65 heading west to link up with the M6. The 2011 census figures on commuter flows revealed that only 40.3% of Rossendale residents work within the borough and over 10% of working residents commute between 20 and 30 kilometres, the highest percentage in Lancashire and well above regional and national averages.

Lancashire has over 8,000 hectares of common land (1.5% of the nation's total) and Rossendale is one of the three boroughs which account for a significant proportion of this total. Rossendale has 23.0% of its land designated as green belt, safeguarding our countryside and preserving the character of our historic towns. This also contributes to maintaining our air quality, which is better than the county and national averages.

Priority 1: A clean and green Rossendale

Our priority is to keep Rossendale clean and green for all of Rossendale's residents and visitors, and to take available opportunities to recycle and use energy from renewable sources more efficiently.

Key Actions: Clean

- Be tough with those who blight our communities with fly-tipping, litter and dog fouling through more enforcement
- Deliver a waste and recycling awareness and engagement campaign to support us in keeping our streets clean and reducing litter
- Reduce waste costs and increase recycling rates in the Borough
- Continue to work proactively with our partners to improve the quality of roads in the Borough
- In an average month we collect 1,200 tonnes of general waste, whilst 260 tonnes of glass, cans and plastic and 170 tonnes of paper get recycled

1,687 littering and 144 dog-fouling cases pursued in 2019/20
132 fly tipping cases pursued in 2019/20
1,924 likes on our environmental face-book page
Over 4,900 signed up for the green waste service
Delivered over £2.2m of flood resilience works since Storm Eva in Dec 2015

Key Actions: Green

- Work with our communities to celebrate our environment, promote pride in our area and enhance our parks, playgrounds and open spaces
- Work with partners on ensuring Rossendale is robustly prepared for another flooding incident
- Promote our green spaces and countryside for all to enjoy

Narrative Report

Priority 2: A connected and successful Rossendale that welcomes sustainable growth

Our priority is to ensure that we are well connected to our residents, key partners and stakeholders. We want to make the most of every pound we spend and we are always looking for new and innovative ways to make the resources we do have, work harder for us. A key part of this involves developing new and existing economic and commercial opportunities in the Borough. This will eventually help us become a more dynamic and sustainable Council that is able to deliver successful, quality services for our residents and visitors.

Key Actions: Connected

- Make it easier for customers to interact with the Council online when it suits them, by making more of our services digital
- Continue to work with partners and other agencies on better transport links in Rossendale and with our neighbours
- Make sure we get the best outcomes for Rossendale by working with public sector and other partners to make sure every pound gets the best results
- Make the most of our location; bordering Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire but also being committed to being part of a strong, confident Lancashire County

55 of our services are now available on-line 24/7

Our conditions test for taxis & driver knowledge tests now acknowledged as best practice

We are active participants in the regional transport committee

Key Actions: Growing

- Identify development sites to enable inclusive and sustainable growth (overnight visitor accommodation, housing, businesses, jobs and tourist destinations)
- Develop plans to ensure we have strong town centres and communities
- Invest in our staff to champion our more commercial and digital approach

Committed to fully Developing Futures Park for Businesses

Promoted “Invest in Rossendale”

Developed Plot 5 Futures Park for expansion of a local business

Key Actions: Successful

- Continue to celebrate and grow our sport, leisure and culture offer through Rossendale Leisure Trust, Whitaker Museum, Community Leisure Association Whitworth and other organisations
- Develop new relationships in the community and strengthen existing ones
- Focus on tourism, particularly around our Adrenaline Offer, bringing people, business and attractions to Rossendale

Secured development funding for Haslingden 2040 from National Heritage Lottery

Assist with securing Whitaker National Heritage Lottery funding

Narrative Report

Priority 3: A proud, healthy and vibrant Rossendale

Our priority is to ensure that we are creating and maintaining a healthy and vibrant place for people to live and visit. We celebrate the health, vitality and enterprise of the people who live in, do business in and visit Rossendale. We are proud of our Borough and the success that happens here.

Key Actions: Proud

- Celebrating Rossendale, the success of our residents, business and the Council's work through publicity and awards, raising awareness of the great things they do
- Work with local schools to support career pathways and make sure that our children and young people flourish
- Building strong, resilient communities with volunteers and active citizens, creating neighbourhoods where people feel proud and safe to live
- Work closely with residents, communities and the police to maintain low crime levels and reduce Anti-Social Behaviour

Promoting Rossendale Board has produced a borough Food & Drink Guide
Our Facebook & Twitter feeds reach over 1 million people
4 Neighbourhood Forums gave out £15k in grants to 49 local community groups
Communities team co-ordinated the summer holiday food project to address 'holiday hunger' supported events including Haslingden Street Fair and Rawtenstall Christmas lights switch on and lantern parade



Narrative Report

Rossendale folk - the people behind the borough

Our councillors

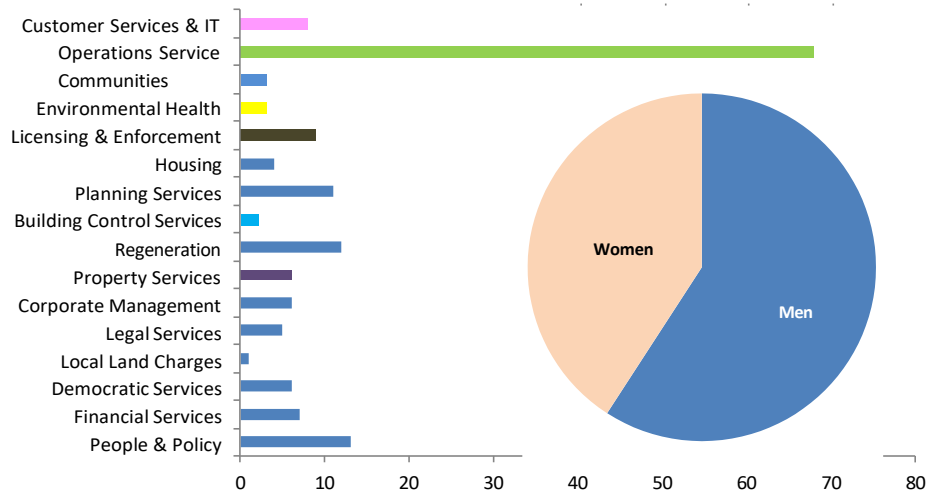
We have 36 councillors in Rossendale serving 14 wards across the borough. At the start of the 2019/20 Municipal year the political balance was as follows

- 19 Labour
- 13 Conservative
- 2 Community First
-
- 1 Independent
- 1 Unknown

Our staff

The Council employs 164 people across its services, 42% of whom provide front-line services within the Operations Team collecting refuse, maintaining our parks and cemeteries and keeping the roads around the borough clean. Of our 164 employees 41% are women and 48% are over 50.

Staff employed across services in 2019/20



Our Senior Management Team



Neil Shaw
Chief Executive



Adam Allen
Director of
Communities



Cath Burns
Director of
Economic
Development



Karen Spencer
Head of Finance



Clare Birtwistle
Legal Services
Manager



Clare Law
HR Manager

Narrative Report

Our partners, community groups and the volunteers that we work with

CAPITA Capita provide our revenues, benefits and customer services.

Civic Pride groups support the borough by providing a gardening and litter clearance service, building upon the work done by the Council's workforce.

CIVIC PRIDE
...Rossendale



Voluntary Community Sector organisations work with us on a range of initiatives, a comprehensive list can be found on the **REAL Directory**.



Calico Homes now manage the East Lancashire Empty Homes project.

Together Housing manage social housing across the borough



RTB Partnership Ltd is an equal partnership development vehicle set up in February 2013 to facilitate a number of development projects across the borough.



Rossendale Leisure Trust provides the sports facilities provision in the Borough, with **Community Leisure Association Whitworth** providing them in Whitworth.

WHITWORTH LEISURE

The NHS and **East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group** are the health providers for Rossendale. Main hospital services are provided by **East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust**. Some other facilities are run by the **Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust**.



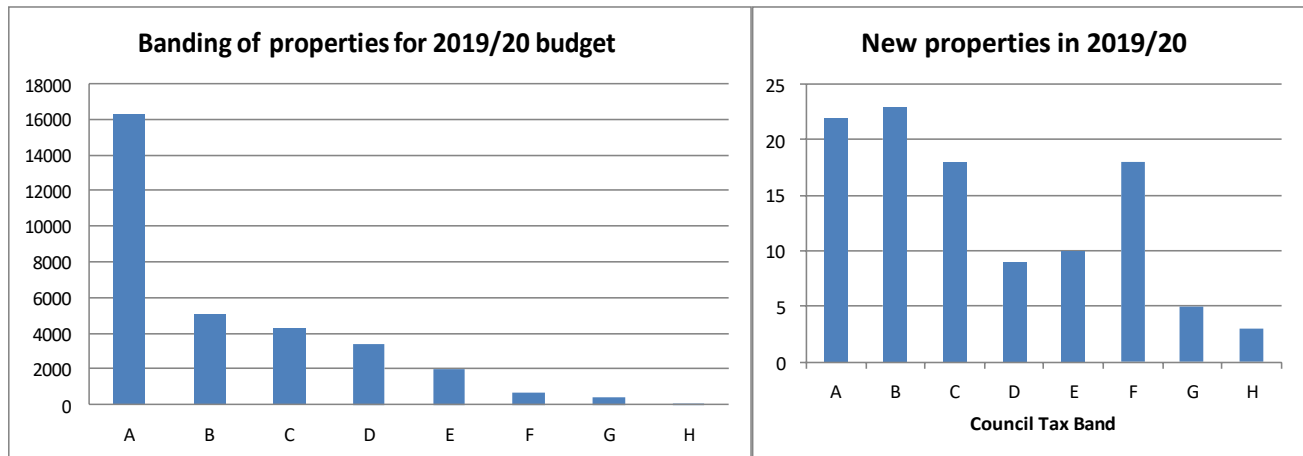
Lancashire Constabulary is the local police force.
Lancashire Fire and Rescue provide our fire service.
Lancashire County Council upper tier responsibilities



Narrative Report

Council Tax in Rossendale

Almost 51% of all the domestic properties in Rossendale fall into Band A, the lowest band for Council Tax purposes. Though the Band D is taken nationally as the average for the purposes of collecting Council Tax, only 10.5% of properties in Rossendale fall into this band. The total number of properties when the 2019/20 Council Tax was set was 32,107, up by 108 from 2018/19.

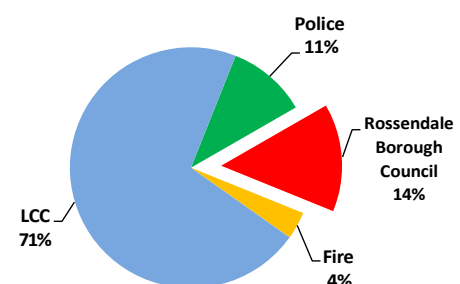


Rossendale Borough Council collects Council Tax on behalf of each of the major preceptors, Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Combined Fire Authority and Lancashire Constabulary. In 2019/20, we also collected a precept for Whitworth Town Council from 3,626 properties.

Back in 2017/18 Rossendale Borough Council increased its element of the Council Tax for the first time since March 2009. In 2018/19 and 2019/20 the charge went up by 2.99%, which made the 2019/20 charge for a band D property £271.46. The Council retained £5.645m in Council Tax in 2019/20.

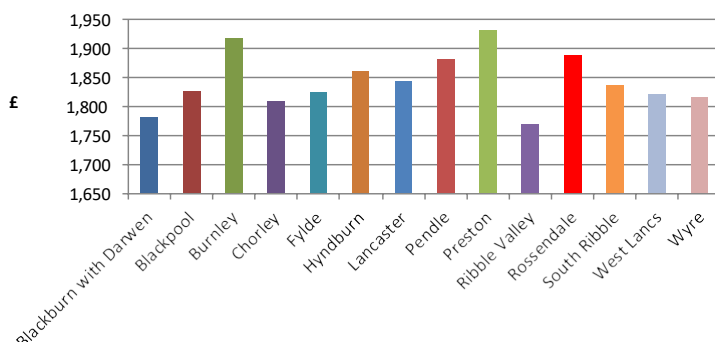
Precepting Body	% Increase	2018/19	2019/20	% Share
		Band D £	Band D £	
Rossendale BC	4.00%	263.57	274.12	14.5%
Lancashire County Council *	2.99%	1,212.17	1,250.89	66.1%
LCC Adult Social Care *	1.00%	82.75	95.70	5.1%
Combined Fire Authority	2.99%	67.46	69.48	3.7%
Police & Crime Commissioner	13.52%	177.45	201.45	10.6%
Total (Excl' Whitworth)	4.89%	1,803.40	1,891.64	100.0%
Whitworth Parish Council	6.07%	23.40	24.82	
Total Whitworth Parish	4.91%	1,826.80	1,916.46	

Each £1 of Council Tax was split



* percentage increase is based on the total combined tax level

Council Tax Band D across Lancashire



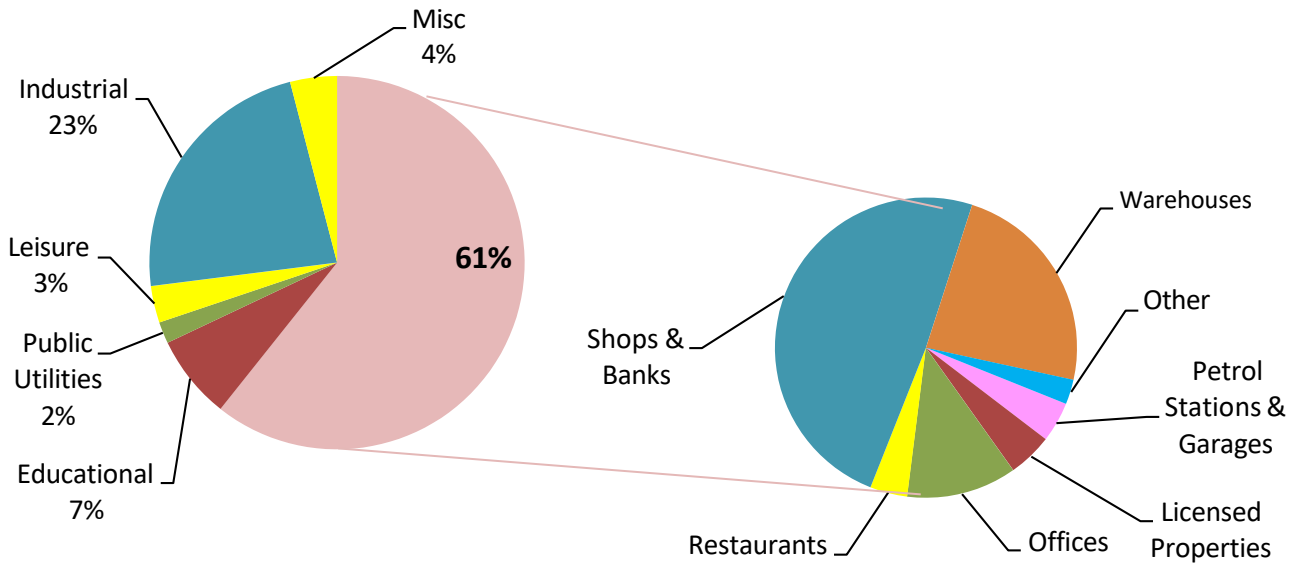
In comparison with our neighbouring authorities across Lancashire, Rossendale has the third highest total Band D charge.

Narrative Report

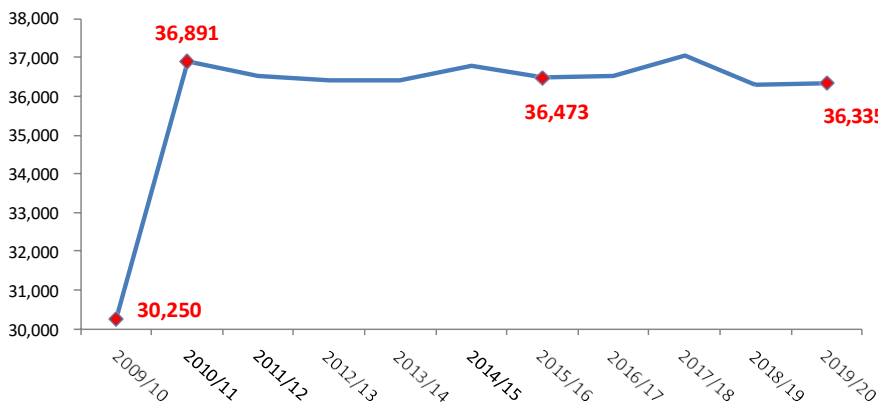
Business Rates in Rossendale

Business Rates are payable based upon a rateable value set by the national Valuation Office. The total rateable value of business premises in Rossendale at the 31st March 2020 was £36,335k, down slightly from £37,303k in March 2019. The Council retained £6.965m in Business Rates in 2019/20.

Rateable Values as at 31st March 2020



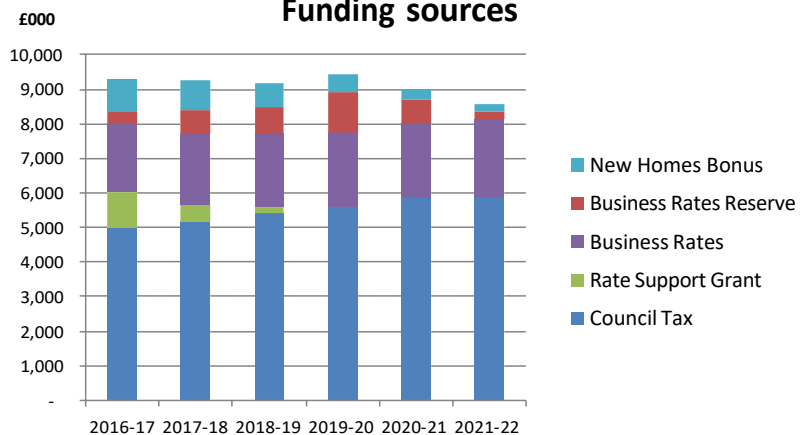
Rateable Values in recent years



Rateable values underwent a national revaluation exercise in 2010/11 and a revision during 2015/16.

Since 2020/11 the Council has seen significant reductions in core Government funding and an increase in reliance on Council Tax income to fund services. The sources of funding available for Council Services can be seen in the table opposite, along with future predictions over the Medium Term Financial Strategy

Funding sources



Narrative Report

General Fund

The General Fund holds the income and expenditure associated with the day to day running of all the services that the Council provides.

In setting the 2019/20 budget, members continued to give due regard to the financial challenges facing the Council over the medium term. For a number of years the Council has continued to reduce its net revenue expenditure in line with its own efficiency agenda and the impact of the Government's 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review.

At the time of setting the 2019/20 original budget the medium term financial strategy (MTFS) indicated an underlying deficit of £511k for 2019/20, rising to £789k by 2020/21. The Council reviews its MTFS at regular intervals and reported to Cabinet in October 2019 that reduced pension deficit contributions, combined with various other changes, should reduce the deficit for 2020/21 to £355k. However, beyond that the future underlying deficit remains at c£730k.

As can be seen on the table on the previous page, external resources for 2018/19 included £189k revenue support grant funding. This was the final year, from 2019/20 onwards the council no longer receives this grant. New Homes Bonus grant has also reduced, from £684k in 2018/19 to £485k in 2019/20. This will continue to fall with 2022/23 being the final year the Council will receive this funding stream.

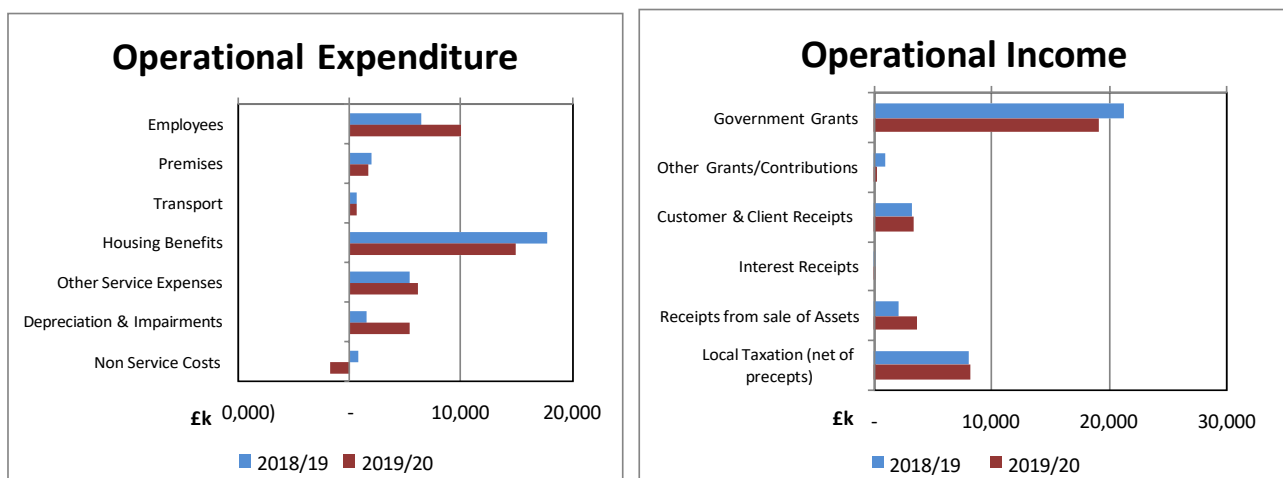
With the drop in external funding above, local taxation has to contribute towards the MTFS challenge and in the 2019/20 budget, members again made the difficult decision to increase the Council Tax by 2.99%, resulting in a Collection Fund Precept of £5,591k plus £54k to support Whitworth Town Council. Local business rates were also expected to provide £2,144k of funding in 2019/20 and members approved the use of £1,200k from prior year surpluses held in the Retained Business Rates Reserve. Between local and external funding the total resources available for 2019/20 were £9,420k.

Despite the financial challenges ahead, members approved a net services budget for 2020/21 of £9,006k including a contribution of £100k towards capital projects.

The following table and charts show the General Fund figures before the technical accounting adjustments required by the Code in the CIES on page 37. These follow the operational basis shown in the financial monitoring reports presented to members at each Cabinet meeting, with the exception of the precept payment to Whitworth Town Council.

The reconciliation following the CIES at Note 1 shows the adjustments required to move from the Original Budget, to the Budget shown on the General Fund Summary overleaf and from the Actual overleaf to the CIES Actual position presented in-line with current accounting standards.

A breakdown of the Council's expenditure and income can be found at Note 2



Narrative Report

GENERAL FUND SERVICES	2018/19			2019/20			Note
	Adjusted Budget £000s	Operational Out-turn £000s	Variance (adv)/ fav £000s	Adjusted Budget £000s	Operational Out-turn £000s	Variance (adv)/ fav £000s	
Communities Directorate							
Customer Services & IT	2,454	1,126	1,328	1,460	1,457	3	
Operations	2,101	2,246	(145)	2,117	2,286	(169)	
Community & Partnerships	720	747	(27)	727	623	104	
Public Protection Unit	120	122	(2)	132	130	2	
Environmental Health	256	235	21	211	194	17	
Licensing & Enforcement	157	121	36	60	86	(26)	
Housing	208	216	(8)	192	372	(180)	
Economic Directorate							
Building Control	(32)	3	(35)	(10)	(3)	(7)	
Planning	294	222	72	297	239	58	
Regeneration	367	480	(113)	373	339	34	
Property Services	742	1,483	(741)	791	826	(35)	
Corporate Management							
Corporate Management	448	429	19	452	327	125	
Legal Services	188	173	15	194	139	55	
Local Land Charges	(27)	(17)	(10)	(22)	(15)	(7)	
Democratic Services	552	545	7	569	575	(6)	
Financial Services	489	480	9	499	498	1	
People and Policy	507	446	61	522	446	76	
Non-distributed Costs	1,086	723	363	1,017	1,009	8	
Capital Financing & Interest	386	1,370	(984)	351	533	(182)	
Total cost of General Fund Services	11,016	11,150	(134)	9,932	10,061	(129)	
Whitworth Town Council Precept	61	61	-	60	60	-	page 16 & 31a
Contrib to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(1,596)	(1,247)	(349)	(512)	(590)	78	
Amount to be met from government grants & local tax payers	9,481	9,964	(483)	9,480	9,531	(51)	
Precept on the Collection Fund	5,445	5,437	8	5,651	5,645	6	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - prior year surplus	82	82	-	-	-	-	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - current yr surplus/(deficit)	-	(5)	5	-	66	(66)	
Non-Domestic Rates	2,097	2,610	(513)	2,144	2,572	(428)	6
Rate Support Grant	189	172	17	-	-	-	7
Non-Spec Govt Grants - New Homes Bonus	684	684	-	485	485	-	7
Non-Spec Govt Grants - S31 Grants	984	984	-	1,200	1,681	(481)	
Amounts received from government grants & local tax payers	9,481	9,964	(483)	9,480	10,449	(969)	

Major Variances during 2019/20	Favourable	Adverse	Net
	£000	£000	£000
Housing Benefits Subsidy	179		179
Recovery of Overpaid Benefits	107		107
Collection Fund Court Costs		(51)	(51)
Provision for prior yr HB to DWP		(163)	(163)
Vehicle maintenance & hire		(37)	(37)
Fuel		(26)	(26)
Parks and Street Sweeping		(21)	(21)
Trade Waste and Bulks net income	26		26
Planning & Building fees	77		77
Licensing income		(46)	(46)
Audit costs	29		29
Empty Homes Scheme costs		(520)	(520)
Property rental	85		85
Pensions pre-payment saving	108		108
Interest earned (net)	24		24
Doubtful Debt Provision		(82)	(82)
Staffing	232		232
Other Misc Variances (net)		(50)	(50)
	867	(996)	(129)

The main variances between the budget and the out-turn are shown in the table opposite. More details about the review of vehicle replacement requirements can be found in Note 14, 17 and 32b as this led to an MRP saving of £72k which contributed towards an increase of £114k in vehicle maintenance and hire costs.

There has been a small increase in the collection rates for Council Tax and Business Rates during 2018/19 which will have resulted in around £119k additional cash received into the Collection Fund. However, this has led to a drop of £9k in court costs raised and an increase of £10k in the level of doubtful debt provision, creating a net adverse variance of £19k.

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In terms of fee income, planning, building control services and cemeteries saw a combined increase of £106k, but the new Licensing policies mentioned on page 8 above have resulted in a £77k drop in income.

Other financial factors

This Council signed up to the Lancashire Business Rates Pool which came into effect on the 1st April 2016. Under these arrangements Rossendale retains more of its local business rates. In 2019/20 the Council was a member of the Lancashire Business Rates 75% Pilot Pool and benefitted from an increased retained share of 56% as opposed to 40% in 2018/19.

The Council continues to be the accountable body for the East Lancs Empty Homes Scheme, which has brought back into use almost 200 long-term empty domestic properties across East Lancashire, funded through a combination of Homes and Communities Grant, owner contributions, local housing associations and contributions from the other neighbouring local councils. The properties are managed by management agents with the majority of the properties being managed by Calico homes Ltd, under a self-financing contract. 2019/20 was a significant year for the project as the first tranche of properties were returned to their owner. Unfortunately, this has meant increased costs to the council of c£720k in the 2019/20 financial year.

There are c116 properties remaining on the scheme. These properties will continue to be let for the remainder of their leases, details of which can be seen at Note 18a.



Narrative Report

Capital Strategy and the Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2021/22

In February 2019 the Council set an affordable capital budget for new projects of £1,304k, funded from £500k of grants, £473k of internal borrowing, £100k from revenue resources and £231k from capital receipts. The programme included £554k of new parks vehicles, £130k on maintaining the Council's operational assets and £500k on Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) for domestic properties across the borough.

This was added to £5,662k of ongoing capital works anticipated at the end of 2018/19, which included key projects such as the Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) of £772k and the £4,013k Spinning Point Phase 1 project to build a new bus station in Rawtenstall centre, along with the redevelopment of the old Town Hall and the former Police Station sites. At the end of 2018/19 the actual value of slippage brought into 2019/20 was £5,303k.

During the year additional capital projects included an extra £522k of DFG grant and community projects to improve parks and play areas which attracted over £293k of third party grants and contributions.

Major capital projects added during 2019/20 also included £3,800k on the construction of a building on Plot 5 at Futures Park in Bacup, funded by a combination of internal and external Borrowing, and £1,899k for works at Whittaker Park Museum funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund. This brought the final capital programme for 2019/20 to £6,920k.

More information on the capital costs and funding sources can be found in Note 17.

The sale of fixed assets with a Net Book Value of £245k brought in £694k of capital receipts during 2019/20. These assets included £46k of vehicles which sold for £106k and £197k of Assets Held for Sale which sold for £543k as shown in Notes 14, 26, 31b, 32a and 32b.

In order to meet the Council's capital investment ambitions a loan of £4.6m was entered into with the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) in March 2010 for a period of 25 years at 4.49%. At the commencement of the Futures Park Plot 5 building the Council entered into a second PWLB loan of £2m at 1.34% repayable over a 20year period. These loans are reflected in the Balance Sheet and the Financial Instruments at Notes 20 and 28 to the Core Statements.

At the end of 2019/20 the Whittaker Park refurbishment project had only just begun and £1,855k of was carried forward into 2020/21. The construction of the Plot 5 building was well under way with £1,228k carried forward and the Spinning Point Phase 1 project had just £284k of mainly ground works and car parking provision still to complete. With an unspent balance of £1,173k in Disabled Facilities Grants, the Council carried £5,573k of ongoing capital projects forward into 2020/21.

The Collection Fund

Billing authorities in England, such as Rossendale, are required by statute to maintain a separate fund for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rates). The key features relevant to accounting for council tax and business rates in the Core Financial Statements are:

- In its capacity as a billing authority the Council acts as agent; it collects and distributes council tax income on behalf of the major preceptors and itself; under the scheme of Business Rates Retention introduced from 2013/14, business rates are also collected on behalf of Central Government and the major preceptors;
- While the council tax and business rate income credited to the Collection Fund is the accrued income for the year, regulations determine when it should be released from the Collection Fund and transferred to the General Fund of the billing authority or paid out of the Collection Fund to major preceptors.

Narrative Report

The council tax and business rate income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year is the accrued income for the year. The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the Collection Fund has been taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and is included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Since the collection of council tax and business rates income is in substance an agency arrangement, cash collected by the billing authority from council tax and business rates debtors belongs proportionately to the billing authority and the major preceptors. There is therefore a debtor/creditor position between the billing authority and each major preceptor which is recognised since the net cash paid to each major preceptor in the year will not be its share of the cash collected from taxpayers.

The surplus on the Collection Fund for Council tax as at 31st March 2020 was £449k and will be shared between the Council (billing authority), the County Council, the Police Authority and the Fire Authority in the following years. The Council's share of the surplus is £65k. The actual rate of in year collection of Council Tax for 2019/20 was 96.32% (96.7% for 2018/19).

For 2019/20 the Council is a member of the Lancashire Business Rate 75% Pool, this provides the opportunity for the Council to benefit from local business rate growth.

In the year ended 31st March 2020 the collection fund position for NNDR was a surplus of £363k which will be carried forward and distributed in subsequent years' budgets. Rossendale Borough Council's share of this is £203k with the balance due to the Government and major preceptors.

Further details in relation to the Collection Fund can be found in the Supplementary Statements.

Treasury Management

Treasury Management is conducted in-house with advice provided by an external organisation, Link Asset Services. Investment performance has struggled to meet the budget target as interest rates on the Council's bank accounts continued to be below bank base rates during the year. By the end of the year the council was earning 0.24% on balances, down from 0.6% at the end of 2018/19. However, the level of balances held during 2019/20 was above that predicted when setting the original budget, which led to an overall favourable interest income variance of £23k.

Treasury management during the year was conducted within the borrowing limits and investment criteria approved in the Treasury Management Strategy and Treasury Management Practices approved at Full Council in February 2019.

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) allows local councils to fund capital expenditure from other revenue reserves, known as internal borrowing, as long as the investment can be shown to be prudent. The value of this internal investment is known as the Capital Financing Requirement, as shown at Note 17a. At the 31st March 2020 the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) stood at £14,063k. At the same time the balance of the Council's PWLB borrowing was £4,710k (Note 28) following additional borrowing of £2m in August 2019. This means that the Council is "under borrowed" by £9,353k. For the first time in many years this is not fully covered by the useable earmarked reserves of £6,491k (Note 31a). As the value of useable reserves drops over the life of the Council's MTFs, greater consideration will need to be made of the need for additional PWLB borrowing to fund future capital investments.

Narrative Report

The MHCLG also requires councils to set aside 'prudent' provision for the repayment of debt where they have used internal borrowing arrangements to finance capital expenditure, but allows certain flexibility as to how this is calculated. This cost is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and it is a charge to the General Fund budget, but is not included in the CIES. This Council calculates MRP on a direct line basis to match the estimated life of each particular asset. The normal requirement for MRP in 2019/20, as provided for in the original budget, was £781k, During the year the £200k MRP anticipated for the Empty Homes Scheme was transferred to cover other costs arising from the properties, and the delayed replacement of some vehicles to allow for a full review of fleet requirements leaving an actual MRP contribution of £539k.

Pensions and IAS19

Rossendale Borough Council is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Lancashire County Council. Note 33 explains how the Council has accounted for the under-lying long term commitments in relation to the retirement benefits for employees in line with the prudent and prescriptive IAS19 methodology. Measurement of the assets and liabilities, under the statutory IAS19 regulations, showed an increase in the net liability from £29.7m at March 2015 to £33.6m at March 2017 and a subsequent drop to £24,5m at March 2020, which can be seen in note 33a.

The Lancashire County Pension Fund underwent a full triennial actuarial valuation by Mercers in December 2019, which came into force in March 2020. For the Rossendale element this showed that the net deficit had dropped from £15m to £2,7m, representing a funding level of 96% and so the deficit recovery period was maintained at 16 years.

Lancashire County Pension Fund- Rossendale Borough Council	March 2014 £000	March 2017 £000	March 2020 £000
Pension (Surplus)/Deficit	£22m	£15m	£2.7m
Funding Level	68%	77%	96%
Employer Future Service Rate (%ge of pensionable pay p.a.)	14.0%	15.5%	17.6%
Remaining recovery period	16 yrs	16 yrs	16 yrs

The key conclusions from the March 2020 actuarial valuation were:

- Based on the assumptions made for assessing the cost of future accruals, the future service rate for Rossendale Borough Council has risen from 15.5% at March 2017 to 17.6%.
- In line with the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS), a 16-year deficit recovery plan has been put in place for the County Fund as a whole which requires additional employer contributions of £549k over the next three years.
- The estimated impact of the McCloud judgement for Rossendale was £240k, which represented 0.3% of the total liabilities and contributed 0.9% to the increase in the future service rate of 17.6% shown above.
- Active members also pay contributions to the Fund as a condition of membership and this rate remains at 6.4% per annum.

Bearing in mind the funding challenges facing the Council over the life of the MTFs, members approved the pre-payment of the pension fund costs for the current triennial period, which will lead to a saving of over £300k over the three years. Consequently, £4.6m was paid to the pension fund in April 2017, of which £1.5m was classed as an advance payment at the 1st April 2019. This led to a net actual saving of £113k in 2019/20 compared to the £108k saving included in the original budget. The prepayment can be seen in the Balance Sheet as the difference between the Net Pension Liability of £28.6m and the Pension Reserve deficit of £30.1m at the end of 2018/19. As the pre-payment period had now ended, there is no difference in these figures at 31st March 2020.

The Council had approved a similar prepayment plan in April 2020 of £2.6m in order to save £151k over the next 3-year period.

Narrative Report

The Economic Climate and Financial Outlook for the Future

The latest MTFs reported to Budget Council in February 2020 sets out the Council's spending plans and available capital and revenue resources for the period 2019/20 to 2023/24. The MTFs set out the funds required to deliver the Council's essential services and the objectives in our priority areas. It also highlighted the key areas/issues facing the Council in the current year and future years. For 2020/21 onwards a major concern is the impact of Covid-19, future Government funding and potential impact of a no deal Brexit.

The Government is planning to announce a three year spending review for the period 2021/22 to 2023/24. Until this announcement is made and the local government finance settlement figures are published we have no indication of the level of funding the Council will receive from 2021/22 onwards.

In light of the current risks and uncertainties the Council will aim to continue to maintain a healthy and robust level of reserves. The Council's strategic budget plan has been to use reserves to fund the gap between income and expenditure over the life of the forecast, whilst looking to identify savings and income generating opportunities.

Annual Governance Statement

Annual Governance Statement: Year Ended 31st March 2020

1) Scope of responsibility

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

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

Rossendale Borough Council has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government – 2016 Edition. This statement explains how Rossendale Borough Council has complied with the code and also meets the requirements of Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015, regulation 6(1), which requires all relevant bodies to prepare an annual governance statement.

Delivering Good Governance (2016 Edition) defines the principles against which the Annual Governance Statement reports:

Principles
Principle A: Behave with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law
Principle B: Ensure openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement
Principle C: Define outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits
Principle D: Determine the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
Principle E: Develop the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it
Principle F: Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management
Principle G: Implement good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

Annual Governance Statement

2) The purpose of the governance framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, culture and values by which the authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads its communities. It enables the authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate services and value for money.

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

The governance framework has been in place at Rossendale Borough Council for the year ended 31 March 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and statement of accounts.

3) The Governance Framework

Key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the authority's governance include arrangements for:

Principle A: *Behave with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law*

The Council has a formal Constitution which is reviewed annually, amended as required and made publicly available on our website at www.Rossendale.gov.uk. The Constitution sets out how we operate, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by the law, while others are a matter for us to choose.

The Constitution includes the following documents which provide guidance for officers and Councillors on the standards of behaviour expected to ensure integrity:

- Code of Conduct for Members (Councillors)
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Guidance on the role of a Councillor

The Council's Monitoring Officer maintains the Codes of Conduct up to date and investigates any suspected breaches. Alleged breaches of the Members Code of Conduct are conducted in accordance with an agreed protocol. Councillors sign a formal declaration agreeing to abide by the Code of Conduct. For staff, the Employee Handbook sets out the requirements and standards expected and this forms part of the staff induction process.

The Council also has established a set of core values which are intended to underpin all that we do. These are published as part of our Strategic Plan and include the following ethical values:-

- Customers Matter
- Listening & Communicating
- Management of Performance
- Celebrating success

Underpinning everything we do is our commitment to equality, diversity, transparency, inclusion, sustainability and value for money.

Annual Governance Statement

Staff and Councillors are made aware of other policies relevant to this principle of the framework including the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption, Bribery and Whistleblowing Policies. These arrangements are reviewed and reported on via the Council's Audit and Accounts Committee being the Committee charged with oversight of the governance arrangements at the Council. At the heart of these policies is the requirement for all relevant parties to act with integrity.

All Councillors have to register and declare certain pecuniary interests such as employment, land holdings and contracts with the Council. The register of interests is available on our website at www.rossendale.gov.uk. Councillors must declare such interests at meetings which they attend. There are also procedures laid down for staff and councillors relating to the receipt of gifts and hospitality.

All Council decisions have to consider legal implications. These are set out in reports to Councillors which are published on the Council's website. The Council's Constitution sets out the responsibility for decision-making. Certain decisions are reserved to the full Council with others delegated to the Policy and Resources Committee or other Committees each acting in accordance with parameters set out in the Constitution.

A number of areas are delegated to officers for the purposes of decision-making; however, limits on the exercise of delegation are laid down in an approved Scheme of Delegation to Officers within the Constitution. The Council's legal team will advise on the legal implications of proposed decisions and where necessary will engage external legal advisors. The Council's Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer have specific responsibility for ensuring legality, for investigating any suspected instances of failure to comply with legal requirements, and for reporting any such instances to councillors.

Principle B: *Ensure openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement*

Our Corporate strategy identifies and reiterates our commitment to working with partners, volunteers and our residents. Performance management against key actions, performance measures and risks represents an essential part of our assurance and accountability process to our residents and our partners.

All decisions of the Council are made in accordance with principles laid down in the Constitution and include the following:-

- a presumption in favour of openness
- explanation of the options considered and the reasons for decisions.

All meetings of the Council, Cabinet and other Committees are open to the public.

Agenda papers and reports together with the Minutes of all meetings are publicly available on the Council's website unless they are exempt from publication.

The Council's guidance on, the role of a Councillor' contains the following which reinforces the importance of openness requiring Councillors to:

- Contribute to the governance of the area and actively encourage community participation and citizen involvement in decision making

The Code of Conduct for Councillors also outlines the following requirements:-

You must take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. You must not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, or your friends.

You are accountable for your decisions and actions to the public and must be available for scrutiny as appropriate to your office.

You must be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that you take. You should give reasons for your decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Annual Governance Statement

The Council undertakes consultation on specific topics (2019/20 included consultation on the proposed traveller transit site). The Council also makes use of social media via Facebook and Twitter.

The Council is committed to publishing information freely and to develop further our culture of openness and transparency and publishes information in accordance with the Local Government Transparency Code. The Council's Freedom of Information Publication Scheme provides a general guide for the public in terms of what information should routinely be available to them by either accessing our website or upon request.

Partnership working is important and the Council has in place a wide range of arrangements ranging from small scale local groups (e.g. Civic Pride groups) to larger and more formal partnerships (e.g. public/private partnership with Rossendale Leisure Trust and Capita).

Principles C & D – Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable benefits (economic, social and environmental) and determining the interventions necessary to achieve them.

The Council's strategic vision for the Borough is set out in our Strategic Plan. Our vision is to work with our partners to ensure that Rossendale is a place where people want to live, visit, work and invest. We aim to achieve this by working on our three priority areas:

- A clean green Rossendale
- A connected and successful Rossendale that welcomes sustainable growth
- A proud, healthy and vibrant Rossendale

Underpinning our Corporate Strategy are robust business plans for each of our service areas. These detail how we will deliver the strategy, our vision and priorities. They also detail how we will continue to deliver services to our residents and meet our financial challenges.

Service areas are required to set and monitor agreed targets for performance. Performance against and achievement of expected outcomes is monitored regularly via the Council's corporate performance management system and reported quarterly to Councillors and the Management Team. Where the expected performance is not being met then potential intervention measures are considered and implemented where appropriate.

In relation to the buying of goods and services, staff must comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. These set out relevant considerations when reaching decisions on award of contracts and include relevant environmental and sustainability aspects including the achievement of 'social value' in addition to cost.

Decisions on the overall level of resources allocated are taken by the Council following recommendations from the Cabinet. Resources and spending plans are critically reviewed to optimise their use and level of fit with the Council's objectives. Financial planning arrangements are well established and underpinned by a three year forward projection as part of the Council's medium term financial planning arrangements. This includes both capital and revenue budgets.

Principle E - Develop the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

At the heart of this principle is the Council's commitment to '*Invest in our staff to champion our more commercial and digital approach*'. The aim is to ensure that, as an organisation, we are suitably placed to deliver the priorities identified for Rossendale and its residents. To do this we will employ the right people with the right skills in the right job. We will maintain robust financial processes, standards and systems optimising the technology and resources we have available to us, making us more efficient and effective in our service delivery and becoming digital by default.

Annual Governance Statement

In recent years the Council has invested in training programmes to enhance organisational development, develop leadership skills and promote a coaching culture with staff at all levels encouraged to be innovative and challenge the normal way of doing things. All staff take part in annual performance management reviews which include consideration of their individual training and development needs. A range of training methods and resources are applied and feedback is actively encouraged to assess the benefit of investment in training. The Council has developed a workforce plan, organisational development strategy and a learning and development strategy. Training is available for Councillors including induction and topic specific matters in addition to what is available from organisations such as the Local Government Association.

Capacity is enhanced via a range of partnerships and collaborative arrangements, as well as our commissioning and procurement processes through which the Council operates a mixed economy approach to delivering services in the most effective and efficient way. Service delivery models include, in-house, external outsourced, transfers to external partners. On a regional and sub-regional basis the Council works closely with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership and Pennine Lancashire bodies notably in areas such as economic development, regeneration and skills/training. It also works closely with Burnley College on training provision.

Wider partnership working and engagement across Lancashire has also been evident during the COVID-19 pandemic via the Councils collaboration with the Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) and the creation of the Rossendale Community Support Hub.

Leadership roles are well defined at the Council for staff and Councillors, distinguishing for example the role of Council Leader and the officer being the Head of Paid Service (i.e. the Chief Executive). A protocol is included in the Council's Constitution which reflects the principles underlying the respective Codes of Conduct which apply to Members and Employees. The shared object of these codes is to enhance and maintain the integrity of local government and therefore, demands high standards of personal conduct.

The Council is committed to a culture of continuous improvement and has a focus on service delivery and effective performance management. Peer learning is encouraged and the Council is due to undertake a Peer Challenge review led by the Local Government Association to provide an assessment and feedback on, amongst other things, our organisational capacity and capability from best practice in the local government sector.

The Workforce Strategy acknowledges the essential role staff play in the Council's ability to deliver effective services; thus wanting to ensure that every employee fulfils their potential and takes advantage of the development opportunities available to them.

Sustaining organisational resilience is increasingly challenging at a time when headcount is reducing in response to ongoing resource constraints. Set against this, the importance of supporting staff health and well-being is acknowledged and a suite of policies and procedures are in place to help staff maintain their own physical and mental well-being. Examples include the work/life balance policy and the operation of flexible working for most staff.

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

The maintenance of systems and processes to identify and manage the key strategic and operational risks is integral to the achievement of the Council's objectives. The Council's

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risk management framework continues to evolve and presently includes the following arrangements:-

- Risk Management Policy and Strategy
- Arrangements for the Strategic Risk Register comprising corporate risks assigned to designated officers, with appropriate counter-measures and an action plan established for each key risk
- Periodic review of risks in-year with reports to the Council's Management Team, Cabinet and the Audit and Accounts Committee
- the use by Internal Audit of a risk based approach in the preparation and delivery of the internal audit plan
- the requirement for Officers of the Council to consider risk management issues when submitting reports to Committee for consideration by Councillors
- a suite of policies and procedures in relation to Whistleblowing, Anti-Fraud Theft and Corruption, Bribery and Anti-Money Laundering
- a suite of Business Continuity Plans are in place, i.e. Business Continuity Policy and Strategy, Strategic Crisis Management Plan, a Local Crisis Management Plan and a Business Recovery Plan for critical services

Councillors and officers have previously been trained in risk management and the Leader of the Council is briefed on the strategic risks faced by the Council. Managers have the responsibility for the effective control of risk, and all service plans have a section on risk management.

Corporate Governance including risk management, incorporating the key strategic risks for the Council, are the subject of periodic reports to Cabinet and the Audit and Accounts Committee.

The Corporate Management Team review the Corporate Risk Register to ensure that risks are being actively monitored and managed and target risk scores have been introduced for all identified strategic risks as a means of providing much greater focus on those areas where risk management can be effective. Details of changes are reported to the Audit and Accounts Committee.

The Chief Executive, as the Council's Head of Paid Service, is responsible for the corporate management of the Council, taking an active role in the corporate governance arrangements, including the organisation of the Council's staff and ensuring that appropriate internal control mechanisms are in place to achieve the Council's objectives in the most economical, efficient and effective way.

The Legal Services Manager is appointed the Council's Monitoring Officer. The appointment of a Monitoring Officer is required in accordance with Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. It is the function of the Monitoring Officer to report to Members upon any contravention of any enactment or rule of law or any maladministration by the Authority. The Monitoring Officer also has responsibilities under the Council's Ethical Framework relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and the Standards Regime.

The Chief Financial Officer is designated as the officer with statutory responsibility for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs, in accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The three statutory officers referred to above have unfettered access to information and to Councillors on the Council so that they can discharge their responsibilities effectively. The functions of these Officers and their roles are clearly set out in the Council's Constitution.

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In particular, the role of the Chief Financial Officer at the Council accords with the principles set out in CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government.

An established **financial management framework** comprising the following:-

- Financial and Contract Procedure Rules as part of the Constitution
- Medium term financial planning using a three-year cycle, updated annually, to align resources to corporate priorities
- Service and financial planning integrated within the corporate performance management cycle
- Annual budget process involving scrutiny, challenge and consultation
- Annual review of the adequacy of the level of financial reserves
- Regular monitoring by management of revenue and capital budgets with reports to Management Team and Cabinet
- Annual reports to councillors on both the final revenue and capital out-turns compared to the approved budget
- Continuous challenge of the scope for securing efficiencies and service improvements
- Production of an annual Statement of Accounts compliant with the requirements of local authority accounting practice
- Compliance with the requirements established by CIPFA, the public sector accountancy body
- A regular review of the Council's Financial Management arrangements.

A **performance management framework** which provides an explicit link between the corporate priorities and personal objectives of staff and their training and development needs. Performance is reported to Councillors and the Management Team on a systematic basis with areas of poor performance investigated proactively. Key features of the Performance Management Framework include:-

- A regular review of the Corporate Strategy to ensure that priorities are reviewed, remain relevant and reflect the aims of the Council
- Service Plans produced with explicit goals and associated performance targets in order to ensure that achievement of performance is measurable
- The Council's staff appraisal system – Performance Management Reviews against a competency framework - links personal objectives directly to Service Plans
- Regular reports on the performance of key indicators which are presented to Councillors and Officers

An **Information Governance Framework** which sets out the way we handle and process information, in particular, the personal and sensitive data relating to residents, suppliers and employees. Key features of the information governance framework include:-

- A suite of policies and procedures on the Council's Information Security which are available on the Intranet for all staff to review
- Arrangements for document management and retention
- A Data Protection Policy and Procedure with nominated staff responsible for providing advice and guidance on Data Protection matters
- Compliance with the Local Government Transparency Code and provision of Open Data on Council website

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- A system for dealing with requests for information submitted to the Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (including a regular review of the Council's Publication Scheme)
- Regular reviews of the Council's Information Governance and Security arrangements by Internal Audit and external assessors.

The Internal Audit function operates in accordance with the statements, standards and guidelines published by the Auditing Practices Board, CIPFA (particularly the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards) and the Institute of Internal Auditors. The Internal Audit function examines and evaluates the adequacy of the Council's system of internal control.

The Council has partnered with Lancashire County Council (LCC) for the delivery of the Internal Audit function. LCC provide an independent and objective appraisal function for reviewing the system of internal control. This is in compliance with Regulation 5 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 that specifically requires a local authority to undertake an adequate and effective system of internal audit. This work is delivered by way of a Strategic Audit Plan developed using a risk-based approach. The Internal Audit plan is agreed and monitored by the Audit and Accounts Committee. The Audit Manager is required to give an opinion on the adequacy of the Council's system of internal control each year.

In compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit is undertaken annually with the results of the review reported to the Audit and Accounts Committee. This Committee can make recommendations or highlight any matters requiring attention to the Cabinet and Council.

Significant projects are controlled by project management techniques and overseen by a Programme Board.

Lastly, each member of Management Team is required to sign an Assurance Statement in relation to a range of key controls operating in their area of work. This specifically seeks assurance from Senior Managers that, other than those identified during the course of their normal work or by Internal Audit, they are not aware of any weaknesses in the Council's systems of internal control.

Principle G - Implement good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

All reports to meetings of Council, Cabinet and other committees are publicly available on our website with the Minutes also published showing what decisions have been taken and the reason(s) why. Other forms of public accountability reporting include the annual Statement of Accounts, the Council's Annual Report and in year financial and performance monitoring reports. Reports from external audit are also published online including their annual report setting out the findings resulting from their audit of the accounts.

The Council reports performance against targets and financial targets on a regular basis. Progress updates on the implementation status of audit recommendations are also reported quarterly to the Audit and Accounts Committee. The Internal Audit service complies with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and has direct access to Councillors and all staff in order to discharge its responsibilities.

The Council publishes information in accordance with the Local Government Transparency Code. The Council's website includes a section on Access to Information, which is about

Annual Governance Statement

being transparent, sharing our information with the wider community, and giving them the opportunity to use that data to build useful applications.

The Council welcomes peer challenge reviews and inspections from regulatory bodies and will act on any recommendations arising as appropriate.

4) How the Council Gains Assurance/Review of Effectiveness

The Council has a responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its Governance Framework including the system of internal control. This review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Council's Management Team who have a responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the Audit Manager's Annual Report on Internal Audit and also reports from the external auditor and any other review agencies and inspectorates.

The purpose of a review is to identify and evaluate the key controls in place to manage principal risks. It also requires an evaluation of the assurances received, identifies gaps in controls and assurances and should result in an action plan to address significant internal control issues.

Just prior to the end of the 2019/20 financial year, the Government's response to the COVID-19 outbreak led to changes in our governance arrangements. These are discussed in more detail below, along with details of our other governance arrangements.

The process that has been applied in maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of the Council's Governance Framework includes the following:-

- The Council's Monitoring Officer and the Council in general oversee the operation of the Constitution to ensure its aims and principles are given full effect. The Constitution was most recently reviewed in May 2019 at the Annual General Meeting of Council
- The arrangements for scrutiny operate via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required, allowing for the review of key policy areas and providing opportunities for public involvement in specific matters of business. This committee receives reports from the Task & Finish group. During 2019/20 two Task & Finish Reviews were completed – Holiday Hunger and Rossendale Suicide and Drug Related Deaths Logic Model Action Plan – with the recommendations from each being approved by Council.
- Further scrutiny of Cabinets decisions is also provided by the Council's Call-In procedures. This is where any three members of the Council may sign and deliver to the Monitoring Officer a request for the decision to be called in, stating why they feel that the decisions should be considered further. Group Leaders will then be consulted to obtain each of their views, potentially resulting in referral back to Cabinet for re-consideration.
- As a consequence of the Coronavirus emergency there was a period where no Council meetings were held. During this period decisions were taken in accordance with the Council's Exercise of Urgent Business Protocol, as detailed in the Council's Constitution and the updated protocol to specifically reflect the COVID-19 outbreak. Details of decisions taken under this protocol are published on the Council's website.
- The Council has operated a Standards regime consistent with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 during the year.

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- The Audit and Accounts Committee met throughout the year and received various reports on the progress by External and Internal Audit against their respective work plans. The Committee also received a report in July 2020 on the outcome of a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit in 2019/20, The Council received **Moderate** Assurance. (for 2018/19 the equivalent report was submitted to the Accounts and Audit Committee in July 2019, receiving a **Substantial** Assurance).
- The Audit and Accounts Committee and Council were previously appraised of developments arising from the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. This includes provisions for the appointment of local auditors. The Council previously agreed to opt in to the national scheme for auditor appointments and during the year under review the appointment of Mazars as auditor to the Council was confirmed for a term of five years commencing from 1st April 2018.
- There have been no formal reports during the year from either the Council's Monitoring Officer or Section 151 Officer on matters of legality or financial related concerns. There were also no objections from local electors in respect of the financial statements and supporting information for the previous financial year.

Impact of COVID-19 on our Governance Arrangements

Following the declaration of a public health emergency by the World Health Organisation in early March 2020, the Council began preparations and planning in the event of a more widespread outbreak.

As a result of the emerging pandemic, in mid-March the Lancashire Resilience Forum agreed a Lancashire-wide emergency response, establishing a command structure for Lancashire to target key crisis areas. The Council's senior managers played a keyrole within the respective areas ensuring that a local response was put in place.

In mid-March, the Council invoked its Business Continuity Plan (BCP) and emergency planning procedures in response to the pandemic being declared. The BCP was refreshed to reflect the Coronavirus emergency. Twice weekly meetings of CMT were held along with representation of CMT members on the relevant response and recovery groups of the Lancashire Resilience Forum.

Critical and essential services continued to work effectively with the redeployment of staff in response to demand where and when required. Additional demands were made on the Council including the establishment of a Community Food Hub and a system of administering grants to local business.

Regular COVID-19 guidance notes and briefings for staff were issued and home working arrangements for staff were deployed. HR policies were reviewed and updated as required to enable the most effective and efficient response to the rapidly evolving situation as possible, whilst also protecting the health and wellbeing of staff.

In order to enable adherence to social distancing guidelines face-to-face meetings could no longer go ahead, the Council introduced the use of Zoom meetings and WhatsApp groups to ensure continued open communication channels and participation in virtual meetings.

During the period where no Council meetings could be held decisions were taken in accordance with the Council's Exercise of Urgent Powers Protocol, as detailed in the Council's Constitution and the updated protocol to specifically reflect the pandemic.

Annual Governance Statement

IT Guidance for home working was issued when home working arrangements were being implemented. Alongside this, technical IT solutions were taken to safeguard the Council as much as possible and ensuring the maintenance of IT access controls.

In response to the pandemic Risk Assessments were conducted across Council services and additional control measures were put in place such as social distancing in offices, extra PPE, hand sanitizers, screens and implementing changes to work patterns.

5) Dealing with Last Year's Key Improvement Areas

Last year's Annual Governance Statement highlighted the following areas for improvement. The narrative below sets out the action has been taken to address these issues in the current year:

Area of Concern	Progress Update
Further strategic development and action in relation to key partnerships and/or contractual relationships.	The Council continuously works to improve and develop its key Partnerships.
The implications arising from the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and the continuing requirement to reduce its annual net expenditure and to find new sources of income over the medium term and deal with the identified future challenges.	For 2020/21 the Council agreed a balanced budget and work is ongoing to update the MTFS to reflect the impacts of the Coronavirus emergency. There remains uncertainty of the forward estimates of core funding within the MTFS beyond 2020/21 pending the outcome of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review and the delayed Fair Funding Review. In light of the reductions in core funding since 2010 this matter continues to represent a significant challenge for the Council. Work has already begun to develop savings proposals for the period 2021/22 to 2023/24 as part of the development of the Council's MTFS
Further embedding Risk Management throughout the organisation to ensure a process that is fit for purpose, and in particular adequately identifies the risks the Council faces.	Corporate risks are reviewed at the start of the year. Work is ongoing to create project risk registers, this will be reported to Programme Board.

6) Key Areas for Further Improvement

Building on the improvements in 2019/20 the Council has reviewed the governance arrangements and identified the following areas where it wishes to see improvements in 2020/21:

- A review of the Constitution has been commissioned, this will be lead by the Head of Legal and is due for completion at the end of October 2020
- The Council has recognised current and future financial challenges in its strategic

Annual Governance Statement

risk register and MTFs. The scale of the savings required represents a significant challenge. The situation is further complicated by the currently unknown outcome of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review and the delayed Fair Funding Review. The Council will continue to meet these challenges as it has done in the past, taking steps to manage this by considering commercialisation, modernisation and rationalisation.

- The introduction of tighter project management controls which will be overseen by the Programme Board.

7) Conclusion

On the basis of the work carried out, we are satisfied that the Governance Framework is effective and continues to be fit for purpose. We will continue to progress, implementing improvements to further enhance our governance arrangements. We will monitor any further implementations as part of our next annual review.

The Covid-19 pandemic is having a significant impact and it is paramount that the Council's governance arrangements remain robust and effective. The impact of Covid-19 will be considered in all governance arrangements. All risks reviews will be reviewed taking into account the impact of Covid-19 on services and processes. Both Members and officers will need to be vigilant to ensure that our governance arrangements remain robust and sustainable and remain effective during this period of uncertainty and high risk.

Footnote

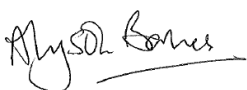
Subsequent to the draft financial statements being published and prior to the directed adoption of these on 13th December 2024 as directed by the backstop regulations (introduced by the Minister of State for Local Government, on July 31, 2024 in response to the national local authority audit backlog) the council's external auditors referred in March 2024, to areas of significant weakness as part of their Value for Money Reports concerning the preparation of and evidence to support the Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 through 2022/23 with implications extending to this financial year. The matters noted were the non-completion of a bank reconciliation and the draft accounts having material inconsistencies within the comparative figures. These matters were compounded by the lack of finance capacity available to produce the accounts in years 2020/21 through 2022/23.

There are no other matters arising that indicate any wider or other concerns with the governance framework which would lead to a conclusion that there wasn't an effective governance framework in place, except for these significant matters.

We are aware that the council has already made headway in resolving the weaknesses and in particular the key financial controls and the resourcing of the finance team.

Signed:

On behalf of Rossendale Borough Council



Alyson Barnes
6 December 2024
Leader of Council



Rob Huntington
6 December 2024
Chief Executive

Statement of Responsibilities

The following responsibilities are placed upon the authority and the Head of Finance in relation to the Council's financial affairs.

The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority is required to:-

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Head of Finance.
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Director of Resources as Chief Finance Officer Responsibilities

As the Chief Finance Officer, I am responsible for the preparation of the authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with the proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC 2018/19 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in Great Britain (referred to as "the Code").

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, I have:-

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code;
- kept proper accounting records which were up-to-date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

I was appointed Chief Finance Office and s.151 Officer on 2 September 2024. I am aware that in March 2024 the Council's external auditor's Value for Money report identified significant systemic weaknesses in the preparation of Statements of Account for the years ending 31 March 2021 to 31 March 2023. Accordingly, I cannot certify the adequacy of the systems that were used to prepare the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2020. Nor can I provide an assurance that weaknesses in the council's financial controls and other systemic weaknesses did not have a material impact on the accounts.

The Backstop Regulations were introduced by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government on 31 July 2024. The object of the Regulations is to secure published audited accounts for every financial year up to and including the year ending 31 March 2023 by 13 December 2024. Unfortunately, there is neither the time nor the resources to complete and evaluate the audit work that would be required to make a full assessment of the impact of the control and other weaknesses identified by the external auditors for the year ending 31 March 2020 by the backstop.

Certificate of Director of Resources as Chief Finance Officer

This Statement of Responsibilities is signed by me subject to the aforementioned caveat. I certify that this Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Rossendale Borough Council at 31st March 2020, and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2020, including any known post balance sheet events as at 31st August 2020.

Signed:



Chris Warren

Director of Resources

6 December 2024

Approval of Accounts

These Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 were approved by the Audit and Accounts Committee on the 3 December 2024.

Signed:



Councillor M. Smith

Chair of the Audit and Accounts Committee

Core Financial Statements

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) shows the cost of providing services in the year in accordance International Financial Reporting Standards, rather than the amount to be funded from Council Tax and other Government grants. The amount funded from Council Tax and Government grants differ from this by a series of adjustments made in accordance with regulations. These adjustments are reversed in the Movement in Reserves Statement; explained in Note 1 and 13.

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	2018/19			2019/20			Note
	Gross		Net	Gross		Net	
	Expend	Income	Expend	Expend	Income	Expend	
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Communities Directorate							
Customer Services & IT	19,904	(18,777)	1,127	17,183	(15,895)	1,288	
Operations	2,867	(564)	2,303	2,875	(539)	2,336	
Communities	1,015	(268)	747	984	(269)	715	
Public Protection Unit	123	(1)	122	130	-	130	
Environmental Health	276	(42)	234	233	(39)	194	
Licensing & Enforcement	263	(143)	120	239	(153)	86	
Housing	1,956	(1,739)	217	2,478	(1,545)	933	
Economic Development Directorate							
Building Control	129	(126)	3	129	(132)	(3)	
Planning	837	(615)	222	850	(476)	374	
Regeneration, Health & Housing	1,025	(546)	479	982	(442)	540	
Property Services	1,780	(288)	1,492	5,490	(344)	5,146	
Corporate Management							
Corporate Management	464	(35)	429	330	(73)	257	
Legal Services	184	(11)	173	171	(32)	139	
Local Land Charges	37	(55)	(18)	39	(54)	(15)	
Democratic Services	584	(39)	545	750	(197)	553	
Financial Services	480	-	480	506	(8)	498	
People & Policy	447	(1)	446	448	(2)	446	
Non-Distributed costs	745	(21)	724	761	(68)	693	
Cost of Services	33,116	(23,271)	9,845	34,578	(20,268)	14,310	1
Other Operating Expenditure							
Whitworth Town Council Precept	61	-	61	60	-	60	
(Gain)/Loss on disposal of fixed assets	26	(16)	10	245	(694)	(449)	13,27,32b
Other Income	-	(2,108)	(2,108)	12	(3,248)	(3,236)	13,32b
Financing and Investments							
Interest payable on debt	138	-	138	143	-	143	20b
Interest and investment income	-	(66)	(66)	-	(88)	(88)	20b
Pensions - interest cost	2,521	-	2,521	2,485	-	2,485	33f
Pensions - past service costs	-	-	-	965	-	965	33f
Pensions - admin expenses	20	-	20	23	-	23	33f
Pensions - interest on assets	-	(1,818)	(1,818)	-	(1,794)	(1,794)	33f
Trading Undertakings	440	(310)	130	483	(320)	163	5
Taxation and Non-Specific Grants							
Collection Fund							
Council Tax	-	(5,437)	(5,437)	-	(5,645)	(5,645)	Coll Fund
Council Tax re prior year deficit	-	-	-	-	-	-	Coll Fund
Retained Business Rates	2,610	(4,875)	(2,265)	4,596	(6,965)	(2,369)	6
Collection Fund (surplus)/deficit							
Council Tax	-	(5)	(5)	-	(66)	(66)	Coll Fund
Retained Business Rates	-	(345)	(345)	-	(203)	(203)	Coll Fund
Revenue Support Grant	-	(172)	(172)	-	-	-	7
Non service related Government Grants	-	(1,668)	(1,668)	-	(2,173)	(2,173)	7
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	38,932	(40,091)	(1,159)	43,590	(41,464)	2,126	1, 2
(Surplus)/deficit on revaluations:-							
Property, Plant & Equipment assets	1,318	(1,561)	(243)	304	(1,319)	(1,015)	14,33a,33b
Pension Fund assets	-	(359)	(359)	2,631	(9,561)	(6,930)	34f
Other Comprehensive (Income)/Expend			(602)			(7,945)	
Total Comprehensive (Income)/Expend			(1,761)			(5,819)	

Core Financial Statements

Movement in Reserves Statement

This Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves.

The 'Surplus/(deficit) on Provision of Services' line shows the true economic cost of providing the Council's services, as shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance for Council Tax setting purposes and details of the adjustments required can be found at Note 13.

The 'Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to reserves' line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council. Details of these transfers can be found at Note 31a.

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT	General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Govt Grants Unapplied	Total Useable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves	Note
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Balance at 31 March 2018	1,000	6,165	2,480	890	10,535	7,496	18,031	
Movement in Reserves in 2018/19								
Surplus/(Deficit) on Provision of Services	1,159	-	-	-	1,159	-	1,159	
Other Comprehensive Income/(Expend)	-	-	-	-	-	1,442	1,442	
Total Comprehensive Income/(Expend)	1,159	-	-	-	1,159	1,442	2,601	
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	(1,308)	-	(11)	56	(1,263)	1,263	-	13
Net incr/(decr) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	(149)	-	(11)	56	(104)	2,705	2,601	
Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	149	(149)	-	-	-	-	-	
Increase/(decrease) in year	-	(149)	(11)	56	(104)	2,705	2,601	
Balance at 31 March 2019	1,000	6,016	2,469	946	10,431	10,201	20,632	
Movement in Reserves in 2019/20								
Surplus/(deficit) on Provision of Services	(2,126)	-	-	-	(2,126)	-	(2,126)	
Other Comprehensive Income/(Expend)	-	-	-	-	-	7,945	7,945	
Total Comprehensive Income/(Expend)	(2,126)	-	-	-	(2,126)	7,945	5,819	
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	2,600	-	266	299	3,165	(3,165)	-	13
Net incr/(decr) before transfers to Reserves	474	-	266	299	1,039	4,780	5,819	
Transfers to/from Reserves	(474)	474	-	-	-	-	-	
Increase/(decrease) in year	-	474	266	299	1,039	4,780	5,819	
Balance at 31 March 2020	1,000	6,490	2,735	1,245	11,470	14,981	26,451	
Note		31a	31b	31c				

Core Financial Statements

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities at the Balance Sheet date. The net assets are matched by the reserves held by the authority. Reserves are split between, **useable reserves** and **unusable reserves** (see Notes 31 and 32).

BALANCE SHEET	31st March 2019 £000s	31st March 2020 £000s	Note
Property, Plant & Equipment			
Other Land and Buildings	18,453	22,570	14
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	1,418	1,763	14
Infrastructure	104	95	14
Community Assets	669	793	14
Assets under construction	5,545	3,215	14
Surplus Assets	390	655	14
	26,579	29,091	
Heritage Assets	2,151	2,405	14
Investment Property	550	550	15
Intangible Assets	50	28	16
Long-term Investments	2	2	20a, 20c
Long-term Debtors	749	469	19,20a,20c
Long-term Assets	30,081	32,545	
Short-term Investments	6,070	1,070	20a,20c,24
Inventories	40	21	22
Short Term Debtors	4,586	4,542	23
Cash and cash equivalents	3,888	7,595	20a,20c,24
Assets held for sale within one year	2,937	2,740	26
Current Assets	17,521	15,968	
Short-term Borrowing	(184)	(234)	20a,20c,28
Short-term Creditors	(6,173)	(6,033)	27
Short-term Provisions	(575)	(697)	29
Short-term Capital Grant Receipts in Advance	(2,920)	(41)	30
Current Liabilities	(9,852)	(7,005)	
Long Term Borrowing	(2,760)	(4,476)	20a,20c,28
Long-Term Provisions	(747)	(1,040)	29
Net Pensions Liability	(28,601)	(24,533)	33a
Long-term Liabilities	(32,108)	(30,049)	
Net Assets	5,642	11,459	
Represented by:			
General Fund	1,000	1,000	MiR
Earmarked Reserves	6,017	6,490	31a
Capital Receipts Reserve	2,469	2,735	31b
Grants Unapplied	946	1,245	31c
Usable Reserves	10,432	11,470	
Revaluation Reserve	11,415	12,125	32a
Pension Reserve	(30,100)	(24,533)	33a
Capital Adjustment Account	11,493	10,591	32b
Deferred Capital Receipts	1,559	1,385	32c
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	843	421	13,CF2
Unusable Reserves	(4,790)	(11)	
Total Reserves	5,642	11,459	

Core Financial Statements

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting periods. The Statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or by the recipients of services provided by the authority.

Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the authority's future service delivery. The cash outflows here relate to capital spend on assets held by the Council, such as buildings, vehicles and equipment, which will be used to provide services in the future. Cash inflows relate to the sale of assets no longer required by the Council to provide its services, or capital grants and contributions received by the Council.

Cash flows arising from financing activities show the net movements in investments and borrowing during the period in accordance with the Council's treasury management strategy. These can be useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (ie borrowing) to the Council.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT	2018/19	2019/20	Note
	£000	£000	
Operating Activities			
Net surplus/(deficit) on the provision of services	1,159	(2,126)	CIES
Adjustment for noncash movements	11	673	35a
Adjustment for items that are investing and financing activities	4,797	10,892	35a
Net cash flows from Operating Activities	5,967	9,439	
Investing Activities			
Additions to property, plant and equipment & intangible assets	(3,845)	(7,016)	17a
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	150	694	13 & 31b
(Increase)/decrease in Deferred Capital Receipts	211	174	
Increase/(decrease) in long-term debtors	(218)	(280)	19
Other income	(2,108)	(3,236)	13 & 31b
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(5,810)	(9,664)	
Management of Liquid Resources			
Cash inflows - Short-term investments	19,820	23,750	20a,20c,24
Cash outflows - Short-term investments	(19,000)	(20,250)	20a,20c,24
Financing			
Cash Inflows/(Outflows) - agency operations			
National non-domestic rates	1,422	(1,302)	
Council Tax	(416)	(32)	
Cash Inflows - New Borrowing	-	2,000	
Cash Outflows - Repayments of amounts borrowed	(184)	(234)	20a,20c,28
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	1,642	3,932	
Net increase/(decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,799	3,707	35b
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,089	3,888	24
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year	3,888	7,595	24

Core Financial Statements

Note 1 Reconciliation of General Fund Services to CIES

GENERAL FUND SERVICES 2018/19	Original Budget £000s	Remove Internal Market & Cap Fin £000s	Items not Cost of Services £000s	Adjusted Budget £000s	Technical Changes				CIES Actual £000s	Note
					Reported Out-turn £000s	Items not Cost of Services £000s	Deprec'n Capital Assets £000s	Pension, Grants, Reserves £000s		
Place Directorate										
Customer Services & IT	1,226	244	984	2,454	1,276	984	(1,133)	-	1,127	
Operations	3,602	(1,501)	-	2,101	2,124	56	135	(12)	2,303	
Community & Partnerships	1,369	(649)	-	720	698	-	(2)	51	747	
Public Protection Unit	-	120	-	120	123	-	-	-	123	
Environmental Health	491	(233)	-	258	193	-	-	41	234	
Licensing & Enforcement	473	(318)	-	155	121	-	-	-	121	
Housing	375	(167)	-	208	155	-	1	61	217	
Business Directorate										
Building Control	70	(102)	-	(32)	(1)	-	3	-	2	
Planning	(50)	(340)	684	294	222	684	(684)	-	222	
Regeneration	561	(214)	20	367	352	-	(39)	166	479	
Property Services	850	(108)	-	742	783	(185)	895	-	1,493	
Corporate Management										
Corporate Management	170	278	-	448	442	-	-	-	442	
Legal Services	95	93	-	188	173	-	-	-	173	
Local Land Charges	2	(29)	-	(27)	(17)	-	-	-	(17)	
Democratic Services	652	(100)	-	552	542	-	-	-	542	
Financial Services	228	261	-	489	482	-	-	-	482	
People and Policy	100	427	(20)	507	467	-	-	(21)	446	
Non-distributed Costs	(32)	1,118	-	1,086	1,179	-	378	(833)	724	
Capital Financing & Interest	(834)	1,220	-	386	370	(72)	(298)	-	-	
Cost of Services	9,348	-	1,668	11,016	9,684	1,467	(744)	(547)	9,860	
Whitworth Town Council Precept	50	-	-	50	61	-	-	-	61	
Other Operating (Income)/Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,098)	-	(2,098)	
Financing, Pensions & Investments	-	-	-	-	-	72	-	723	795	
Trading Undertakings	-	-	-	-	-	129	-	-	129	
Precept on the Collection Fund	(5,435)	-	-	(5,435)	(5,434)	-	-	-	(5,434)	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - prior yr surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - current yr surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	(350)	-	(350)	
Rate Support Grant	(189)	-	-	(189)	(189)	-	-	-	(189)	7
Non-service Government Grants	-	-	(1,668)	(1,668)	-	(1,668)	-	-	(1,668)	7
Non-Domestic Rates	(2,179)	-	-	(2,179)	(2,179)	-	(86)	-	(2,265)	6
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	1,595	-	-	1,595	1,943	-	(3,278)	176	(1,159)	

Adjustments to the Budget

In order to comply with the Code for 2019/20 the format of the General Fund Budget approved in February 2019 needs some adjustments to enable the reader to directly relate the Budget to the Outturn and the monitoring reports presented to Cabinet throughout the year.

- Internal market charges were included in the Original Budget, but are never a part of the financial reports taken to Members to enable management and members to focus on direct costs and income at their source, rather than redistributing any variances across other services. The CIES format now presents direct service costs in the same way and the Council determined that future Budgets will be aligned with this policy as from the 2019/20 Budget. Hence, there are no Internal Market adjustments required in the following 2019/20 table.

Adjustments to the Outturn

The General Fund Actual shown in the Narrative Statement undergoes some statutory adjustments to meet the accounting regulations required in the presentation of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

- Interest paid and received is shown in the CIES as Financing and Investments
- Trading accounts are shown in the CIES as Financing and Investments, see Note 5 for details.

Core Financial Statements

GENERAL FUND SERVICES 2019/20	Original Budget £000s	Remove Service Changes £000s	Remove MRP & CapFin £000s	Adjusted Budget £000s	Technical Changes					Note
					Reported Out-turn £000s	Items not Cost of Services £000s	Deprec'n Capital, Assets £000s	Pension, Grants, Reserves £000s	CIES Actual £000s	
Place Directorate										
Customer Services & IT	1,460	(1)	-	1,459	1,457	-	-	(169)	1,288	
Operations	2,117	35	-	2,152	2,286	9	-	41	2,336	
Community & Partnerships	727	(7)	-	720	623	-	92	-	715	
Public Protection Unit	134	(2)	-	132	130	-	-	-	130	
Environmental Health	209	-	-	209	194	-	-	-	194	
Licensing & Enforcement	60	5	-	65	86	-	-	-	86	
Housing	192	200	-	392	372	-	607	(46)	933	
Business Directorate										
Building Control	(10)	-	-	(10)	(3)	-	-	-	(3)	
Planning	297	-	-	297	239	-	-	135	374	
Regeneration	373	3	-	376	339	-	-	201	540	
Property Services	791	(33)	-	758	826	(172)	4,588	(96)	5,146	
Corporate Management										
Corporate Management	452	-	-	452	327	-	-	(70)	257	
Legal Services	194	-	-	194	139	-	-	-	139	
Local Land Charges	(22)	-	-	(22)	(15)	-	-	-	(15)	
Democratic Services	569	-	-	569	575	-	-	(22)	553	
Financial Services	499	-	-	499	498	-	-	-	498	
People and Policy	522	-	-	522	446	-	-	-	446	
Non-distributed Costs	1,017	-	-	1,017	1,009	-	-	(316)	693	
Capital Financing & Interest	351	(200)	-	151	533	(56)	-	(477)	-	
Cost of Services	9,932	-	-	9,932	10,061	(219)	5,287	(819)	14,310	
Whitworth Town Council Precept	60	-	-	60	60	-	-	-	60	
Other Operating (Income)/Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,685)	-	(3,685)	
Financing, Pensions & Investments	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	1,679	1,735	
Trading Undertakings	-	-	-	-	-	163	-	-	163	
Precept on the Collection Fund	(5,651)	-	-	(5,651)	(5,645)	-	-	-	(5,645)	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - prior yr surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Coll Fund
Collection Fund - current yr surplus	-	-	-	-	(66)	-	-	-	(66)	
Rate Support Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Non-service Government Grants	-	-	-	-	(2,173)	-	-	-	(2,173)	7
Non-Domestic Rates	(2,144)	-	-	(2,144)	(2,572)	-	-	-	(2,572)	6
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	2,197	-	-	2,197	(335)	-	1,602	860	2,127	

- Depreciation and Capital Charges included in the Budgets are presented differently in the CIES.
 - Depreciation is included within service budgets and the CIES to present a true cost of running services. However, it is removed in the Capital Financing section of the Budget as it is not a cost to the Council Tax payer. The statutory accounts show this removal in the Movement in Reserves (MiRs), not the CIES, see Note 13.
 - Conversely, the MRP charge is included in the budgets as a cost to the tax payers of the borough, but it is excluded from the CIES and then added back in the MiRs at Note 13.
 - Capital costs on non-Council assets, such as Disabled Facilities Grants and the Empty Homes Scheme, are not a part of the revenue General Fund Budget, but have to be included in the CIES, along with their respective grant funding resources. Again, these items are removed through the MiRs.
- Pension Fund accounting entries are explained in further detail at Note 33, but essentially the Budget is set on a cash basis, whereas in the CIES the Cost of Services is reduced to just the cost of staff employed within the year. The other gains and losses on pension fund assets and liabilities are added in as Financing and Investments items. Adjustments in the Movement in Reserves bring the net cost back to the cash basis.

Core Financial Statements

Note 2 Expenditure & Funding Statement

In accordance with the 2019/20 Code this Expenditure and Funding Statement shows the nature of the Council's costs and its sources of income. This table is also used to produce the charts in the Narrative Report on page 17.

Expenditure and Funding Statement	2018/19					2019/20				
	Operational Directorates Economic					Operational Directorates Economic				
	Communities £000s	Develop £000s	Corporate £000s	Other £000s	Total £000s	Communities £000s	Develop £000s	Corporate £000s	Other £000s	Total £000s
Employees	3,324	952	1,548	20	5,844	3,351	942	2,489	18	6,800
Pension Adjustments	-	-	632	-	632	-	-	(303)	3,473	3,170
Premises	558	1,045	7	293	1,903	604	679	15	357	1,655
Transport	571	16	7	-	594	592	15	7	-	614
Housing Benefits	17,696	-	-	-	17,696	14,855	-	-	-	14,855
Other Service Expenses	3,714	846	748	21	5,329	4,060	1,116	797	20	5,993
Depreciation, Impairments etc	537	715	-	303	1,555	660	4,699	-	87	5,446
Interest Payments	-	-	-	138	138	-	-	-	144	144
Precepts & Levies	-	-	-	61	61	-	-	-	60	60
Expenditure	26,400	3,574	2,942	836	33,752	24,122	7,451	3,005	4,159	38,737
Government Grants	(19,325)	(46)	(24)	(1,840)	(21,235)	(16,493)	(334)	(107)	(2,173)	(19,107)
Other Grants & Contributions	(164)	(768)	(27)	-	(959)	(68)	(234)	-	-	(302)
Pension Adjustments	-	-	-	723	723	-	-	-	(1,794)	(1,794)
Customer & Client Receipts	(2,045)	(760)	(110)	(309)	(3,224)	(1,879)	(826)	(327)	(320)	(3,352)
Interest Receipts	-	-	-	(66)	(66)	-	-	-	(88)	(88)
Receipts from sale of Assets	-	-	-	(2,098)	(2,098)	-	-	-	(3,685)	(3,685)
Council Tax & Business Rates	-	-	-	(8,052)	(8,052)	-	-	-	(8,283)	(8,283)
Income	(21,534)	(1,574)	(161)	(11,642)	(34,911)	(18,440)	(1,394)	(434)	(16,343)	(36,611)
CIES (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	4,866	2,000	2,781	(10,806)	(1,159)	5,682	6,057	2,571	(12,184)	2,126

Note 3 Long-term Contracts

In December 2019 the Council finalised the negotiation of a new 10 Year Contract (November 2019 – October 2029) with Capita Business Services Limited. This was for the provision of Revenues, Benefits and Customer Contact Services. The prior contract finished in October 2019. The total value of the new 10 Year Contract is £8,991,616. In year one November 2019 – October 2020 the contract value will be £1,158,924. In 2019/20 the contract value incurred was £1,184k (£1,151k in 2018/19). This was slightly less than the anticipated for the full-year contract value projected at the end of 2018/19 of £1,213k. However, during 2019/20 there were one-off implementation costs associated with the new contract of £48k, resulting in a total annual cost of £1,232k.

Note 4 Acquired and Discontinued Operations

The Council has not acquired any operations during either 2019/20 or during the comparator year 2018/19.



Core Financial Statements

Note 5 Trading Operations

The Council operates 3 markets in Haslingden, Bacup and Rawtenstall, which between them ensure that there is at least one market open within the borough every day of the week from Tuesday to Saturday.

The Council has 29 industrial trading units, promoting economic regeneration across the borough.

Business Offices include a small number of high-tech managed office spaces as well as conference and meeting facilities at the Business Centre, Futures Park, Bacup. Upon the sale of the shares in Rossendale Transport Ltd in January 2018, the Knowsley Road depot building was added to the Business Office Facilities shown below.

Trading Operations	Net Expend/ (Income) 2018/19 £000s	Gross Expend 2019/20 £000s	Income 2019/20 £000s	Net Expend/ (Income) 2019/20 £000s	Note
Markets	37	152	(68)	84	14b
Industrial Units	(126)	115	(201)	(86)	14b
Business Office Facilities	219	216	(51)	165	14b
Total Trading Accounts	130	483	(320)	163	

Note 6 Retained Business Rates

In April 2013 Local Government funding changed with the introduction of a system of locally retained business rates. Rossendale Council now has a direct stake in the business rates collected within the borough and at Full Council in February the Council sets a precept based on 40% of the business rates forecast to be collected within the Borough, from which it pays a tariff to Central Government.

The Lancashire Business Rates Pool, of which Rossendale Borough Council is a member, came into effect on 1st April 2016. Under the Pool arrangements, the first 50% of business rates continue to go to Central Government, 9% goes to Lancashire County Council and 1% goes to Lancashire Fire Authority, with Rossendale Borough Council taking the remaining 40%. From that 40% Rossendale continues to pay a Tariff to the Pool. As a result, Rossendale Borough Council retains 90% of any and all surplus or deficit arising from increases in the overall business rates which led to a retained surplus of £1,200k in 2018/19. Added to this, Rossendale Borough Council benefits from 100% of the business rates from renewable energy installations, valued at £168k in 2019/20 compared to £163k in 2018/19.

In 2019/20 the Lancashire Pool was allowed to participate in a one-year 75% local retention pilot. This essentially means that the 40% in 2018/19 above became 56% in 2019/20.

Business Rates Income & Expenditure	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Business Rates collected within Rossendale	14,784	12,909	Coll Fund
Less Provision for bad debts & appeals	87	(106)	Coll Fund
Cost of Collection	(99)	(97)	Coll Fund
Net Business Rates Collected	14,772	12,706	Coll Fund
Rossendale Borough Council Business Rates Precept	5,909	8,603	
Rossendale Borough Council Renewable Energy Collections	163	168	
Less Lancashire Business Rates Pool Tariff	(2,610)	(4,596)	
Comprehensive Income/Expenditure - Retained Business Rates	3,462	4,175	CIES
Budgeted share of Business Rates after tariff (based on former central government settlement principles)	2,097	2,145	Narr Report
Surplus for Retained Business Rates under the new regime	(1,365)	(2,030)	Narr Report

Core Financial Statements

Note 7 Grant Income

The Council recognised the following significant grants, contributions and donations during 2019/20:

Grants and contributions received	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Credited to Cost of Services			
DWP - Housing Benefits - paid to claimants	17,502	14,696	
DWP - Housing Benefits - re Council Tenents	-	42	
DWP - Discretionary Housing Payments	120	89	
DWP - Housing Benefits - administration grant	208	189	
DWP - Local Council Tax Support grant	95	92	
DWP - Council Tax PY Clawback	-	13	
DWP - Resource Management - Service Assurance Team	-	92	
DWP - Implementation of Universal Credit	15	-	
MHCLG - Flexible Homeslessness and Prevention Grant	92	90	
MHCLG - New Burdens Grants	83	-	
MHCLG - Custom Build Grant	30	-	
MHCLG - Business Rates Collection Grant	98	97	
MHCLG - Localising Council Tax administration subsidy	95	-	
MHCLG - Flood Relief & Flood Resilience	286	105	
MHCLG - Town centre clean up and playarea improvement	48	68	
MHCLG - Future High Street Fund - Development	-	150	
PCC - Rogue Landlord Grant	18	20	
Cabinet Office - Individual Electoral Registration	27	25	
LCC - Domestic Abuse Grant	50	90	
Heritage Lottery - Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative	45	55	
Contributions from developers under S106 agreements	13	96	
Other minor grants and contributions	63	251	
	18,888	16,260	
Credited to Cost of Services for REffCUS			
LCC Better Care Fund - Disabled Adaptations Grant	1,064	1,753	31c
Heritage Lottery - Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative	402	69	
Heritage Lottery - Whitaker Park Museum - Refurb	-	41	
Heritage Lottery - Stubbylee Resilience	-	10	
Heritage Lottery - Whitaker Park Museum - Phase 2	-	30	
Heritage Lottery - Haslingden 2040	-	9	
LEF Grants	-	34	
Misc Contributions	-	12	
	1,466	1,958	
Total in the CIES Cost of Services	20,354	18,218	
Credited to Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income			
Revenue Support Grant	172	-	
MHCLG - New Homes Bonus	684	485	
MHCLG - Business Rates - Small Business Reliefs	984	1,688	
Non-Specific Grants in the CIES	1,840	2,173	



Core Financial Statements

Note 8 Members Allowances

An Independent Remuneration Panel meet at a minimum of every 4 years to review Member's Allowances. This group last met in June 2014, but in light of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy position, Council members voted to defer the proposed increase in allowances.

Total Cost of Elected Members	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s
Basic Allowance	119	120
Special Responsibility Allowance	70	70
Employers National Insurance incurred	3	3
Mileage, subsistence & other reimbursements	1	1
	193	194

The Council's committee structure last underwent a full review in 2013/14 year and the basic and special responsibility allowances paid to members were as follows:-

Annual amounts payable for elected roles	2018/19 £s	2019/20 £s
Basic Allowance	3,342	3,342
Special Responsibility Allowances		
Leader of Majority or Largest Group	13,368	13,368
Deputy Leader of Majority or Largest Group	10,026	10,026
Leader of Minority or Second Largest Group	6,684	6,684
Cabinet Members	6,684	6,684
All Committee Chairs (4)	3,342	3,342
One off Payment for Chairing Meetings	-	150

Note 9 Senior Officers' Remuneration

The table below shows remuneration details for the Chief Executive and the Senior Officers directly responsible to him, along with their respective salary (including fees and allowances), employer's pension contributions and total remuneration during 2019/20, along with prior year comparators.

During 2019/20 the Council's senior management team has been through several changes. The new Senior Management Team, in place at the very end of the year, can be seen in the Narrative Report on page 13. Between January and March 2020 the Council enlisted assistance from Rossendale Leisure Trust to cover the Head of Finance statutory role on an interim basis. The total cost of that support was £21.7k paid to Rossendale Leisure Trust.

Senior Officers			Salary £	Other Allowances & Expenses £	Election Duties £	Pension £	Total £
Chief	To 30/09/19	2019/20	51,421	458	-	8,022	59,901
Executive	From 02/01/20	2019/20	25,434	-	-	3,968	29,402
		2018/19	100,825	694	2,326	15,729	119,573
Director of Economic Development		2019/20	75,642	131	-	12,068	87,841
		2018/19	70,887	-	-	11,058	81,945
Director of Communities	To 05/05/19	2019/20	7,427	179	-	1,182	8,788
	From 23/03/20	2019/20	-	-	-	-	-
		2018/19	75,319	528	-	11,662	87,509
Head of Finance	To 17/01/20	2019/20	55,991	111	-	8,735	64,837
	From 23/03/20	2019/20	-	-	-	-	-
		2018/19	62,169	114	-	9,698	71,981
Legal Services Manager		2019/20	50,408	47	-	7,864	58,318
		2018/19	48,439	59	359	7,557	56,414
HR Manager		2019/20	50,408	615	-	7,864	58,887
		2018/19	48,439	200	-	7,557	56,196

Core Financial Statements

Note 10 Other Officers' Remuneration

The number of employees whose remuneration, excluding pension contributions, was £50,000 or more are listed in the table opposite in bands of £5,000.

The Code includes a requirement to disclose the costs of exit packages paid by the Council in bands of £20k. The Council has paid no exit packages, in either 2018/19 or 2019/20.

Officers with remuneration above £50,000 (excl pension)	2018/19 Number	2019/20 Number
£50,000 - £54,999	-	3
£55,000 - £59,999	-	2
£60,000 - £64,999	1	-
£65,000 - £69,999	-	-
£70,000 - £74,999	1	-
£75,000 - £79,999	1	1
£100,000 - £104,999	1	-
	4	6

Note 11 Related Parties

A related party transaction is the transfer of assets or liabilities or the performance of services by, to or for a related party, irrespective of whether a charge is made. Most transactions involving related parties to the council are disclosed elsewhere within the Financial Statements as follows:

Central government

- receipts from Central Government – see Notes 7, 30 and 31c.

Other local authorities and precepting bodies

- payments to the Lancashire County Council Pension Fund– see Note 33.
- precepts in relation to Council Tax and Business Rates are paid to Central Government, Lancashire Police Authority, Lancashire Fire Authority, Lancashire County Council and from 1st April 2016 the Lancashire Business Rates Pool – see Note 6 and the Collection Fund.
- precept payable to Whitworth Town Council – see the Narrative Statement and the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

Subsidiary and associated companies

- In January 2018 the Council sold all of its shares in Rossendale Transport Ltd which was, until this point, a wholly owned subsidiary.

Other key partners

- In June 2004 the bulk of Rossendale's Leisure Facilities transferred to the management of the newly-formed independent Rossendale Leisure Trust.
 - In previous years the Council has given the Trust an operational grant. However, as explained in the Narrative Report and Note 34, the Council purchased the balance of the Haslingden Gym extension loan in November 2016 at a cost of £1,010k. The Trust now pays a rental charge for using the asset of £60k per annum for its remaining 16 year life. This represents a saving for the Trust which will negated the need for any grant funding from 2017/18 onwards.
 - In 2007/08 the Trust was given a £65k loan, originally for a period of 5 years which is shown as a Long Term Debtor in the Council's Balance Sheet. A further £18k was added to this loan during 2009/10. The value outstanding at the end of 2019/20 was £33k, as shown in Note 19.
 - During 2019/20 the operational inter-company cash balance has been cleared within each calendar month, with the exception of March 2020 when the Covid-19 pandemic led to the facilities being closed. The £55k balance at 31st March 2020 has been netted off against the £70k investment deposit held for the Trust and placed in the Council's higher-interest earning bank account. The net £15k credit is shown with the Council's Sundry Trade Creditors in Note 27.

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- Both the cash-flow loan and the £65k 5-years loan to the Trust are considered soft loans because interest payments totalling £5k were waived in each year.
- In previous years the Council provided a guarantee on a lease taken out by the Trust in 2008/09 for the extension to Haslingden Sports Centre. The Council purchased the balance of this lease in November 2016, and this is now included in the Council's assets at Notes 14, 17a and 34.
- To assist the Trust in its efforts to find operational efficiencies, the Council began to provide its professional financial and IT services in April 2013 under a service level agreement. No charge is made for these services.
- During 2019/20 the Council supported the Trust in the refurbishment of the gym facilities and equipment at Haslingden. The cost was £255k and this included capital expenditure in Note 17b and the additions in Note 14a.
- Community Leisure Association of Whitworth (CLAW) is a separate charitable organisation operating Whitworth Swimming Pool and Whitworth Civic Hall, for which they received £56k towards running costs in 2019/20 (£60k in 2018/19).
 - The Council has been providing payroll services for CLAW for some years on an agency basis, with the payments being reimbursed each month to the Council.
 - During 2019/20 the Council also began to provide accountancy services at nil charge to support the organisation. The inter-company cash balance at 31st March 2020 stood at £285k, less the value of the grant above. The net £230k is shown within Sundry Trade Debtors on Note 23. This amount is more than covered by the CLAW bank account balances at the year-end.
- The RTB Partnership Ltd was incorporated on the 4th February 2013, with equal partners being Rossendale Borough Council, Together Housing and Barnfield Construction Ltd. The Partnership is a vehicle to facilitate a variety of development projects across the borough and the Council contributed £47k during 2018/19 to the partnership as loans, but has not provided anything further during 2019/20.

Members and Chief Officers

The Council's Standing Orders make provision for a register of Members and Officers interests and also require members who believe they have a prejudicial interest in a matter to be discussed at a Council or Committee meeting to declare that interest at the meeting and, in general, to withdraw from the meeting while that particular matter is being discussed.

Upon review of this register it is considered that any transactions involving Members and Chief Officers with related parties have complied with the above regulations and are not material.

Note 12 External Audit Costs

The sums due from Rossendale Borough Council to the external auditors for works carried out relating to the year of account 2019/20 were:-

Audit costs	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s
Fees payable in respect of external audit of accounts	32	35
Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns	8	9
	40	44

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Note 13 Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made in the Movement in Reserves Statement to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

The table below details the changes in 2019/20 while the financial year 2018/19 can be found on the opposite page.

Adjustments to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the Movement in Reserves Statement	2019/20				Note
	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Govt Grants Unapplied	Unuseable Reserves	
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Capital Adjustment Account adjustments					
Depreciation of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	934	-	-	(934)	14, 15, 32a, 32b
Impairment of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	106	-	-	(106)	14, 15, 32a, 32b
Revaluation gain/loss on Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)	4,185	-	-	(4,185)	14, 15, 32a, 33b
Deferred Capital Receipts	184	-	-	(184)	32c
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	16	-	-	(16)	14 & 32b
Revenue Expend funded from Capital under Statute (REFFCUS)	1,137	-	-	(1,137)	17a & 32b
REFFCUS for Empty Homes Scheme	(195)	-	-	195	17a & 32b
Net book value of assets sold	245	-	-	(245)	14, 15, 26, 32a, 32b
Statutory provisions for financing of capital investment (MRP)	(539)	-	-	539	17a & 32b
Capital Expend charged to General Fund	(528)	-	-	528	17a & 32b
Capital Expend charged to General Fund Empty Homes	109	-	-	(109)	17a & 32b
Capital Receipts Reserve adjustments					
Transfer of cash proceeds of assets sold	(694)	694	-	-	31b
Other Income	(3,061)	3,061	-	-	31b
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to fund capital spend	-	(3,489)	-	3,489	17a, 31b, 32b
Capital Grants Unapplied Account adjustments					
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES	(299)	-	299	-	17a & 31c
Application of grants to the Capital Adjustment Account (CAA)	(785)	-	-	785	17a & 32b
Application of grants to the CAA Empty Homes Scheme	-	-	-	-	17a & 32b
Pensions Reserve adjustments					
Employer contributions paid to the Pension Fund	(1,673)	-	-	1,673	33f
Net IAS19 charges made for retirement benefits	3,036	-	-	(3,036)	33f
Collection Fund Adjustment Account adjustments					
Difference between the Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income credited to the CIES and that calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	422	-	-	(422)	31a & CF2
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	2,600	266	299	(3,165)	

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Adjustments to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the Movement in Reserves Statement	2018/19				Note
	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Govt Grants Unapplied	Unuseable Reserves	
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Capital Adjustment Account adjustments					
Depreciation of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	1,141	-	-	(1,141)	14,15,32a,32b
Impairment of Property, Plant & Equipment (PPE)	168	-	-	(168)	14,15,32a,32b
Revaluation gain/loss on Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)	608	-	-	(608)	14,15,32a,33b
Deferred Capital Receipts	210	2	-	(212)	32c
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	41	-	-	(41)	14 & 32b
Revenue Expend funded from Capital under Statute (REFFCUS)	1,927	-	-	(1,927)	17a & 32b
REFFCUS for Empty Homes Scheme	(290)	-	-	290	17a & 32b
Net book value of assets sold	26	-	-	(26)	14,15,26,32a,32b
Statutory provisions for financing of capital investment (MRP)	(1,271)	-	-	1,271	17a & 32b
Capital Expend charged to General Fund	(149)	-	-	149	17a & 32b
Capital Expend charged to General Fund Empty Homes	153	-	-	(153)	17a & 32b
Capital Receipts Reserve adjustments					
Transfer of cash proceeds of assets sold	(150)	150	-	-	31b
Other Income	(1,813)	1,813	-	-	31b
Use of Capital Receipts to fund capital spend	-	(1,976)	-	1,976	17a,31b,32b
Capital Grants Unapplied Account adjustments					
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES	(56)	-	56	-	17a & 31c
Application of grants to the Capital Adjustment Account	(1,346)	-	-	1,346	17a & 32b
Application of grants to the Capital Adjustment Account	-	-	-	-	17a & 32b
Pensions Reserve adjustments					
Employer contributions to the Pension Fund	(1,708)	-	-	1,708	33f
Net IAS19 charges made for retirement benefits	1,992	-	-	(1,992)	33f
Collection Fund Adjustment Account adjustments					
Difference between the Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income credited to the CIES and that calculated in accordance with statutory requirements	(635)	-	-	635	31a & CF2
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	(1,152)	(11)	56	1,107	

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Note 14 Property, Plant and Equipment

14a Movements during the year

Movements on property, plant & equipment assets in 2019/20 were as follows:-

Property, Plant & Equipment 2019/20	Land & Buildings £000s	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equip £000s	Infra- structure Assets £000s	Community Assets £000s	Assets under constr'n £000s	Surplus Assets £000s	Total Assets £000s	Heritage Assets £000s	Note
Cost or Valuation 1st April 2019	27,371	6,685	253	999	6,062	519	41,889	2,185	
Additions	3,021	917	13	186	2,879	-	7,016	-	17a
Revaluation increases/(decreases) to Revaluation Reserve	617	-	-	-	-	142	759	255	32a
to Provision of Services	(3,710)	-	-	(6)	-	124	(3,592)	-	13, 32b
Reclassifications- to/from Assets Held for Sale others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
	5,263	6	-	-	(5,263)	-	6	-	
Derecognition- on disposal	-	(449)	-	-	-	-	(449)	-	13, 32b
Cost or Valuation 31st March 2020	32,562	7,159	266	1,179	3,678	785	45,629	2,440	
Accum Depreciation and Impairments 1st April 2019	(9,617)	(5,267)	(149)	(330)	(516)	(129)	(16,008)	(33)	
Depreciation for the year- to Revaluation Reserve	(72)	-	-	(1)	-	-	(73)	(1)	13, 32a
to Provision of Services	(183)	(519)	(9)	(55)	(6)	(1)	(773)	(1)	13, 32b
Impairment (losses)/reversals to Revaluation Reserve	(68)	-	-	-	-	-	(68)	-	13, 32a
to Provision of Services	-	(11)	(13)	-	7	-	(17)	-	13, 32b
Reclassifications	(52)	-	-	-	52	-	-	-	
Derecognition- on disposal	-	401	-	-	-	-	401	-	13, 32b
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments 31st March 2020	(9,992)	(5,396)	(171)	(386)	(463)	(130)	(16,538)	(35)	
Net Book Value at 31 st March 2020	22,570	1,763	95	793	3,215	655	29,091	2,405	
Net Book Value at 31 st March 2019	17,754	1,418	104	669	5,546	390	25,881	2,152	

Depreciation, using the straight line method, has been charged according to the estimated life of the assets involved on the following basis.

- Operational buildings generally have a useful life of 40 years, except where expert opinion has reduced this estimate. The land upon which the buildings reside is not subject to depreciation.
- Vehicles are depreciated over a useful life of 3-7 years depending upon their technical or mechanical nature.
- Equipment such as refuse bins, are depreciated over their individual useful life determined at the point of acquisition.
- All other assets under land, assets under construction, community assets, investment and surplus assets are not depreciated.

Component accounting is applied to all revaluation exercises on the following basis.

- For all property assets, land and buildings are valued separately. Only assets with a combined land and buildings value of £500k and over will be subject to component accounting.
- Significant components are items (or groups of items) with a value of at least 25% of the total asset value.

Fair Value Hierarchy – Surplus Assets

- Surplus assets comprise land from which the Council does not provide services. The Council has determined all of its surplus assets are valued at level 2 inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly at 31 March 2019 and 2020. There were no transfers between levels during 2019/20.

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Comparator movements in 2018/19 were as follows:

Property, Plant & Equipment 2018/19	Land & Buildings £000s	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equip £000s	Infra- structure Assets £000s	Community Assets £000s	Assets under constr'n £000s	Surplus Assets £000s	Total Assets £000s	Heritage Assets £000s	Note
Cost or Valuation 1st April 2018	29,632	6,384	253	941	4,591	519	39,719	2,185	
Additions	681	582	-	58	1,471	-	3,845	-	17a
Revaluation increases/(decreases) to Revaluation Reserve	1,083	-	-	-	-	-	229	-	32a
to Provision of Services	(1,069)	-	-	-	-	-	(667)	-	13, 32b
Reclassifications- to/from Assets Held for Sale	(2,890)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
others	(66)	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Derecognition- on disposal	-	(347)	-	-	-	-	(107)	-	13, 32b
Cost or Valuation 31st March 2019	27,371	6,685	253	999	6,062	519	43,019	2,185	
Accum Depreciation and Impairments 1st April 2017	(9,158)	(4,974)	(140)	(267)	(516)	(129)	(13,426)	(31)	
Depreciation for the year- to Revaluation Reserve	(157)	-	-	(1)	-	-	(104)	-	13, 32a
to Provision of Services	(227)	(584)	(9)	(3)	-	-	(805)	(2)	13, 32b
Impairment (losses)/reversals to Revaluation Reserve	(45)	-	-	-	-	-	(314)	-	13, 32a
to Provision of Services	(60)	-	-	(59)	-	-	(610)	-	13, 32b
Reclassifications	30	(30)	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Derecognition- on disposal	-	321	-	-	-	-	74	-	13, 32b
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments 31st March 2019	(9,617)	(5,267)	(149)	(330)	(516)	(129)	(15,185)	(33)	
Net Book Value at 31 st March 2019	17,754	1,418	104	669	5,546	390	25,881	2,152	

14b Breakdown of buildings owned

The operation of the Ski Slope transferred to a community group during 2011/12 but the property is still owned by the Council and therefore still included here.

A summary of Council Assets	31 st March 2019 No.	31 st March 2020 No.
Administrative Buildings	2	2
Depots and Workshops	5	5
Off-Street Car Parks	51	51
Off-Street Car Parking spaces	1,086	1,090
Sports Centres	1	1
Public Halls	1	1
Swimming Pools	2	2
Museums	1	1
Cemetries	4	4
Parks and recreation grounds	58 hectares	58 hectares
Amenity open spaces	36 hectares	36 hectares
Ski Slope	1	1
Public Conveniences	13	13
Retail & Commercial	3	4
Industrial Units	28	28
Markets	3	3
Community & Youth Centres	3	3
Sheltered accommodation	1	1
Surplus Assets	12	11
Surplus Assets Held for Sale	5	3

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14c Revaluation Programme

The authority operates a five-year rolling programme of revaluation on its General Fund properties. During 2019/20 the valuations were carried out by external RICS-qualified officers from Capita Symonds Ltd, PO BOX 212, Faverdale Industrial Estate, Darlington, DL1 9HN. For details of the basis of valuation please refer to the Accounting Policies. The Net Book Value of assets which underwent a revaluation during 2019/20 was £4,844k and this was after revaluation gains of £1,015k as seen in the Revaluation Reserve (Note 33a) and revaluation losses of £4,185 as seen in the Capital Adjustment Account (Note 33b). Assets valued in previous years have not undergone any material changes which would alter their valuations.

The details below show the history of the revaluation programme and the next planned revaluation exercise for each type of asset held. Under the provisions of the Code assets of a similar type should be revalued together.

Revaluation Programme for assets under Property, Plant & Equipment	Historic Cost £000s	Assets revalued in the year ending					Total Net Book Value £000s	Planned Next Valuation
		March 2016 £000s	March 2017 £000s	March 2018 £000s	March 2019 £000s	March 2020 £000s		
Land	111	-	340	-	3,437	569	4,457	2022/23
Administrative Buildings	-	-	-	10	1,362	450	1,822	2022/23
Depots and Workshops	48	-	62	575	-	-	685	2022/23
Garages	-	307	42	-	-	-	349	2020/21
Car Parks	-	22	2	-	-	1,100	1,124	2023/24
Cemeteries	-	-	449	136	-	-	585	2021/22
Sports & Leisure Facilities	241	-	632	-	7,543	1	8,417	2022/23
Parks, & Recreation Grounds	131	83	465	498	-	254	1,431	2021/22
Woodlands & Open Spaces	41	224	511	90	42	175	1,083	2021/22
Industrial Units	-	-	937	-	-	-	937	2021/22
Domestic Housing	-	88	-	80	-	220	388	2020/21
Business Offices	-	-	-	-	-	778	778	2023/24
Public Conveniences	-	-	47	50	-	10	107	2021/22
Bus Shelters	-	-	-	-	6	1,083	1,089	2023/24
Markets	-	-	-	102	-	-	102	2022/23
Sheltered Accommodation	-	-	-	-	290	-	290	2023/24
Plant, Vehicles & Equipment	1,804	-	-	-	-	-	1,804	n/a
Other Assets	89	79	49	-	7	204	428	various
Assets under construction	3,215	-	-	-	-	-	3,215	2020/21
Net Book Value 31st March 2020	5,680	803	3,536	1,541	12,687	4,844	29,091	

Note 15 Investment Properties

The Council has one piece of land classified as an investment property following the agreement of a long-term lease. The value of the land reflects the rental incomes receivable.

Fair Value Hierarchy – Investment Properties.

The Council has determined that this asset should be valued as a level 2 inputs. The value of the land reflects the rental incomes receivable from 2013/14 onwards.

Investment Properties	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	
Cost or Valuation 1st April	550	550	
Cost or Valuation 31st March	550	550	
Accum Depreciation and impairments 1st April	(11)	-	35b
Impairment losses/(reversals)	11	-	
Accum Depreciation and Impairments 31st March	-	-	
Net Book Value at 31st March	550	550	
Rental income within the year	25	25	

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Note 16 Intangible Assets

Intangible Assets	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
Cost or Valuation 1st April	1056	1,056	
Assets reclassified to/(from) PPE	0	(6)	
Cost or Valuation 31st March	1,056	1,050	
Accum Depreciation 1st April	(968)	(1,006)	
Amortisation for the period	(38)	(16)	15, 32b
Accum Depreciation and Impairments 31st March	(1,006)	(1,022)	
Net Book Value at 31st March	50	28	

The Council accounts for its software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item under Property, Plant and Equipment. At Rossendale Borough Council these intangible assets comprise only purchased licenses as the Council has no internally generated software.

All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the expected benefit to the Council, over which depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis. The default value for the useful life is 5 years and all current assets have been deemed to follow that standard.



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Note 17 Capital Expenditure, Financing and Capitalisation of Borrowing Costs

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below, together with the resources that have been used to finance it. The Council has not acquired any assets under finance leases or PFI schemes which would have been included below).

17a - Capital Expenditure on Council Assets

The Capital Financing Requirements (CFR) is a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Authority that has yet to be financed. This capital expenditure is charged to future years through Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) as assets are used by the Council. Rossendale Borough Council now splits the CFR into two distinct elements; those costs pertaining to the East Lancs Empty Homes Scheme and other capital expenditure. The movement in the CFR during the year is analysed in the second part of this note.

Capital Financing Requirement	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	8,751	11,407	
Non-Empty Homes Opening Capital Financing Requirement	8,008	10,801	
Capital investments			
Property, Plant & Equipment	2,792	7,016	14
Intangible Assets	-	(6)	16
Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	1	1,246	13, 32b
	2,793	8,256	
Sources of Finance			
Capital Receipts	-	(441)	13, 31b
Government Grants and other contributions	-	(3,833)	13, 32b
Sums set aside from Revenue:-			
Direct revenue contributions	-	(528)	13, 32b
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)	657	(539)	13, 32b
Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP)	(657)	-	
Non Empty Homes Closing Capital Financing Requirement	10,801	13,716	32b
Empty Homes Opening Capital Financing Requirement	743	606	
Empty Homes			
Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	153	109	13, 32b
Sources of Finance			
Capital Receipts	(290)	(184)	13, 32b
Government Grants and other contributions	-	-	13, 32b
Sums set aside from Revenue:-			
Direct revenue contributions	-	(184)	13, 32b
Empty Homes Closing Capital Financing Requirement	606	347	32b
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	11,407	14,063	
Explanation of movements in the year -			
Increase in underlying borrowing (net of direct grants and contributions)	2,656	3,195	
Repayments (MRP)	-	(539)	
Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	2,656	2,656	

The capital expenditure shown above is split between Council-owned assets and those owned by third parties. The Council incurs capital expenditure on third party assets through schemes like the Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs), the Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative and the East Lancs Empty Homes Scheme. The distinction is an important one because capital expenditure on assets not owned by the Council is permitted by Statute, but is accounted for as revenue expenditure, along with its respective funding. Hence, in the table above there are details of 'Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute' (REffCuS) and funding from grants and other receipts and contributions, not from MRP.

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17b - Capital Expenditure on Council Assets

The main items of capital expenditure on the Council's own assets during the year were:-

Capital expenditure on Council assets	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s
Museum Refurbishment Project	-	44
Sports & Leisure Facilities	486	269
Playing fields, playgrounds & parks	142	140
Futures Park building works	-	2,676
Rawtenstall Valley Centre/Spinning Point	1,471	2,879
Refuse Vehicles	464	603
Others	232	405
	2,795	7,016

17c - Capital Commitments

The Council operates a rolling 3-year capital programme and in addition to the £7,016k spent on council assets in 2019/20 above, approved capital works of £3,714k were carried forward into 2020/21 onwards, known as slippage. The total amount of slippage carried forwards, including Disabled Facilities Grant REffCUS items not owned by the Council, was £4,896k.

Contract commitments relating to Council assets	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s
Parks & Play Areas - finalising ongoing projects	103	276
Museum Refurbishment Project	-	1,855
Infrastructure, including car parks and signage	4,442	1,583
	4,545	3,714

17d - Capitalisation of Borrowing Costs

The Council has one 25-year loan from the PWLB which was taken out in March 2010 in order to support the impact upon the Council's need to borrow which resulted from investment recommended by the 2009/10 Leisure Review and regeneration projects. Borrowing costs were capitalized up to the Marl Pits facility opening in autumn 2012.

The Council took out a further loan of £2m from the PWLB in August 2019 to facilitate the cash flow requirements of the work to build on Plot 5 of the Futures Park site.

There have been no capitalised payments or receipts in either 2018/19 or 2019/20.

Note 18 Leases

18a - Authority as Lessee

During 2014/15 the Council became directly responsible for the leases of domestic properties under the East Lancashire Empty Homes Scheme which were to be met from future rental incomes. In October 2016 the Council entered into a contract with Calico Housing Ltd to manage these properties on behalf of the Council. Calico now arranges the contracts with tenants, collects the rent and pays the leases over to the property owners. The lease commitments shown below refer solely to the properties which the Council is in the process of returning to the owners at which point all future lease commitments shown below will be extinguished.

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Authority as a Lessee	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s
Lease Payments within the year	438	276
Future minimum lease commitments		
Amounts falling due within 1 year	46	61
Amounts falling due within 2-5 years	311	188
Amounts falling due within 6-10 years	27	-
Total Minimum Lease Payments	384	249

18b - Disclosure by Lessor

The Council has a number of premises that it makes available on an operating lease basis, for lease terms substantially less than the expected lives of the assets. Asset values included within the Balance Sheet and minimum lease income receivable can be seen in Note 5 and were as follows:

Authority as a Lessor	2018/19	2019/20			Total £000s
	Total £000s	Industrial Properties £000s	Leisure Premises £000s	Other Properties £000s	
Gross Value at 31st March	11,355	1,163	10,147	45	11,355
Accumulated Depreciation	(2,326)	(203)	(2,088)	(35)	(2,326)
Net Book Value at 31st March	9,029	960	8,059	10	9,029
Lease Income within the year	(134)	(201)	-	-	(201)

The rental incomes above show a nil return for leisure properties. These are now managed and operated by partners such as Rossendale Leisure Trust and Community Leisure Association Whitworth on a rent-free basis and the Council makes a grant contribution each year to the provision of leisure services across the borough. Grant details can be found in Note 11 on Related Party Transactions.

The assets shown as 'other properties' above have similarly been leased to third parties at peppercorn rents, including the Cherry Crescent Community Centre and the Aged Blind and Disabled Centre.

Note 19 Long-term Debtors

The analysis of the long-term debt outstanding at the balance sheet date is:

Long Term Debtors	Ross'dale Leisure Trust £000s	Rossendale Transport Cash Loan £000s	Mortgage £000s	Empty Homes Loans £000s	Other loans & mortgages £000s	Total £000s	Note
Debt Outstanding 1st April 2018	35	-	-	1,769	104	1,908	20a & 20c
Advances	-	-	-	81	20	101	
Receipts	(1)	-	-	(292)	(26)	(319)	
Provision for Doubtful Debts	34	-	-	1,558	98	1,690	25
	-	-	-	(941)	-	(941)	25
Balance at 31st March 2019	34	-	-	617	98	749	20a & 20c
Debt Outstanding 1st April 2019	34	-	-	1,558	98	1,690	20a & 20c
Advances	-	-	-	10	-	10	
Receipts	(1)	-	-	(206)	(13)	(220)	
Provision for Doubtful Debts	33	-	-	1,362	85	1,480	25
	-	-	-	(1,011)	-	(1,011)	25
Balance at 31st March 2020	33	-	-	351	85	469	20a & 20c

The East Lancs Empty Homes Strategy moved into full operation during 2013/14. Funded by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) in the first instance, this programme saw long-term empty properties across East Lancashire brought back into use. Any renovation costs, shown above as

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advances, are being recouped from property rentals during the life of the lease, shown above as receipts. At the end of the lease these properties revert to their owners.

There have been no Long Term Debts written off during 2018/19 or 2019/20.

Note 20 Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument on another.

The term 'financial instruments' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes both straight forward trade receivables and trade payables as well as complex money-market assets.

Typical financial instruments and their basis of measurement are shown in the table below:

Financial Instruments	Measurement	Rossendale Note
Liabilities		
Trade and other payables (Creditors)	Held at invoice value	Trade payables excluding government and other non-contract creditors
Borrowings	Included at the face value of the loan or bank account	Borrowing can include fixed term loans and bank overdrafts. Rossendale Borough Council has one loan from the PWLB over a period of 25 years commencing March 2010 and another taken out in August 2019 over a 20 year period.
Financial guarantees	Measurement balances guarantee value with the risk of the guarantee being called	The Council has given one financial guarantee, but considers the risk to be so minimal as to render the liability as not material (Note 11)
Assets		
Bank deposits	Any deposit with 365 days or less to run is held at carrying value of the account	The Council's 'Cash at Bank' figure includes a minimal value of cash in hands of officers as well as bank accounts with instant access.
Trade receivables (Debtors)	Held at invoiced amount less an impairment for uncollectable debts	Trade receivables exclude government and other non-contract debts
Loans receivable	Included at the face value of the loan or bank account	Loan deposits can include investments which have fixed terms and fixed interest rates. The Council has issued two loans to Rossendale Leisure Trust (see Note 9). These are considered soft loans because no interest has been charged to the Trust.
Soft Loans	Where material, soft loans are measured using an effective market rate of interest	The Council has no minor soft loans other than the ones to Rossendale Leisure Trust noted above.
Other receivables and advances	Held at the carrying value on the basis on materiality	These are predominantly arrangements made under the Empty Homes Strategy, being repaid from future rental incomes.
Investments	Held at historic cost value	The Council has no financial investments other than bank deposits..

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The Council has assessed the materiality of all its financial instruments and those considered too small to make an adjustment to the carrying value of the original asset or liability included soft loans and other minor investments. (A soft loan is where the Council has lent money at a lower than market rate). The Rossendale Leisure Trust loans were treated as soft loans because no interest was paid in either 2018/19 or 2019/20. The value of interest forgone in relation to these loans was not material.

20a - Categories of Financial Instruments

The categories of financial instruments included within the Balance Sheet and Notes are:-

Categories of Financial Instrument	Long Term		Current		Note
	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	
Cash and cash equivalents					
Receivables	-	-	3,888	7,595	20c, 24
Investments					
Loans and receivables	-	-	6,070	1,070	20c, 24
Unquoted equity investment at cost	2	2	-	-	
Trade Debtors					
Loans and receivables	749	469	952	1,235	19,20c,21b,23
Borrowings					
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(2,760)	(4,476)	(184)	(234)	20c, 28
Trade Creditors					
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	-	-	(2,182)	(2,404)	20c, 30

Local authorities sometimes give financial guarantees that require them to make specified payments to reimburse the holder of a debt if the debtor fails to make payment when due in accordance with the terms of the contract. The Council provided a financial guarantee in respect of Rossendale Leisure Trust and a gym extension at Haslingden Sports Centre.(see Notes 11 & 34), which has been initially recognised at fair value of nil and noted in the Contingent Assets and Liabilities at Note 34.

As explained in Note 11 above, the Council bought out the balance on the above lease in November 2016 at a cost of £1,010k and this has been treated as an investment in the asset already owned by the Council (see Notes 14 and 17a). The Trust will now pay a rental charge for using the asset of £60k per annum for its remaining 14 year life which will offset the MRP charge.

Fair Value Hierarchy of Investments - The investments above were assessed as level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly at 31 March 2019 and 2020.

20b - Financial Instrument Gains/Losses

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

Income & Expenses	2018/19	2019/20		Total £000s
	Total £000s	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost £000s	Loans & Receivables £000s	
Interest payable - revenue	138	143	-	143
Interest income - revenue	(66)	-	(88)	(88)
Net (Gain)/Loss for the year	72	143	(88)	55

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20c - Fair value of assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost

Financial liabilities and assets represented by loans and receivables are carried on the balance sheet at amortised cost. The fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that take place over the remaining life of the instruments, using the following assumptions.

- For loans from the PWLB the fair value was calculated by reference to the premature repayment set of rates in force on 31st March 2019 and 31st March 2020 respectively.
- No early repayment or impairment is recognised.
- Where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months the carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.
- The fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

The fair values are calculated as follows:

	31st March 2019		31st March 2020		Note
	Carrying amount £000s	Fair Value £000s	Carrying Amount £000s	Fair Value £000s	
Borrowings	(2,944)	(3,556)	(4,710)	(5,058)	20a & 28
Short Term Creditors	(2,182)	(2,182)	(2,404)	(2,404)	20a & 30
Total Financial Liabilities	(5,126)	(5,738)	(7,114)	(7,462)	
Investments <1 year	6,070	6,070	1,070	1,070	20a & 24
Long Term Debtors	749	749	469	469	19 & 20a
Short Term Trade Debtors	952	952	1,235	1,235	20a & 23
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,888	3,888	7,595	7,595	20a & 24
Total Financial Assets	11,659	11,659	10,369	10,369	

At March 2020 Rossendale Borough Council had two outstanding PWLB loans. One was taken out in March 2010 for 25 years at a fixed rate of 4.49%, the other was taken out in August 2019 for £2m over 20 years at a fixed interest rate of 1.34%. The premature repayment rate applicable on 31st March 2020 were 2.02% and 2.14% respectively. The figures for fair value above were £3,239k and £1,819k, as supplied by the Council's treasury management advisor, Link Asset Services. For a sensitivity analysis, Link Asset Services have confirmed that similar new loans on the 31st March 2020 at the discount rates above would have reduced the fair value of the loan at the end of 2019/20 by £339k to £4,719k.

The Council's portfolio of treasury management investments does not include any long-term deposits over 365 days. For investments under 365 days the deposit value is taken as a fair approximation of their value.

Short-term debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value.

Note 21 Nature and extent of risks arising from Financial Instruments

Key Risks

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

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

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Overall procedures for Managing Risks

The Council's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and implementing restrictions to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. The procedures for risk management are set out through a legal framework set out in the Local Government Act 2003 and the associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code, the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Investment Guidance issued through the Act. Overall these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

- by formally adopting the requirements of the Code of Practice;
- by approving annually in advance prudential indicators for the following three years limiting:
 - the Council's overall borrowing;
 - it's maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates;
 - it's maximum and minimum exposures of the maturity structure of its debt;
 - it's maximum annual exposures to investments maturing beyond a year.
- by approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year setting out its criteria for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with the government guidance.

These requirements are known as Prudential Indicators and are required to be reported and approved alongside the Council's annual Council Tax budget setting in February, along with the annual Treasury Management Strategy which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Council's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported monthly to Members.

These policies are implemented by the Council's Financial Services staff. The Council maintains written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, and the investment of surplus cash through Treasury Management Practices (TMPs). These TMPs are a requirement of the Code of Practice and are reviewed annually.

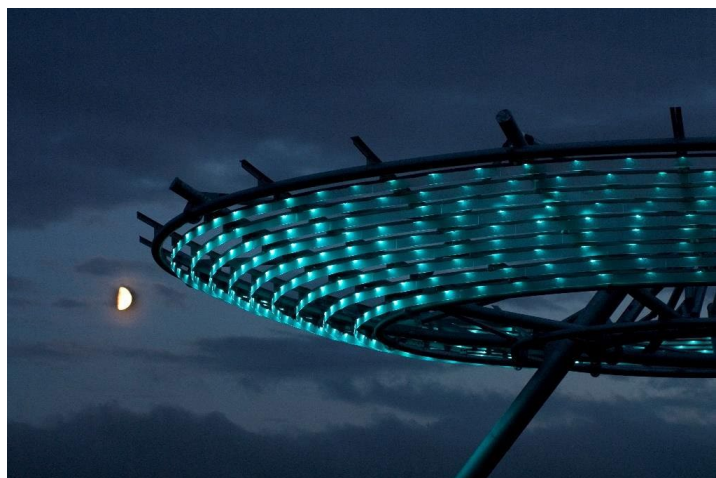
Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, and credit exposures to the Council's customers. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria and limits approved by the Council.

The Council maintains strict criteria for investment counterparties and monitors activity against these criteria. As a result of this high credit criteria there has been no experience of defaults. The Council refers to an approved list of organisations for investment purposes, assessed by the rating agencies, consisting of major banks, building societies and other local authorities. Maturity limits apply for each counterparty category and maximum investment limits also exist per counterparty and per sector.

No breaches of these criteria occurred during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any counterparty in relation to financial deposits.

The following analysis summarises the Authority's potential maximum exposure to credit risk, based on experience of default assessed by the ratings agencies and the Council's experience of its customer collection levels over the last three financial years, adjusted to reflect current market conditions.



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21a Credit Risk

Credit Risk	Actual Amount March 2020 £000s	Historical default £000s	Adjusted for market conditions %	Estimated maximum exposure March 2020 £000s	Estimated maximum exposure March 2019 £000s	Note
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7,595	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	20a,20c,24
Investments - Bank Deposits	1,070	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	20a,20c,24
Investments - Others	2	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	19,20a,20c
Long Term Debtors	469	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	19,20a,20c
Short Term Trade Debtors	1,235	6.60%	7.00%	86	67	20a,20c,23
Total Financial Assets	10,371			86	67	

21b Trade Debtors

The Council does not generally allow credit for its trade debtors. The Council reports the level of trade debts outstanding each quarter in the financial monitoring report to Cabinet, which is available on the website. The balance of Trade Debtors at 31st March 2020 stood at £2,077k (£2,026k at March 2019), of which £1,360k was overdue (£1,387k at March 2019). Against this the Council held a doubtful debt provision of £842k (£841k at March 2019), as shown in the table below.

Short Term Trade Debtors by age	31st March 2019 £000s	31st March 2020 £000s	Note
Not yet past due	406	717	
Less than one month	63	92	
One to Two months	10	6	
Two to three months	9	10	
Three to six months	3	13	
Six months to one year	228	194	
Over one year	1,074	1,045	
Doubtful debts provision	(841)	(842)	
Total Net Trade Debtors	952	1,235	20a,20c,23

Liquidity Risk

The council has ready access to borrowings from the Public Works Loan Board for long term borrowing and the Money Markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow need. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above (the setting and approval of prudential indicators and the approval of the treasury management and investment strategy reports), as well as through cash flow management procedures required by the Code of Practice. The Council's performance in managing its current cash position is reported each month in the financial monitoring reports available on the website.

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The approved prudential indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments of greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk. The approved treasury and investment strategy addresses the main risks and sets the operational parameters should the Council ever need to borrow funds.

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Market Risk

There are three related risks the Council is aware of: interest rate risk, price risk and foreign exchange risk.

Interest Rate Risk

The Council has limited exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Borrowings are carried at fair value on the balance sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and reflected in the General Fund Balance.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The annual Medium Term Financial Strategy draws together the Council's prudential indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. The aim of the prudential indicators is to contain the activity of the treasury function within certain limits reducing the risk or likelihood of an adverse movement in certain interest rates or borrowing decisions that could impact negatively on the Council's overall financial position.

Within this Strategy prudential indicators are set which provide maximum and minimum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The Financial Services staff monitor markets and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposure appropriately. The indicators in force during 2018/19, which were approved along with the Council's annual budget in February 2018, are shown below.

Limits in interest rate exposure	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Max principal sums borrowed > 364 days	£4.5m	£9.5m	£9.0m	£9.0m
Borrowing limits on Fixed Interest Rates	100%	100%	100%	100%
Borrowing limits on Variable Interest Rates	0%	0%	0%	0%
Max sums invested > 364 days	£0m	£0m	£0m	£0m
Max sums invested with single body	£5m/50%	£5m/50%	£8m/50%	£8m/50%
Max sums invested with any group	£10m	£10m	£10m	£10m

If all lending interest rates had been 1% higher, with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would only impact on the interest receivable on variable rate investments by an extra £126k. All other interest payable and receivable is fixed.

Price Risk

The Council, excluding the pension fund, does not generally invest in instruments with this type of risk.

Foreign exchange risk

Local custom and practice is not to engage in foreign currency trade or deal with foreign financial institutions. The Council, therefore, has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

Note 22 Inventories

The total value of stocks at 31 March 2020 was £21k (£40k at 31st March 2019), representing fuel, vehicle maintenance spares, trade waste bins and refuse sacks. These are valued at cost due to the high turnover nature of the items concerned providing a very close approximation to the current value at the Balance Sheet date.

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Note 23 Debtors

The short-term debtors here are net of provisions for bad and doubtful debts - see Note 25 below.

Debtors (net of any provisions for bad or doubtful debts)	31 st March	31 st March	Note
	2019	2020	
	£000s	£000s	
Central Government Bodies	1,313	749	2
Other Local Authorities	1,277	1,708	
Other entities and individuals			
Council Tax	318	330	CF6, CF5
Retained Business Rates	86	183	CF6, CF5
Advance Payments	640	349	
Sundry Trade Debtors	952	1,223	23, 25
	1,996	2,085	
Net Balance at 31st March	4,586	4,542	

Note 24 Short-term Investments, Cash and Cash Equivalents

Short Term Investments and Cash & Cash Equivalents	31 st March	31 st March	Note
	2019	2020	
	£000s	£000s	
Bank Deposits - access under 3 months	4,570	1,070	
Bank Deposits - access 3 to 6 months	-	-	
Bank Deposits - access 6 to 12 months	1,500	-	
Other Local Authorities - access less than 3 months	-	-	
Short-term Investments at 31st March	6,070	1,070	20a & 20c
Bank Deposits - instant access	3,887	7,594	
Cash in Hands of Officers	1	1	
Cash and cash equivalents at 31st March	3,888	7,595	20a,20c,35b

Note 25 Impairment Losses

Impairment losses/(reversals) on property, plant and equipment, investment properties and intangible assets are disclosed in Note 17 and 18 respectively.

The Council also makes provision for the impairment of long-term and short-term debtors, as shown in Notes 19 and 23, based on historical default experience adjusted for the current market conditions as disclosed in Note 20.

The table below shows a large provision for doubtful long-term debts. This is in relation to the East Lancs Empty Homes Scheme and represents the balance of the renovation loans at 31st March 2019 on properties which are expected to be returned to owners early.

Impairment Losses (see Notes 20 & 24)	Long Term Debts	Council Tax	Business Rates	Sundry Debts	Total Current Debts	Note
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Balance at 1st April 2018	(941)	(477)	(401)	(1,949)	(2,827)	
Provisions Made	-	(70)	(91)	(132)	(293)	
Provisions Utilised	-	57	46	118	221	
Balance at 31st March 2019	(941)	(490)	(446)	(1,963)	(2,899)	19 & 23
Provisions Made	(70)	-	(215)	(73)	(288)	
Provisions Utilised	-	11	-	65	76	
Balance at 31st March 2020	(1,011)	(479)	(661)	(1,971)	(3,111)	19 & 23
Debt outstanding 31st March 2020	1,480	809	844	3,194	4,847	19 & 23
Debt outstanding 31st March 2019	1,690	808	532	2,915	4,255	19 & 23

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Note 26 Assets Held for Sale

Current Assets held for sale	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Balance at 1st April	48	2,938	
Assets reclassified to/(from) PPE	2,890	-	14
Revaluation gains/(losses) to the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	32b
Depreciation for the year- to Provision of Services	-	(1)	
Write out NBV of Assets sold - from Revaluation Reserve	-	(197)	32a
Balance at 31st March	2,938	2,740	

Note 27 Creditors

Creditors	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
Central Government Bodies	2,002	1,959	
Other Local Authorities	196	457	20a, 20c
Bodies external to government			
Advance Receipts: Council Tax	97	86	
Advance Receipts: Retained Business Rates	119	209	
Advance Receipts: Others	335	1,375	20a, 20c
Employee Benefit Expenses	43	56	20a, 20c
Sundry Trade Creditors	1,943	1,891	20a, 20c
Balance at 31st March	4,735	6,033	

Note 28 Borrowing

In March 2010 the Council took out a PWLB loan of £4.6m over a life of 25 years at 4.49% to support the Council's capital spending, including the planned investment resulting from the Leisure Services Review. In August 2019 the Council took out a further loan of £2m over 20 years at 1.34%. See the Financial Instruments Note 20. Repayment of both loans is based on equal instalments of principal.

PWLB Borrowing	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
Repayable in less than 12 months	184	234	
Repayable between 1 and 2 years	184	234	
between 2 and 5 years	552	702	
between 5 and 10 years	920	1,170	
in 10 years or more	1,104	2,370	
Balance at 31st March	2,944	4,710	20a, 20c

Note 29 Provisions

Provisions	31st March 2019 £000s	Provisions		31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
		Made £000s	Utilised £000s		
Stubbylee Park Provision	10	-	-	10	
Facilities Provisions	52	13	(12)	53	
Strategic Housing Provision	149	110	(12)	247	
Corporate Services	307	105	(47)	365	
Other Provisions	61	11	(50)	22	
Short Term Provisions	579	239	(121)	697	
Business Rate Appeals Provision	747	293	-	1,040	CF4
Long Term Provisions	747	293	-	1,040	
Total Provisions	1,326	532	(121)	1,737	

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Note 30 Short-term Grant Receipts in Advance

This account holds the movements between capital grants received and those recognised through the CIES when the grant conditions have been met.

During 2017/18 a new grant of £3,421k was received in advance from Lancashire County Council towards the construction of the new bus station element of the Spinning Point Phase 1 project. The demolition phase was concluded in 2017/18 and renovation of the old Town Hall finished in December 2018. Construction of a new bus station began in January 2019 and the facility was opened in December 2019. The remaining grant shown below is to be used for ground works still ongoing at March 2020.

Short-term Capital Grant Receipts in Advance	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
HCA East Lancs Empty Homes Grant			
Balance Brought forward	200	-	
Grant received/(repaid) in the year	(200)	-	
Amounts recognised into the CIES (conditions met)	-	-	32b
	-	-	
LCC Grant for Spinning Point Phase 1			
Balance Brought forward	3,420	2,920	
Grant received/(repaid) in the year	-	-	
Amounts recognised into the CIES (conditions met)	(500)	(2,879)	32b
	2,920	41	
Balance at 31st March	2,920	41	

Note 31 Usable Reserves

The overall movements in the Council's Usable Reserves can be seen in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Further details on the movements in the individual Earmarked Reserves and Capital Grants Unapplied accounts can be found below, along with greater explanation of the activity on the Usable Capital Receipts Reserve.

Note 31a - Earmarked Reserves

Employment & Transport Reserve – re future investment in transport and employment opportunities.

Pension Fund Reserve – To meet future pension fund liabilities in respect of former housing services.

Economic Regeneration Reserve – Funds such as Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme (LABGIS) grants held for future investment in specific regeneration schemes.

Leisure Reserve – This reserve had been held to meet any potential requirement to underwrite the Balance Sheet of Rossendale Leisure Trust, and the majority was used for this purpose in 2016/17 (see Note 11)

Directorate Investment Reserve – This reserve holds unspent budgets future one-off revenue projects.

Directorate Operational Reserve – This reserve holds funds set aside for ongoing or incomplete revenue projects where there is no contractual obligation but member approval has been granted.

Homelessness Reserve – This reserve holds funds for supporting ongoing and future projects to tackle homelessness within Rossendale.

Vehicle Reserve – To support vehicle maintenance costs and the rolling replacement programme. Contributions were withheld in 2017/18 and 2018/19 when delays in replacing older vehicles meant higher maintenance costs. (see the Narrative Report page 16)

Transitional Reserve – This reserve is to support the Council in its medium-term financial strategy.

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Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative Reserve – This reserve was established in 2013/14 to hold the Council's £400k matched funding resources for this £2.5m scheme which ended during 2019/20.

Individual Registration Reserve – Individual electoral registration implementation began in summer 2014 and this reserve was established to hold grant funds received during 2013/14 to be matched against costs as they arose over the subsequent years. A further £21k was received in 2018/19.

Business Rates Retention Reserve – Following the localisation of non-domestic rates in April 2013, this reserve was established with the additional grant received for Small Business Rate Relief to support any future volatility of this new resource stream. The balance on this reserve will also be required to support the deficit on the Collection Fund Adjustment Account. Under the timings permitted by the Code each year's surplus or deficit will not impact on the CIES until the following year.

Planning Strategy Reserve – This reserve is to cover the costs of public scrutiny associated with reviews of planning strategy in the future.

Tourism Strategy Reserve – Since the Tourism Officer post was disestablished in 2011/12, monies have been set aside to allow the Council to support various events/ activities.

Haslingden Regeneration Reserve – The Council has previously set aside £100k to provide pump-priming funds for the wider regeneration of Haslingden.

Earmarked Reserves	Balance 31 st March 2019	Income & Transfer to Reserves	Transfers between Reserves	Utilised from Reserves	Balance 31 st March 2020	Note
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Employment & Transport	1,072	-	(125)	(131)	816	
Leisure Reserve	64	-	-	-	64	
Directorate Investment	21	53	-	-	74	
Directorate Operational Reserves	324	40	-	(9)	355	
Homelessness	168	24	-	-	192	
TCA - Living Well, Living Better	61	-	-	(31)	30	
Vehicle Repairs & Replacement	230	-	-	(41)	189	
Transitional Reserve	2,320	407	-	(997)	1,730	
Bacup THI	25	-	-	(25)	-	
Individual Registration	52	22	-	-	74	
Business Rates Retention	1,340	2,507	-	(1,207)	2,640	
Planning Strategy	243	18	125	(153)	233	
Tourism Strategy	45	6	-	-	51	
Haslingden Regeneration	52	-	-	(9)	43	
	6,017	3,077	-	(2,603)	6,491	MiR



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Note 31b - Capital Receipts Reserve

These are capital receipts (net of asset values) which have not yet been used to finance capital expenditure or repay debt.

Usable Capital Receipts Reserve	2018/2019	2019/2020	Note
	£000s	£000s	
Balance at 1st April	2,480	2,467	
Capital receipts in year			
Sale of Assets	160	694	13
Other Income	1,813	2,874	13
Capital receipts used to fund capital expend	(1,976)	(3,291)	13,17a,32b
Legal Costs of Sale	(10)	(11)	15
Non Empty Homes sub-total	2,467	2,733	
Empty Homes			
Balance at 1st April	-	2	
Capital receipts in year			
Other income	293	187	13
Capital receipts used to fund capital expend	(291)	(187)	13,17a,32b
Empty Homes sub-total	2	2	
Balance at 31st March	2,469	2,735	

Note 31c - Capital Grants Unapplied Account

Capital grants and other contributions are accounted for on an accruals basis and recognised in the accounting statements when the conditions for their receipt have been complied with. This account holds the balance of grants unapplied at year-end.

Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Balance 31 st March 2019	Grants Received	Grants Applied	Balance 31 st March 2020	Note
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Disabled Facilities Grants	883	1,030	(731)	1,182	7
Homelessness Grants	53	-	-	53	
Domestic Abuse Grant	7	-	-	7	7
Hoarding Project Grant	3	-	-	3	7
	946	1,030	(731)	1,245	MIR



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Note 32 Unusable Reserves

32a Revaluation Reserve

In accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, from 1st April 2007 the Revaluation Reserve contains unrealised revaluation gains, net of depreciation and disposals on that revaluation amount, on a strict per-asset basis. This Reserve is matched by fixed assets within the Balance Sheet. It does not represent resources available to the authority. Accumulated gains arising before the 1st April 2007 were consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

Revaluation Reserve	2018/2019 £000s	2019/2020 £000s	Note
Balance at 1st April	11,233	11,415	
Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation of assets in the year			
Property, Plant & Equipment	384	1,015	17
Value of assets disposed of in the year	-	(163)	15, 28, 35b
Depreciation in the year	(158)	(74)	15,17,18,35b
(Impairments)/Impairment Reversals in the year	(44)	(68)	15 & 17
Balance at 31st March	11,415	12,125	

32b Capital Adjustment Account

In accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice the Capital Adjustment Account provides a balancing mechanism between the different rates at which assets are depreciated under the Code and are financed through the capital controls mechanism.

In the main this account holds the gains on historical revaluations of the assets still held by the Council, depreciated over the life of the assets. It is managed as a total figure, not on a per-asset basis, and does not represent cash resources available to the authority.

Capital Adjustment Account	2018/2019 £000s	2019/2020 £000s	Note
Balance at 1st April	10,910	12,099	
Revenue and Capital Receipts used to finance capital			
Revenue Contributions	149	528	13 & 17
Useable Capital Receipts	1,976	441	13, 17, 31b
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,346	3,833	13 & 17
Losses on Revaluation of assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	(452)	(4,185)	13, 14a
Write off NBV of disposals (net of Revaluation Reserve)	(26)	(82)	13,14,26,32a
Minimum Revenue Provision for repayment of debt	1,271	539	13 & 17
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	(983)	(860)	13,14,15,32a
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(41)	(16)	13 & 16
Impairment of Property, Plant & Equipment assets	(124)	(38)	13 & 14
Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under statute	(1,927)	(1,137)	13 & 17
Non Empty Homes sub-total	12,099	11,122	
Empty Homes			
Balance at 1st April	(743)	(606)	
Revenue and Capital Receipts used to finance capital			
Revenue Contributions	290	184	13 & 17
Useable Capital Receipts	-	-	13, 17, 31b
Minimum Revenue Provision for repayment of debt	-	-	13 & 17
Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under statute	(153)	(109)	13 & 17
Empty Homes sub-total	(606)	(531)	
Balance at 31st March	11,493	10,591	

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32c Deferred Capital Receipts Account

In the past Deferred Capital Receipts held the amounts of mortgages for former council house tenants falling due in future years. The last such mortgage ended in November 2013.

The balance of £1,385k at 31st March 2020 (£1,558k at March 2019) pertains solely to the value of renovation loans on the East Lancs Empty Homes properties and as such it mirrors the loan values shown in the Long Term Debtors at Note 19.

Deferred Capital Receipts Account	31 st March 2019 £000s	31 st March 2020 £000s	Note
East Lancs Empty Homes Scheme Loans			
Balance at 1st April	1,770	1,558	19
New Deferred Receipts	81	11	19
Amounts received	(293)	(184)	20, 31b
Balance at 31st March	1,558	1,385	19

Note 33 Local Government Pension Scheme – a defined benefit scheme

The following note explains the terms and conditions of the retirement benefits of the Council officers and other employees. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the authority has a commitment to make the payments that need to be disclosed at the time that the employees earn their future entitlement.

The authority participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by Lancashire County Council – this is a funded scheme, meaning that the authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets. The Narrative Statement explained that, the scheme underwent a full valuation in March 2019 which was reported in December 2019 and first impacted upon the Council's Pension Scheme Liabilities and Pension Reserve in the Consolidated Balance Sheet as at the 31st March 2020.

As explained in the Narrative Report on page 22, following the previous triennial valuation the Council decided to take the opportunity to pre-pay the employer contributions for the 3 years in order to make some savings. That arrangement ended during 2019/20. However, the Council has determined to make a similar 3-year prepayment in April 2020 for the next 3 years.

Changes to Scheme Valuation and Presentation

In December 2006 the Accounting Standards Board (ASB) made a number of changes to the FRS 17 accounting standard. In the main these related to the presentation of the figures and disclosures below rather than the underlying calculations themselves. However, they did also include a requirement for most assets to be valued at "realisable values" (i.e. bid values), as opposed to the previous requirement of "fair values" (in effect, mid-market values).

Impact of McCloud judgement

The "McCloud judgement" refers to a legal challenge in relation to historic benefit changes for all public sector schemes being age discriminatory. The Government announced in 2019 that this needs to be remedied for all pension schemes. This has been included in the Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 as a past service liability of £708k.

Impact of Covid-19

The pension actuarial valuation and employer contributions were last assessed by the pension actuary as at 31 March 2019. In March 2020 there have been significant falls in equity markets around the world in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has potentially far reaching consequences in terms

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of funding and risk which will need to be kept under review. The Pension Fund view is that it is important to take stock of the situation as opposed to make immediate decisions in what is an unprecedented set of events. The Pension Fund has a risk management framework in place and in particular the investment strategy is reviewed on a regular basis. The Pension Fund view is that employer contributions should not be revisited, but the position should be kept under review by Lancashire County Council as the Administering Authority, who will monitor the development of the situation and keep all stakeholders informed of any potential implications, so that the outcome can be managed effectively.

33a - Present Net Value of Scheme

The underlying assets and liabilities attributable to Rossendale Borough Council at 31st March were:-

Scheme History	2015/16 £000s	2016/17 £000s	2017/18 £000s	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Scheme Liabilities at 31 st March	(80,607)	(100,932)	(98,446)	(105,060)	(96,693)	33b
Scheme Assets at 31 st March	50,854	67,318	68,271	74,960	72,160	33c
Net Scheme Assets/(Liabilities)	(29,753)	(33,614)	(30,175)	(30,100)	(24,533)	

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the authority has in the long-run to pay retirement benefits. The total net liability of £24.5m impacts on the net worth of the authority as recorded in the balance sheet. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the authority remains healthy. The deficit on the local government scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees, as assessed by the scheme actuary.

In his budget statement on 22 June 2010, the Chancellor announced that the government would start to increase public service pensions in line with the consumer price index (CPI) rather than the retail price index (RPI), which had been the practice in the past. As a result, future pension increases under the Lancashire County Pension Fund are expected to be slightly lower, on average, than would have been the case if this change had not been made. The precise financial effect has been taken into account in the IAS19 figures shown in note 33f.

33b - Present Value of Scheme Liabilities

The following table reconciles the opening and closing values of the scheme liabilities.

Scheme Liabilities	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Scheme Liabilities as at 1 st April	98,446	105,060	
Current Service Cost	1,240	1,357	33f
Interest on Pension Liabilities	2,521	2,485	33f
Member Contributions	256	255	
Past Service cost/(gain)	-	965	
Remeasurement of liabilities	5,807	(9,561)	33f
Benefits/transfers paid	(3,210)	(3,868)	
Scheme Liabilities as at 31st March	105,060	96,693	33a

Of the above liabilities there is an unfunded element, for which the value at 31st March 2020 was £1,504k (£2,282k at 31st March 2019).

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33c - Present Value of Scheme Assets

The following table reconciles the opening and closing values of the scheme assets.

Scheme Assets	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Scheme Assets as at 1 st April	68,271	74,960	
Interest on plan assets	1,818	1,794	33f
Remeasurement of assets	6,166	(2,631)	33g
Administration expenses	(20)	(23)	33f
Employer contributions	1,679	1,673	33f
Member contributions	256	255	
Benefits/transfers paid	(3,210)	(3,868)	
Scheme Assets as at 31st March	74,960	72,160	33a & 33d

33d - Major Categories of Scheme Assets

Scheme Assets	31 st March 2019		31 st March 2020		Note
	£000s	%	£000s	%	
Bonds	3,514	4.7%	1,806	2.5%	
Property	6,986	9.3%	1,010	1.4%	
Alternatives	64,023	85.5%	68,551	95.1%	
Cash & Cash equivalents	437	0.6%	793	1.1%	
Total Scheme Assets	74,960		72,160		33c

33e - Scheme Membership

The membership of the scheme was as follows:-

Scheme Membership	31 st March	31 st March
	2019	2020
Active Members	153	151
Deferred Members	240	234
Pensioners	429	427
Spouses / dependents	125	108



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33f - Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account

Authorities recognise the cost of retirement benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge required against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so that the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the in the Movement in Reserves Statement and replaced with the cash paid in the year.

The table below shows transactions within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the corresponding adjustments made in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Reconciliation of the movement in the Pension Fund Reserve	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement			
Net Costs of Services - Current Service Cost	1,240	1,357	33b
Past Service cost/(gain)	-	965	37b
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure			
Interest cost	2,521	2,485	33b
Expected return on assets in the scheme	(1,818)	(1,794)	33c
Administration expenses	20	23	33c
Total post-employment benefit charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	1,963	3,036	
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(9,250)	8,438	33g
Total post-employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(7,287)	11,474	
Movement in Reserves Statement			
Reverse net charges for retirement benefits in accordance with the Code	(1,963)	(3,036)	13 & 33a
Actual charge to the General Fund Balance in the year			
Employer's contributions payable to the scheme	1,679	1,673	13 & 33a

33g – Re-measurement impacts in the Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement

Remeasurement Gains/(Losses)	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Experience gains/(losses)	-	-	
Gains/(losses) on financial assumptions	(3,084)	5,807	
Gains/(losses) on demographic assumptions	-	-	
Remeasurement of Liabilities gains/(losses)	(3,084)	5,807	33b
Remeasurement of Assets gains/(losses)	(6,166)	2,631	33c
Net Actuarial gains/(losses) in current year	(9,250)	8,438	

33h – Actual gains and losses on plan assets

The actual gains measured against experience gains/(losses) in the year can be seen in the following table, along with the relevant percentages of period-end assets and liabilities which these values represent:

Actual Gains/(Losses)	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	£000s	%	£000s	%	
Actual Return on Plan Assets	7,984	10.7%	643	0.9%	

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33i - Actuarial Assumptions

The Borough Council fund liabilities and assets have been assessed by Mercer Human Resource Consulting, an independent firm of actuaries, and their estimates have been based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31st March 2016 which was published in December 2016. The main assumptions used in their calculations at the beginning and end of the year are shown below, with an effective date of 31st March 2020.

The liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc.

Assets in the County Council Pension Fund are valued at fair value, principally market value for investments, and consist of the following categories, by proportion with their expected rates of return at the beginning and end of the year:

Actuarial Assumptions	Beginning of Period %	End of Period %
Duration information as at the end of the accounting period		
Estimated Macaulay duration of liabilities	14 yrs	14 yrs
Duration profile used to determine assumptions	Retired	Retired
Financial Assumptions		
Rate of CPI inflation	2.30%	2.10%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.80%	3.60%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.40%	2.20%
Discount rate	2.40%	2.40%
Post retirement mortality assumptions		
Non-retired members (retiring in the future in normal health)	S2PA CMI_2015_1.5% (98% M, 89% F)	S2PA CMI_2018_1.75% (110% M, 94% F)
Current pensioners (retired in normal health)	S2PA CMI_2015_1.5% (99% M, 93% F)	S2PA CMI_2018_1.75% (103% M, 91% F)
Life expectancy		
of a male (female) future pensioner aged 65 in 20 yrs	25.1 (28.2) yrs	23.8 (26.8) yrs
of a male (female) current pensioner aged 65	22.8 (25.5) yrs	22.3 (25) yrs
Takeup of option to convert annual pension into lump sum at retirement	50% take maximum cash, 50% take 3/80ths cash	
Market value of total fund assets		
	£8,410m	£8,410m
Last actuarial valuation	bid value at	bid value at
31st March 2019	31st March 2019	31st December 2019

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34j – Sensitivity Analysis of Actuarial Assumptions

Under IFRS the assumptions made by the actuary must be submitted to a sensitivity analysis. Below are the main assumptions used by the actuary and the effects on the pension fund accounts if those assumptions changed.

Sensitivity analysis based on assumptions as at 31st March 2020	Central Estimates for 2020/21 £000s	Sensitivity 1	Sensitivity 2	Sensitivity 3	Sensitivity 4	Sensitivity 5	
		+ 0.1% p.a. discount rate	+ 0.1% p.a. inflation	+ 0.1% p.a. salary inflation	+ 1 yr to member's life expect	change in investment returns	
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	+1% £000s	-1% £000s
Liabilities	96,693	95,338	98,068	96,807	99,402	96,693	96,693
Assets	(72,160)	(72,160)	(72,160)	(72,160)	(72,160)	(72,880)	(71,440)
Deficit/(Surplus)	24,533	23,178	25,908	24,647	27,242	23,813	25,253
Projected current service cost	1,224	1,192	1,258	1,224	1,261	1,224	1,224
Projected net interest cost	577	567	611	581	643	559	594
Projected Employer contributions	(1,009)	(1,009)	(1,009)	(1,009)	(1,740)		(1,009)

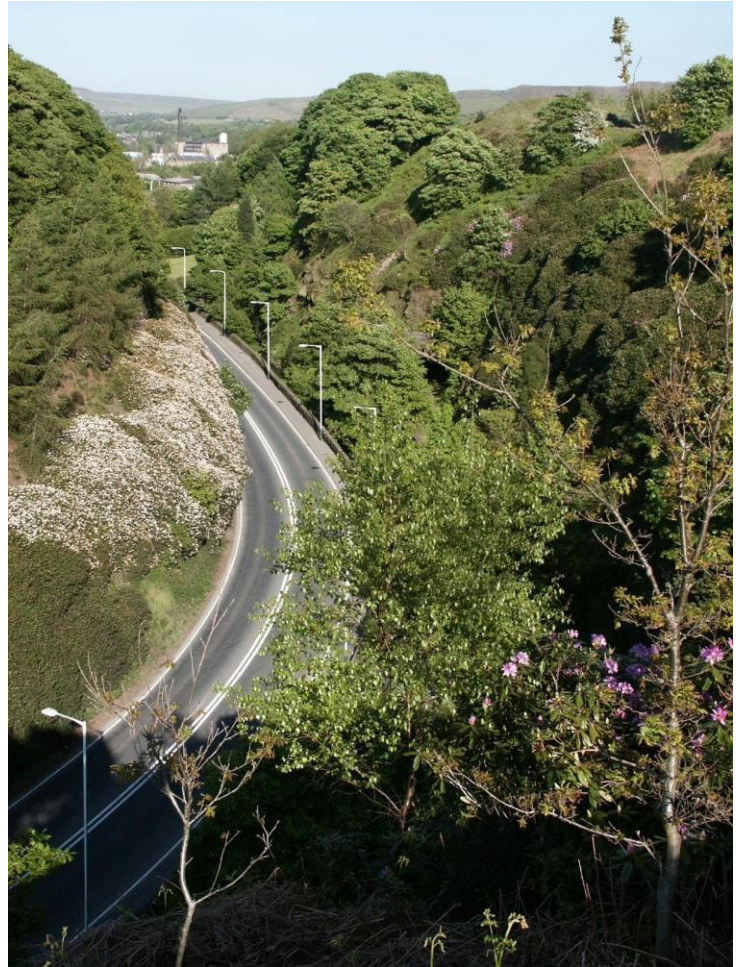
33k – Budgeting figures used in the Assumptions

Budgets used in assumptions for following year	2018/19 £000s	2019/20 £000s	Note
Projected Pension cost next year			
Estimated Pay	3,911	3,901	
Service Cost (% of pay)	35.0%	31.0%	
Implied Service Cost including interest	1,386	1,224	33j
Net Interest Cost	702	577	33j
Administration Expenses	20	23	
	2,108	1,824	
Projected employer contributions next year			
Normal contributions	(1,595)	(863)	
£ for £ recharges	(157)	(146)	
	(1,752)	(1,009)	33j
Projected deficit/(surplus) for operations next year	356	815	
Projected deficit/(surplus)	30,100	24,533	
Projected deficit/(surplus) at end of next year	30,456	25,348	

Note 34 Contingent Assets & Liabilities

There are no known contingent assets or liabilities.

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Note 35 Cash Flow notes

Note 35a Reconciliation of Revenue Surplus to Net Cash Flow

Reconciliation of I&E Surplus to Net Cash Flow from revenue activities	RBC		Note
	31st March 2019 £000s	31st March 2020 £000s	
<i>March 2019 Restated *</i>			
Adjustments for non-cash movements			
Depreciation and Impairments *	1,309	1,040	13
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	41	16	13
Revaluation losses charged to Revenue	452	4,185	
Carrying amount of non-current assets sold *	(26)	(245)	13,14,26
Pension Fund Adjustment *	(255)	(1,376)	13 & 33f
Adjustments between accruals and cash accounting			
(Incr)/Decr in Long Term Debtors	218	280	19
(Incr)/Decr in Inventories	(9)	19	22
(Incr)/Decr in Debtors *	(1,780)	857	23
Incr/(Decr) in Creditors *	2,603	(140)	27
Incr/(Decr) in Grant Receipts in Advance	(700)	(2,879)	30
Incr/(Decr) in Short-term Provisions	(198)	122	29
Incr/(Decr) in Long-term Provisions	(80)	293	29
Incr/(Decr) in Pension Fund Prepayment *	(1,564)	(1,499)	
Adjust net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements *	11	673	
Adjustments for investing and financing activities			
Additions to PPE & intangible assets *	3,845	7,016	13 & 32b
Proceeds from the sale of PPE	(150)	(694)	13 & 31b
Other income	2,108	3,236	13 & 32c
Cash (Outflows)/Inflows - agency operations	(1,006)	1,334	
Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities *	4,797	10,892	

Note 35b Net Change in Liquid Resources

Net change in liquid resources	31 st March 2019	31 st March 2020	Movement	Note
	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Cash in Hand	1	1	-	
Cash at Bank	3,887	7,594	3,707	20a,20c,24
Net Book Value at 31st March	3,888	7,595	3,707	24



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Note 36 Accounting Policies

Accounting Concepts & Principles

This Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2019/20 financial year and its position at the end of the year of 31 March 2020. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 which required the Accounts to be prepared in accordance with the proper accounting practices. These practices are primarily comprised of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20 (the Code) supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

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

These accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the assumption that the Council will continue in existence for the foreseeable future.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchase and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.

Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Authority can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.

Accruals of Expenditure & Income

Under the accruals principle the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statements matches expenditure relating to the production of goods or delivery of services during the financial period with the income to finance those goods and services, regardless of whether the cash transactions have taken place. Income due at the year-end pertaining to services provided are shown in the Balance Sheet as debtors and payments due for goods and services received but not paid for are shown as creditors. The Cash Flow Statement and its Notes reconcile the expenditure and income on an accruals basis with the true cash inflows and outflows during the financial period.

Further details of the Council's expenditure and income on provision of services for the year can be found in the Narrative Statement.

Employee Benefit Expenses – Notes 13 and Note 33

The code has interpreted IAS 19 *Employee Benefits* and confirmed that local authorities should account for:

- benefits payable during employment,
- termination benefits
- post-employment benefits
- pension fund accounts

Short-term benefits to be accrued for include:

- wages, salaries and social security contributions
- short-term compensated absences
- bonuses and similar payments
- non-monetary benefits

Full details of Employee Benefits, including exit packages, paid during employment are shown at Note 13. Accruals for short-term compensated absences, calculated per employee at each year-end, are also shown as a separate item within the Creditors at Note 27.

Pensions – Note 33

The requirements of IAS 19 in relation to post-employment benefits, ie pensions, have been fully incorporated into the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement with actuarial gains and losses being recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, as Note 33 explains in detail.

Under local government finance legislation local authorities in England are required not to charge to revenue expenditure amounts in respect of liabilities for retirement benefits, but instead to maintain a Pension Reserve to which the pension liabilities are charged.

The amount charged to the General Fund for providing pensions for employees is the amount payable in the year. Where this amount does not match the amount charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Code stipulates that the difference is taken to the Pension Reserve.

Rossendale Borough Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by Lancashire County Council. More details about this scheme and its valuations can be found in Note 33 and the Narrative Statement.

Interest – Note 20b

Interest paid on external borrowings is accrued in the accounts of the period to which it relates and interest earned on the external investment of surplus funds is credited to the General Fund using the effective interest method as set out in the Code.

Operations acquired or discontinued - Note 4

There have been no acquired or discontinued operations during either 2019/20 or 2018/19.

Value Added Tax

VAT incurred by the Council on goods and service it procures is fully recoverable from HM Customs & Revenue, except in certain exceptional cases. Consequently, all expenditure shown in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement excludes VAT.

Where the Council charges for goods and services which are subject to VAT, the income included in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement is shown excluding the VAT element which must be passed on to HM Customs and Revenue.

Due to the nature of local government services the net position of VAT payable and recoverable generally results in a debtor in the Balance Sheet.

Cost of Support Services (Overheads)

Since the amendments in the 2016/17 Code in relation to the presentation of the CIES in a format comparable to the operational management structure, the allocation of central support services have been removed. Note 1 provides a reconciliation for the removal of such internal market charges from the original budgets and the monitoring reports throughout the year.

Principal and Agent transactions

Where an authority is acting as a principal transactions shall be included in the authority's financial statements. However, where authorities act as agents transactions shall not be reflected in an authority's financial statements, with the exception in respect of cash collected or expenditure incurred by the agent on behalf of the principal, in which case there is a debtor or creditor position and the net cash position is included in financing activities in the Cash flow Statement. This Council acts as an agent for the collection of council tax and non-domestic rating income.

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Non-domestic Rates - Notes 6 and the Collection Fund

The localisation of non-domestic rates was introduced in April 2013, under which this council collects business rates on behalf of itself, central government and other major preceptors on an agency basis.

Top-up income receivable and tariff expenditure payable, as well as safety net income and levy expenditure payable are recognised by the authority in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis in the line item Taxation and Non-Specific Grant income and Expenditure. On 1st April 2016 Rossendale became a part of the Lancashire-wide Business Rates Pool and so no safety net or levy will be applicable from this date. More information is within Notes 23, 27 and 29 and the Collection Fund.



Landfill Allowances Scheme and Carbon Reduction Commitment

The Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 places a duty on waste disposal authorities to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste disposed of into landfill sites. Rossendale Borough Council, as waste collection authority for the borough, was a partner in a cost-share agreement until 31st March 2018 with Lancashire County Council, who are the disposal authority for this area.

Rossendale Borough Council operated within its allocated landfill allowances under the cost-share agreement during the reporting periods covered by these statements. As a result, confirmation was received from Lancashire County Council that no charges would be incurred in the 2018/19 financial year.

Whilst this authority is too small to be subject to the Carbon Reduction Commitment Scheme, members have taken the view that investing in solar panels will reduce both annual energy costs and environmental impacts in the future.

Property, Plant and Equipment – Note 14

Local authorities now account for tangible fixed assets in accordance with IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment*. Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets (ie assets with physical substance) that are held for use in the production or supply of goods and services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one accounting period. These assets are further classified as follows:

- Operational land and buildings,
- Operational plant, furniture, equipment, and motor vehicles.
- Infrastructural assets which are the fixed utility systems, and
- Community assets.
- Surplus assets – held for future regeneration opportunities

Recognition and Measurement

Under IAS 16 property, plant and equipment is shown at cost or valuation, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. However, for the public sector the following adaptations have been applied:

- Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction (excluding investment properties) are measured at historical cost. Historical cost is deemed to be the carrying amount of an asset at 1st April 2007 or at the date of acquisition, whichever is the later, and adjusted for subsequent depreciation or impairment (if applicable).
- All other classes of assets are measured at fair value. Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length

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transaction. Fair value for land and buildings is interpreted as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use, in accordance with UK Policy Statement (UKPS) 1.3 of the valuation standards issued by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

- Where there is no market-based evidence of fair value because of the specialist nature of an asset, or such assets are rarely sold, the Council may need to estimate fair value using a depreciated replacement cost approach, accounting for all physical deterioration and all relevant forms of obsolescence and optimisation.

Cost is defined as the cash or cash equivalents paid in relation to:-

- the acquisition, reclamation, enhancement or laying out of land;
- the acquisition, construction, preparation, enhancement or replacement of roads, buildings and other structures, including insulation works and disabled adaptations;
- the acquisition, installation or replacement of movable or immovable plant, machinery, vehicles, apparatus or vessels;

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of assets is capitalised on an accruals basis in the accounts, provided that the asset yields benefits to the authority and the services it provides for a period of more than one year. This excludes expenditure on routine repairs and maintenance of fixed assets, which is charged direct to provision of services within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Revaluation

Revaluations of fixed assets are undertaken by professionally qualified valuers on a five year rolling basis. Any unrealised gains on revaluation are shown in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement then removed in the Movement in Reserves Statement to the Revaluation Reserve on the Balance Sheet. In accordance with the updated Code the revaluation programme has reviewed £4,844k of the Council's assets during 2019/20 and Note 14c provides an analysis of the current valuation basis for each type of asset held by the Council.

Revaluation gains are depreciated in line with the asset to which they relate. Future revaluation losses are matched against any balance in the Revaluation Reserve in the first instance on a strict per-asset basis, with the remaining balance being transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

In accordance with IAS 36 *Impairment of Assets*, an impairment review is undertaken at the end of each accounting period and material changes to asset valuations are adjusted as they occur. Impairment loss on a re-valued asset is recognised in the Revaluation Reserve to the extent that the impairment does not exceed the balance in the Revaluation Reserve for that asset and thereafter as a cost to the provision of services in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

However, the Code stipulates that impairments do not impact on the council tax, hence an adjusting transaction can be found in the Movement in Reserves Statement (see workings at Note 13).

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all operational assets with a finite useful life (which can be determined at the time of acquisition or revaluation over the useful life of the asset) using the straight-line method calculated on a daily basis.

Charges for depreciation cover buildings, vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment. Infrastructure, community assets and surplus non-operational assets are not depreciated each year but measured at historical cost.

Depreciation is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as a cost of the provision of services. As with impairments, the Code stipulates that depreciation does not impact on the council tax, hence an adjusting transaction can be found in the Movement in Reserves Statement (see workings at Note 13).

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Component Accounting

Where the asset comprises two or more major components with substantially different useful economic lives, each component should be accounted for separately for depreciation purposes and depreciated over its individual useful life. Componentisation was introduced officially from 1st April 2010 without retrospective applications, therefore component elements have been considered as assets are professionally revalued within the 5-year rolling programme. However, the major components of land and buildings have already been separated for many years, with no depreciation being applied to the land element.

Community Assets – Included within Note 14

The Code defines Community Assets are those which an authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and which may, in addition, have restrictions on their disposal. At Rossendale classification of Community Assets includes the 4 cemeteries, the Whitaker Park Museum and some parks and recreation areas which have been gifted to the Council with restrictions on their disposal.

Heritage Assets – Included within Note 14

Authorities account for heritage assets under the requirements of FRS30 *Heritage Assets*.

A tangible heritage asset is a tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture. An intangible heritage asset is an intangible asset with cultural, environmental or historical significance, including such items as recordings of significant historical events. For ease of presentation, details are alongside Property, Plant and Equipment at Note 14.

Recognition and Measurement

For Rossendale Borough Council Heritage Assets include the Panopticon in Haslingden and the war memorials across the borough as well as civic regalia and exhibits at Whittaker Park Museum.

Where heritage assets are purchased or costs capitalised, these assets are now valued on a historic cost basis. This has occurred in examples such as the creation of the Panopticon. However, for historic assets where it is not possible to obtain a cost value commensurate with the benefit to users of the financial statements, the Council is entitled to use any method it deems appropriate and relevant. For the exhibits at Whittaker Park Museum the latest insurance values have been used as an approximation for the asset value. For the Council's Civic Regalia the cost to replace the items have been provided by the Council's jeweller in March 2020, leading to a revaluation gain of £255k, as shown in Note 14.

Amortisation

Depreciation or amortization is not required on heritage assets which have indefinite lives. However, the carrying amount of such assets is reviewed regularly to ensure that they have not suffered any physical deterioration, which would be treated as an impairment.

Investment Properties – Note 15

Authorities now account for investment properties in accordance with IAS 40 *Investment Property*, except where the Code has provided definition interpretation for the public sector. Under this definition, an investment property is one that is used solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation, or both. This Council has one piece of land which meets the definition of an Investment Property.

Intangible Assets – Note 16

IAS 38 *Intangible assets* defines intangible assets as non-financial assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the Council through custody or legal rights, such as software, which are expected to provide future service benefits or be used in the provision of services over several years to come.

Core Financial Statements

Recognition and Measurement

This Council does not have any internally-generated intangible assets. Other intangible assets are capitalised at cost incurred to acquire and bring to use, eg the implementation costs of specific software. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

An intangible asset may be acquired by way of government grant or other contribution, either in full or in part. In such instances both the asset and the grant or contribution are recognised initially at fair value.

Amortisation

The carrying value of an intangible asset with a finite life is amortised on a straight line basis over its useful life. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised. The amortisation charge for each period is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure as a cost of using the asset in the provision of services. The useful lives and associated amortisation rates of computer software have been estimated at 5 years.

Surplus Assets and Assets Held for Sale – Note 14 and 26

In line with IFRS 5 *Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations* assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction, not through continuing use.

Assets held for sale are now separated into two categories. Those with specific intentions to be sold in the following accounting period are classified under Current Assets as 'Assets held for sale within one year' – see Note 26. Those held for inclusion in longer-term regeneration plans are classified as Surplus Assets under Property, Plant and Equipment at Note 14.

Recognition and Measurement

Assets held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, where fair value is the amount for which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's-length transaction. Surplus Assets are re-valued at the point of their transfer to the surplus category, but based upon their existing use value which is an estimate of the asset's remaining useful service potential.

Amortisation

Depreciation or amortization is not required on surplus assets or those held for sale. However, the carrying amount of such assets is reviewed regularly to ensure that they have not suffered any physical deterioration, which would be treated as an impairment.

Leases – Note 18

This Council has not entered into any Finance Leases, either as lessee or as lessor.

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset. Where assets are acquired under operating leases the leasing rentals payable are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on a straight line basis over the term of the lease. The value of the assets subject to leasing agreements are not shown in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed in Note 18.

Assets held by the Council for use in operating leases (acting as a lessor) are not recorded in the Balance Sheet as fixed assets. Rental incomes from such assets are recognised on a straight line basis and matched against costs of insurance and maintenance in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Their value and the incomes receivable are disclosed in Note 18.

Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute - Notes 13, 17 and 32b

Legislation allows some items of expenditure to be funded from capital resources which under IFRS and normal accounting practice would be charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. Such expenditure termed 'Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute' within the Code

Core Financial Statements

and is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year incurred and matched by the grants received.

The types of expenditure to which this usually refers are disabled access grants and decent homes assistance where the local authority does not receive the economic benefits arising from the expenditure. A reversing entry in the Movement in Reserves Statement ensures there is no impact on the Council Tax or General Fund Balance, see workings at Note 13 and the Capital Adjustment Account at Note 32b.

Government Grants and Other Contributions – Note 7, 30 and 31c

In line with the Code's adaptation of IAS 20 *Accounting for Government Grants*, grants and contributions for capital purposes should be recognised immediately, unless any conditions have not been met; an authority shall not include grants and contributions deferred on the Balance Sheet. Retrospective application of the change in policy has resulted in all remaining Government Grants Deferred being incorporated into the Capital Adjustment Account as if they had been recognised when the asset was first created.

Government grants and other contributions are accounted for on an accruals basis and recognised in the accounting statements when the conditions for their receipt have been complied with and there is reasonable assurance that the funds will be received. Grants received in advance of these conditions being met are held as Short-term Capital Grant Receipts in Advance until released into the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement as entitlement allows (see Notes 7, 30 and 31c).

Capital Receipts – Note 31b

Amounts to be treated as capital receipts are defined by statute and usually arise from disposal of an interest in a fixed asset. Any difference between the receipt value and the carrying value of the asset in the balance sheet at the time of disposal is shown in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement as a gain or loss on disposal.

However, some statutorily defined capital receipts do not arise from the disposal of an interest in a fixed asset and as such are treated separately in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as 'Other Income'.

Capital receipts are not attributable to the General Fund Balance and are therefore transferred to the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement (see workings at Note 13).

Long-term Investments

Long-term investments are those with a remaining life of more than 1 year at the Balance Sheet date and are shown in the Balance Sheet at fair value.

The largest long-term investment in the past consisted of 100% of the share capital in Rossendale Transport Ltd., a company set up under the Transport Act 1985. Rossendale Borough Council sold the shares in Rossendale Transport Ltd in January 2018.

Short-term Investments – Note 24

Short-term investments are those with a life of between 30 days and 1 year at the Balance Sheet date and are shown in the Balance Sheet at fair value. These investments follow policies laid down in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Treasury Management Practices. Note 24 details the short-term investments held by the Council at the Balance Sheet date, alongside cash and cash equivalents.

Inventories – Note 22

Stocks of materials or supplies to be consumed in the provision of future services are accounted for under IAS 2 *Inventories*, except for financial instruments and work in progress under construction contracts. Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

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Cost comprises all costs of purchase, cost of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the course of operations, less the estimated costs of completion and any estimated costs necessary to make the sale, exchange or distribution.

Work in progress under construction contracts is subject to *IAS 11 Construction Contracts* and an interim valuation is obtained covering the cost of works completed at the end of the reporting period plus any overheads reasonably attributable to those works. This value is then included in the Balance Sheet within property, plant and equipment rather than listed within current inventory assets.

Short-term Debtors – Note 23

Authorities account for debtors in accordance with *IAS 18 Revenue* and *IAS 39 Financial Instruments: recognition and Measurement*, except where interpretations or adaptations to fit the public sector have been detailed in the Code.

The revenue accounts of the Council are maintained on an accruals, therefore sums due to the Council for services delivered or rendered during the financial year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received. Debtors are then recognised in the Balance Sheet as the full value of the consideration receivable, in most cases in cash or cash equivalents. Note 23 shows the value of outstanding debts net of any provision for impairment losses on doubtful debts. More details of the impairment Provisions can be seen at Note 25.

Debtors also arise where the Council has made payment in advance of receipt of goods or services from suppliers, shown in the analysis in Note 23 as 'Payments in Advance'.

Cash and Cash Equivalents – Note 24

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the Balance Sheet.

Provision for Impairment Losses– Note 25

The Council prepares its accounts in a prudent manner and as such the value of debtors receivable is subject to a degree of risk. The Council assesses the risk attributable to each individual class of debtors in order to arrive at a realisable value and more information on Financial Instrument Risks can be found in Notes 20 and 21.

The difference between the full value and the realisable value of Financial Instruments is called a Provision for Impairment. Debts written off are charged to this provision and any requirement to make new provisions is charged as an expense to the cost of provision of services within the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.

Short-term Creditors – Note 27

Under *IAS 18 Revenue*, the annual provision of services by the Council are accounted for on an accruals basis. That is, sums due from the Council pertaining to the acquisition of goods or services used in the provision of services within the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been paid in the year. An exception to this principle relates to electricity and similar payments which are charged at the date of meter reading rather than being apportioned between financial years. Most of these payments are now monthly and this policy is consistently applied each year, therefore any discrepancy is deemed to be immaterial to the year's accounts.

Creditors also arise where the Council receives income from customers ahead of the provision of goods or services. Such payments are shown separately in the detailed analysis at Note 27 as 'Receipts in Advance'.

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Provisions – Note 29

Under the Code local authorities now apply IPSAS 19, which interprets IAS 37 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets* for the public sector. Proper provisions are required for any liabilities or losses of uncertain timing or amount. Provisions expected to be called upon within 12 months from the end of the financial period are classed as Short-Term Provisions, while those of a more extended nature are classed as Long-Term Provisions.

Provisions are charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Service in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. Provisions are utilised only for the purpose for which they were established, except where a regular review to determine the appropriateness of the level of the charge and the balance of the provision properly requires a change. The provisions held and any change in their use are disclosed in Note 29 along with activity on the provision in the accounting period.

Provision for Impairment has also been made for doubtful debts and known uncollectable debts have been written off during the year. The balance of the Provision for Impairment, used to reduce the overall level of Current Assets outstanding, is disclosed in Note 25.

Short-term Capital Grants Receipts in Advance – Note 30

When capital grants are received in advance with conditions attached to the application of those grant, they are held in the Short-term Capital Grants Receipts in Advance account and only recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the grant conditions have been met.

Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets– Note 34

A contingent liability is either: (a) a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control, or (b) a present obligation that arises from past events but is not recognised because: (i) it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, or (ii) the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

A material contingent liability is not recognised within the accounts as an item of expenditure. It is, however, disclosed in a note unless the possibility of a transfer of economic benefits in settlement is remote.

A contingent asset is a possible asset that may arise from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control. Contingent assets are not recognised in the revenue account or the balance sheet because prudence cautions that the gain might never be realised, instead they are disclosed in the Notes to the Core Statements.

When realisation of the gain is virtually certain, then the item ceases to be a contingent asset and can be accounted for as revenue or capital income as appropriate.

Reserves - Notes 31 and 32

The Council maintains certain reserves for the purpose of meeting liabilities other than those covered by provisions. A distinction is made in the Balance Sheet between usable reserves, which are cash-backed reserves available for use by the Council in the future provision of services and unusable reserves which are used for statutory accounting purposes and cannot be used directly to finance future service costs.

Usable Reserves – Note 31

- The General Fund Balance is the accumulation of surplus or deficit on operational services attributable to council tax payers. Such funds are not held for any specific purpose, but are available to assist with the management of financial risks and to deal with any emergencies which might arise. The Medium Term Financial Strategy sets out the Council's policy for the recommended value of the General Fund Balance in order to provide assurance against the estimates and assumptions used in the annual budgeting process.

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- Earmarked Reserves are resources set aside to meet specific future running costs and investments. The Medium Term Financial Strategy sets out the Council's policy for Earmarked Reserves, including their nature and suggested requirements. Full details of the movements on each reserve can be found at Note 31a.
- The Capital Receipts Reserve holds the proceeds of fixed asset sales available to meet future capital investment (see Note 31b).
- Capital Grants Unapplied – holds the balance of grants received where the conditions of grant entitlement have not yet been met. Grants and other contributions are now accounted for on an accruals basis and recognised in the accounting statements when the conditions for their receipt have been complied with and there is reasonable assurance that the grant or contribution will be received. Grants received in advance of these conditions being met are held as Grants Unapplied until released into the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement as entitlement allows (see Note 31c).

Unusable Reserves – Note 32

- Revaluation Reserve records unrealised revaluation gains, net of depreciation and disposals on that revaluation amount, on a strict per-asset basis (see Note 32a)
- Capital Adjustment Account provides a balancing mechanism between the different rates at which assets are depreciated under the Code and financed through the capital controls mechanism (see Note 32b).
- Available-for-sale Financial Instruments Reserve stores any gains on revaluation of investments not yet realised through sales. The investment in Rossendale Transport Ltd was not revalued due to the specialised nature of the company and the subjectivity of any such valuation. Instead the investment was carried at the historic value of the shares which were extinguished following the sale of the shares in the company in January 2018.
- Collection Fund Adjustment Account holds the surplus/(deficit) on the Collection Fund which is directly attributable to Rossendale Borough Council (details can be found in the Collection Fund at Section 3).
- Deferred Capital Receipts Account (Note 32c) holds the value of long term debts not receivable until future years under the terms of the debt. In the past this related to mortgages for Council House tenants prior to 1991, but the last of these mortgages ended in November 2013. From 2013/14 the balance relates to the repayment loans due on the Empty Homes Strategy and the corresponding debt can be seen within Long Term Debtors on the Balance Sheet at Note 19.
- Pensions Reserve is a balancing account to allow the inclusion of Pensions Liability in the Balance Sheet. Details of Pension Fund assets/liabilities can be found in Note 33b and 33c.



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Repurchase of Borrowing

The Code requires gains or losses on the repurchase of borrowing to be recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year in which they are realised. Where, however, the repurchase is coupled with a refinancing or restructuring of borrowing with substantially the same overall economic effect, gains or losses are to be recognised over the life of the replacement borrowing. No such gains or losses were experienced in the current accounting period.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) - Notes 13, 17 and 32b

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the authority is required to set aside a minimum revenue provision for repayment of debt. Minimum Revenue Provision is a charge to the cost of services in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement, details of which can be found in Notes 13, 17a, and 32b. In line with Government guidance, the Council calculates MRP to match the life of the asset.

In 2018/19 the Council decided to make a one-off additional Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

Financial Instruments – Notes 20 and 21

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest.

Any gains or losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. However, where repurchase takes place as part of a restructure the premium or discount is added to the amortised cost and charged over the life of the new or modified loan. Where premiums and discounts are charged directly to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement regulations permit the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. This is achieved by transfer to/from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account. No such gains or losses arose in the current accounting period, or the comparator year.

Financial Assets

These are classified into two types:

- Loans and Receivables – assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market. These are measured at fair value and carried at amortised cost. Annual credits to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement are based on the carrying amount multiplied by the effective rate of interest. In all cases where the Council has made loans cost has been used as a proxy for fair value.
- Available for Sale Assets – assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments. These are initially measured, and carried, at fair value. Credits to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement for interest are based on the amortised cost multiplied by the effective rate of interest. Gains or losses are posted to the Available for sale Reserve. On de-recognition gains/losses are charged to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement.



Core Financial Statements

Fair Value Measurement

The Council measures some of its non-financial assets, such as surplus assets and investment properties and some of its financial instruments, at fair value at each reporting date. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

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

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

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

The Council uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Council's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

- Level 1 - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Council can access at the measurement date
- Level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3 - unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Prior Period Adjustments Note 37

Prior period adjustments are material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or estimates or from the correction of fundamental errors, in accordance with IAS 8 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*. The Code requires that the financial statements should disclose, where practicable the nature of the change in policy and the impact of any adjustment on the preceding accounting period where practicable. Where this is not practicable, the fact this is so and the reasons for it should be disclosed.

This Statement of Accounts includes at Note 2 to the Core Financial Statements an explanation of any adjustments made to comply with changes in the Code.

Events after the Balance Sheet date – Note 37

Local authorities are required to account for events, both favourable and unfavourable, which occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue in accordance with IAS 10 *Events after the Reporting Period* and IPSAS 14 *Events after the Reporting Date*. Two types of events can be identified:

- Adjusting Events - where events arising after the balance sheet date provide additional evidence of conditions that existed at the balance sheet date and are of a material nature the amounts should be reflected in the Core Statements.
- Non-adjusting Events – events which arise after the balance sheet date and concern conditions which did not exist at that time should be detailed in Notes to the Core Statements if they are of such materiality that their disclosure is required for the fair presentation of the financial statements, rather than reflected in the Core Statements.

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The date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue is shown in the Statement of Responsibilities.

Group Accounts

Following the sale of its shares in Rossendale Transport Ltd in January 2018, the Council no longer prepares Group Accounts.

Other Accounting Policies

Foreign currency transactions do not play a material part in the Council's financial transactions. Rossendale Borough Council has not entered into any PFI schemes.

Note 37 Restatement of Prior Year Accounts

The Council's accounts for 2019/20 have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20 (the Code), which is based on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). No adjustments to prior year comparative accounts have been required due to changes in the Code.



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Note 38 Accounting Standards Issued, but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted by the 2019/20 Code.

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

Accounting changes that are introduced by the 2020/21 code are:

- Amendments to IAS 28 – Investment in Associates and Joint Ventures: Long Term Interests in Associates and Joint Ventures
- Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2015-2017 Cycle
- Amendments to IAS 19 Employee Benefits: Plan Amendment, Curtail or Settlement.

These changes are not expected to have a material impact on the Council's Financial Statements.

Note 39 Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 36, the Authority has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in preparing this Statement of Accounts are:

- There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. The 2020/21 Settlement is for one year only. Beyond that, the outcome of the proposed spending review and the impact of the changes to the Business Rate Retention scheme are unknown, also the impact of the decision to leave the European Union remains unclear. In addition the global coronavirus pandemic has further increased the levels of uncertainty. The Council is recording and forecasting all additional expenditure incurred in its COVID19 response and monitoring the resulting loss of income. Government funding has been provided but, as the pandemic continues to unfold, it is unclear whether this funding will be sufficient to cover all costs and income losses.
- However, the Authority has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Authority might be impaired. In line with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, where services are at potential risk the intention would be to realise the value of any assets deemed surplus to requirements before any impairment occur.
- In order to facilitate the speedy closure of the Council's accounts an estimate of the outstanding housing and council tax benefit grant has been included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The estimated balance of the grant claim included in the Balance Sheet at 31st March 2020 is a Short-term Creditor of £355k compared to a Debtor of £719k at March 2019.
- Estimates for depreciation of assets in any one year depend upon the forecast life of the assets. The asset life of buildings is determined by a qualified valuer at each revaluation date and in the case of vehicles, equipment and intangible assets by Council staff. Depreciation charges in 2019/20 amounted to £934k, a decrease of £207k on 2018/19. Depreciation of intangible assets totalled £16k in 2019/2, down from £38k in 2018/19 (see Notes 13, 14 & 16).
- Estimates for impairment of assets are performed by the Council's qualified Property Services Manager at the end of each year to reflect any abnormal changes in property values between full formal reviews within the 5-year rolling revaluation programme. The total value of impairments charged to 2019/20 was £106k, compared to £168k charged to 2018/19 (Note 13 & 14).

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- Provision for the potential cost of Non-Domestic Rating appeal refunds has been based upon appeals lodged with the Valuation Office at the 31st March and an assumed level of successful appeals based upon historical data. Officers deemed that the balance on the Provision at the 31st March 2020 was sufficient to cover the reduced value of outstanding appeals. The Rossendale Borough Council share of that Provision now stands at £1,041k and more details can be found in Note 29 and Note 4 to the Collection Fund.

Note 40 Events after the Balance Sheet date

This DRAFT Statement of Accounts was authorised for release by the Head of Finance on 31st August 2020. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statement or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31st March 2020, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

Covid 19

The Council's focus during the period from the commencement of the COVID-19 outbreak has been to ensure that our residents and businesses are protected as much as possible from the impact of COVID-19.

The Government has provided the Council with funding to assist with any additional expenditure or loss of income the Council incurs. The Government has also supported businesses through additional rate reliefs, these reliefs are being fully funded through to Rossendale Borough Council.

The Council has assessed the short term impact of initial measures on its cash flow and at present the Council has sufficient cash balances to fund these. If required temporary borrowing arrangements will be put in place. The Council is also regularly providing feedback to Government on the measures that are being taken and the financial impact on the Council of COVID-19.

Staff availability has remained strong through the home-working and flexible working arrangements that are in place and regular business continuity updates have ensured that core services continue to be delivered effectively.

The Council quickly established a Community Support Hub with partners to ensure the effective working with our communities to assist those most in need.

The Council has some reserves which could be deployed to fund costs not met by Central Government, however the funding supplied so far will be sufficient for the short to medium term. The savings programme for 2019-20 will not be impacted and programmes in place for 2020-21 will be rigorously monitored to assess for any underlying impacts due to COVID-19, though none of these are expected to be material to financial statements.

The global pandemic has resulted in an unprecedented set of circumstances on which to base the various judgements reflected in the 2019/20 accounting statements, including valuations for the Council's property and financial assets, and its share of the Pension Fund assets and liabilities. Although these judgements have been reflected in the 2019/20 accounts, as the pandemic continues, the effects have the potential to impact these judgements further in future years.

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Note 41 Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation uncertainty

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

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31st March 2020 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Council will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.	<p>If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the asset falls.</p> <p>It is estimated that for every year that useful lives were reduced the annual depreciation charge would increase as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • buildings & infrastructure £8k • vehicles & equipment £100k • intangible assets £9k
Pensions Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns in pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	The effects on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions have been included in detail within Note 33.
Arrears	Each year the Council reviews the significant balances for Council Tax and sundry debtor arrears. Officers estimate the potential impairment of those debts based on historical default experience, and the age of the debts. However, in the current economic climate it is not certain that such an allowance would be sufficient.	If collection rates were to deteriorate, the effects of an additional 1% in the rate of in-year losses on collection would be an increase of £139k in the required provision for council tax doubtful debts, £58k for business rates doubtful debts and £3k for sundry debts

Collection Fund

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate collection fund. The statement below shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

COLLECTION FUND	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	
Income					
Council Tax	36,974	-	39,475	-	
Non Domestic Rates	-	13,130	-	12,909	
	36,974	13,130	39,475	12,909	
Expenditure					
Precepts paid out					
Lancashire County Council	26,195	1,060	27,465	2,124	
Rossendale Borough Council	5,437	4,712	5,645	6,797	6
Rossendale Borough Council - renewable energy	-	163	-	168	
Lancashire Police Authority	3,590	-	4,109	-	
Lancashire Fire Authority	1,365	118	1,417	182	
Other costs and provisions					
Payment to Central Government	-	200	-	37	
Payment to Lancashire Business Rates Pool	-	5,889	-	3,035	
Provisions for Rating Appeals	-	(200)	-	-	CF4
Provisions for Bad Debts	352	227	390	106	CF5
Cost of Collection Allowance	-	99	-	97	
	36,939	12,268	39,026	12,546	
Surplus / (deficit) Council Tax	35	862	449	363	

Where Note references are preceded by CF they related to the Collection Fund Notes on this and the following pages. Other Note references relate to the Notes to the Core Statements on pages 26 to 80.

Collection Fund Note 1 Surplus/(deficit) apportionment to the major Preceptors

The table below shows how the surplus/(deficit) on the Collection Fund is distributed across the major preceptors on an agency basis each year.

Apportionment of in-year surplus/(deficit) to major preceptors		2018/19		2019/20		Note
		Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	
Preceptor	Lancashire Business Rates Pool	-	431	-	91	
	Lancashire County Council	25	77	320	64	
	Rossendale Borough Council	5	345	65	203	CIES, 13
	Lancashire Police Authority	4	-	48	-	
	Lancashire Fire Authority	1	9	16	5	
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	35	862	449	363	

Collection Fund

Collection Fund Note 2 Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The surplus/(deficit) attributable to Rossendale Borough Council now resides in the Collection Fund Adjustment Account on the Balance Sheet, as shown below.

Rossendale Borough Council - Collection Fund Adjustment Account	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	Council Tax	Business Rates	Council Tax	Business Rates	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Accumulated surplus/(deficit) at 1st April	82	126	5	838	
Prior year (surplus)/deficit transferred to/from revenue	(82)	367	(39)	(651)	13
Apportioned Estimated Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	5	284	69	184	13
Apportioned Final Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-	61	(4)	19	13
Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) at 31st March	5	838	31	390	

Collection Fund Note 3 Council Tax Base

Council tax income derives from charges raised according to the value of residential properties, which have been classified into eight valuation bands estimating 1st April 1991 values for this specific purpose. Individual charges are calculated by estimating the amount of income required to be taken from the Collection Fund by the precepting authorities and the Council for the forthcoming year and dividing this by the council tax base (the total number of properties in each band adjusted by a proportion to convert the number to a Band D equivalent and adjusted for discounts). The Council Tax base for 2019/20 was 20,396 compared to 20,229 for 2018/19.

The basic amount of Council Tax for a Band D property rose in 2019/20 from £1,891.64 to £1,806.00 following increases of around 3% by all preceptors except the Lancashire Police Authority, which increased their precept by 13.52%. Rossendale Borough Council and Whitworth Town Council increased their Council Tax charges by 2.99% for the third time since March 2009 – see Collection Fund Note 7 for details of the Council Tax bands charges.

The council tax base has been calculated as follows:-

Band	Ratio to Band D	Total No. Properties	Total equiv No. after Discounts & Exemptions	2018/19 Band D Equivalent	2018/19 Band D Equivalent
Special	5/9		45.4	25.2	22.4
A	6/9	16,223	10,977.8	7,318.6	7,264.2
B	7/9	5,011	4,084.1	3,176.5	3,170.0
C	8/9	4,187	3,698.4	3,287.5	3,227.4
D	1	3,363	3,069.2	3,069.2	3,056.2
E	11/9	1,950	1,830.3	2,237.0	2,222.6
F	13/9	654	622.7	899.5	888.8
G	15/9	446	405.4	675.7	685.7
H	2	36	24.8	49.5	47.5
		31,870	24,758.1	20,738.7	20,584.8
Less adjustments for anticipated changes to the base and losses on collection				-342.7	-355.8
Band D equivalent number of properties				20,396.0	20,229.0

Collection Fund

Collection Fund Note 4 Provision for Rating Appeals

Provision for Rating Appeals	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	
Balance as 1st April	-	2,058	-	1,859	
Provision made in year	-	-	-	-	
Provision utilised in year	-	(199)	-	-	
Balance at 31st March	-	1,859	-	1,859	
Balance at 31st March - Rossendale only	-	744	-	1,041	30

The Council has made provision for the anticipated impact on the Collection Fund in respect of business valuation appeals lodged with the Valuation Office. In quarter 4 of 2018/19 the Valuation Office decided several key appeals cases which led officers to utilize £199k of the provision in 2018/19. The balance of £1,859k on the provision was still deemed sufficient to cover the balance of claims outstanding at the 31st of March 2020, therefore no further provision was made during 2019/20.

Collection Fund Note 5 Provision for Bad Debts

Bad Debts Provision	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	
Balance as 1st April	3,329	1,001	3,297	1,114	
Provision made in year	352	227	390	106	
Debts written off	(384)	(114)	(356)	(39)	
Balance at 31st March	3,297	1,114	3,331	1,181	
Balance at 31st March - Rossendale only	490	447	479	661	26

For the year 2019/20, under the under the Lancashire Pool 75% Retained Business Rates Pilot scheme, Rossendale Borough Council accounts for 56% of the arrears and the provision against those arrears, compared to 40% under the 50% Local Retention Scheme. Given the level of 2019/20 collections for business rates, as noted below, the provision for bad debts at the end of 2019/20 was deemed to be £1,181k of which £661k was attributable to Rossendale.

Collection Fund Note 6 Arrears

Arrears	2018/19		2019/20		Note
	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	Council Tax £000s	Business Rates £000s	
Balance as 1st April	5,422	1,279	5,438	1,323	
Change in year	16	44	191	180	
Balance at 31st March	5,438	1,323	5,629	1,503	
Balance at 31st March - Rossendale only	808	512	809	842	24

The in-year collection rate for 2019/20 Council Tax was 96.32% compared to a target performance of 97.8%. The collection rate for NNDR in 2019/20 was 97.78% compared to a target performance of 97.1%. Note 23 to the Core Statements shows the Rossendale Borough Council portion of the Council Tax and Business Rates arrears, net of the provision for bad debts shown in Note 5 above.

Part of the Collection Fund surplus is due to the collection of prior year arrears, when the total collection rate rises to over 99%.

Collection Fund Note 7 Non-Domestic Rates (NDR)

April 2013 saw the introduction of new system of local business rates retention. Under the new model Rossendale Borough Council retained 40% of the business rates collected locally. At the 1st April 2016 the new Lancashire Pooling arrangement came into effect and Rossendale Borough Council is a partner in that Pool. For 2019/20 the Lancashire Pool participated in a 75% local retention pilot scheme which saw the Rossendale element rise to 56%. The tariff payment into the Pool for 2018/19 was £3,035k (in 2018/19 this was £5,889k) and this can be seen in Note 6 to the Core Statements.

Non-domestic rates are organized on a national basis. Central Government specifies an amount (50.4p in 2019/20 and 49.3p in 2018/19) and, subject to the effects of transitional arrangements, local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying the rateable value of their property by that amount. The rateable value for business premises in Rossendale increased to £36,335k by March 2020, up from £36,306k in March 2019.

Since 2016/17 Rossendale Borough Council is entitled to keep 100% of the business rates from renewable energy installations. In 2019/20 Rossendale's element of the business rates scheme as shown in the CIES and Note 6 to the Core Statements was £168k, compared to £163k in 2018/19.

The net business rates collected within Rossendale in cash terms (before provision for bad debts and appeals) were £13,172k compared with £13,826k in 2018/19.

Collection Fund Note 8 Council Tax for all Precepting Bodies 2019/20

Precepting Bodies	2018/19	Change	2019/20							
	Band D £		Band A £	Band B £	Band C £	Band D £	Band E £	Band F £	Band G £	Band H £
Rossendale	266.17	2.99%	182.75	213.20	243.66	274.12	335.04	395.95	456.87	548.24
LCC	1,212.17	2.99%	833.93	972.92	1,111.90	1,250.89	1,528.86	1,806.84	2,084.82	2,501.78
LCC - Adult Social C	82.75	1.00%	63.80	74.43	85.07	95.70	116.97	138.23	159.50	191.40
Fire	67.46	2.99%	46.32	54.04	61.76	69.48	84.92	100.36	115.80	138.96
Police	177.45	13.52%	134.30	156.68	179.07	201.45	246.22	290.98	335.75	402.90
Total (excl parish)	1,806.00	4.74%	1,261.10	1,471.27	1,681.46	1,891.64	2,312.01	2,732.36	3,152.74	3,783.28
Whitworth Parish	24.10	2.99%	16.55	19.30	22.06	24.82	30.34	35.85	41.37	49.64
Total (incl parish)	1,830.10	4.72%	1,277.65	1,490.57	1,703.52	1,916.46	2,342.35	2,768.21	3,194.11	3,832.92



Glossary

Accounting Standards Board

The role of the Accounting Standards Board (ASB) is to issue accounting standards. Accounting standards developed by the ASB are contained in 'Financial Reporting Standards' (FRSs). Soon after it started its activities in 1990, the ASB adopted the standards issued by the Accounting Standards Committee (ASC), so that they also fall within the legal definition of accounting standards.

These are designated 'Statements of Standard Accounting Practice' (SSAPs). Whilst some of the SSAPs have been superseded by FRSs, some remain in force. Accounting standards apply to all companies, and other kinds of entities that prepare accounts that are intended to provide a true and fair view.

Accruals

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

Agency Services

Services provided by the Council, as an agent on behalf of the responsible body, where the principal reimburses the Council for the cost of the work carried out.

Auditor's Opinion

The opinion required by statute from the Council's external auditors, indicating whether the statement of accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the authority.

Budget

A statement of the Council's spending plans for revenue and capital expenditure over a specified period of time.

Business Rates

From the 1st April 2013 non-domestic rates, or Business Rates, were localised. In the past all business rates were collected locally but then paid over to central government and each authority was paid a share of the national pool based upon their population and circumstances.

Rossendale Borough Council now collects these rates and pays 50% direct to central government, 9% to Lancashire County Council and 1% to Lancashire Fire Authority. This means that 40% should be kept locally.

Note 9 to the core statements explains how the tariff system provides a national balancing adjustment between the 40% local share and the amount received previously from the national pool. After the tariff the actual amount kept by Rosendale Borough Council in 2013/14 was 15%.

Capital expenditure

Spending on the acquisition or maintenance of assets either directly by the Council or indirectly in the form of grants to other persons or bodies. Section 40 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 defines 'expenditure for capital purposes'. Expenditure that does not fall within the definition must be charged to a revenue account.



Capital Receipts

Proceeds from the sale of fixed assets, such as land or buildings, or the repayment of capital grants or advances.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

CIPFA is one of the leading professional accountancy bodies in the UK and the only one which specialises in the public sector. It is responsible for the education and training of professional accountants and for their regulation through the setting and monitoring of professional standards. Uniquely among the professional accountancy bodies in the UK, CIPFA has responsibility for setting accounting standards for a significant part of the economy, namely local government.

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the CODE)

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2010 (the Code) stipulates that the preparation of the Statement of Accounts. This Code replaces CIPFA's Statement of Recommended Practice 2009 (SORP) and is now based on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), International Accounting Standards (IASs) adapted as interpreted for the public sector by the International Public Sector Accountancy Standards (IPSASs).

Collection Fund

The account which shows the transactions of the Council in relation to non-domestic rates and Council Tax, and the distribution of these to other precepting bodies and to Rossendale Borough Council's General Fund for the year.

Following the SORP 2009, the Collection Fund is now operated on an agency basis. That means that the accumulated balances at the year end, including arrears and accounts in credit are apportioned over the main precepting bodies. Rossendale Borough Council's proportion of the debtors and accounts in credit can be directly on the Balance Sheet and at Note 19 and 22 to the Core Statements and the Council's proportion of the overall surplus/(deficit) on the account is now held in the Collection Fund Adjustment Account. Those amounts attributable to each of the other preceptors are included as a net position within the Other Public Bodies sections of Note 19 and Note 22 respectively.

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

A new account created following the SORP 2009, which holds that portion of the Collection Fund cumulative balance attributable solely to Rossendale Borough Council.

Community Assets

Assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life, and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historic buildings.

The Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG)

The central government department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) has a powerful remit to promote community cohesion and equality, as well as responsibility for housing, urban regeneration, planning and local government. The CLG is responsible for national policy on local government in England, examining the future of local government and local democracy; reviewing performance and measurement through inspection and audit; driving

Glossary

through the modernisation agenda of efficiency and improvement of service delivery; and maintaining and developing a framework for local government finance.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

The combined balance sheets of the Council's services.

Contingency Sum

A sum set aside to provide for foreseen but unquantifiable future commitments or for unforeseen expenditure that may become necessary during the year.

Cost of Management and Administration

An allocation to service accounts of the net cost of the administrative and professional departments which support all of the Council's services.

Creditor

An amount owed by the Council for goods received, or services rendered to it within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been made.

Current Costs Accounting (CCA)

The presentation of the accounts in a form that aims to reflect the consequences of price and value charges.

Debt redemption

The repayment of external loans previously raised to finance capital expenditure.



Debtor

An amount of income due to the Council within the accounting period but not received at the balance sheet date.

Deferred capital receipts

Capital receipts to be received by instalments over agreed periods of time.

Deferred charges

Expenditure which may properly be deferred, but which does not result in, or remain matched with, tangible assets. An example of a deferred charge is expenditure on items such as improvement grants.

D.E.F.R.A.

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs supports the Council in its recycling projects.

Glossary

Depreciation

The measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful economic life of a fixed asset.

D.W.P.

The Department of Work and Pensions funds the Housing and Council Tax Benefits payable to borough residents and also funds the administration of those benefits.

E.R.D.F.

The European Regional Development Fund which supports regeneration projects such as Futures Park managed office units.

Fair Value

In accounting, fair value is used as an estimate of the market value of an asset (or liability) for which a market price cannot be determined (usually because there is no established market for the asset). Where a reasonable estimation of fair value cannot be calculated assets are carried at historical cost.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments are cash, evidence of an ownership interest in an entity, or a contractual right to receive, or deliver, cash or another financial instrument. Financial instruments can refer to both receivables (including debtors and other investments) and payables (including creditors and other liabilities or borrowings).

Financial Reporting Standard 17 (FRS17)

FRS17, issued by the Accounting Standards Board in November, 2000 and amended November, 2002, set out the accounting treatment for retirement benefits such as pensions and medical care during retirement.

General Fund

The main revenue fund of the Council. Day-to-day spending on services is met from the General Fund. Spending on the provision of housing, however, must be charged to a separate Housing Revenue Account.

Governance Framework

Authorities have a responsibility to ensure that their business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values by which the Council is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to and engages with and leads the community. The principles of this framework were laid down by the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government.

Housing General Fund

Strategy and support for domestic properties across the borough, as opposed to the operation of council-owned housing which is kept separate in the Housing Revenue Account, or strategy and support for commercial properties.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

A separate account for the operation of the direct provision of housing by the Council, which is now closed following the LSVT to Green Vale Homes in March 2006.

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Impairment

A measure of abnormal consumption of the economic benefit of an asset over and above the normal annual depreciation.

Infrastructure assets

Assets that are inalienable, expenditure on which is recoverable only by continued use of the asset created. Examples of infrastructure assets are highways and footpaths.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are non-financial assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the Council through custody or legal rights, such as software. Intangible assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated to the revenue account over their useful economic life.

Internal Borrowing

Whilst capital resources cannot be used to fund revenue works, revenue reserves can be used to support the costs of capital projects, either permanently, or temporarily. Temporary revenue funding is known as Internal Borrowing and these funds are repaid over the life of the asset in a process called the Minimum Revenue Provision. When the Council has the revenue reserves to do this it is usually a cheaper option than external borrowing.

Large scale voluntary transfer (LSVT)

This relates to the transfer of the housing stock, as voted by the tenants, and is generally referred to as a large scale voluntary transfer due to its size.

Leasing

A method of utilising assets where a rental charge is paid for a specified period of time, instead of outright purchase.

Loans outstanding

The total amounts borrowed from external lenders for capital and temporary revenue purposes but not repaid at the balance sheet date.

Local Authority Business Growth Incentive Scheme (LABGIS)

This is a means to reward Councils for increases in the rateable value of business properties above a certain threshold. Rossendale has received this for the first time in 2006/07 and used the extra income to create a Reserve for future Economic Development activity.

Materiality

Materiality is a concept within auditing and accounting relating to the importance of an amount, transaction, or discrepancy. Information is material if its omission or misstatement could influence the economic decision of users taken on the basis of the financial statements and depends on the size of the item or the particular circumstances of its omission or misstatement.



Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

The Minimum Revenue Provision is the minimum amount which must be charged to the Council's revenue account each year to repay the revenue reserves for amounts used to support the capital programme – known as Internal Borrowing.

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (formerly the Department for Communities and Local Government) job is to create great places to live and work, and to give more power to local people to shape what happens in their area.

National non-domestic rates (NNDR) – see Business Rates from 1st April 2013

A national non-domestic rate poundage for commercial premises is set annually by the government and collected by all local authorities. The proceeds are redistributed between local authorities in proportion to their adult populations.

Net book value

The amount at which assets are included in the balance sheet, i.e. their historical cost of current value, less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

Non-operational assets

Assets held by the Council, but not directly occupied, used or consumed in the delivery of services. Examples of non-operational assets are investment properties and assets that are surplus to requirements, pending sale or redevelopment.

Operational assets

Assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Council in the direct delivery of those services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

Precept

The levy made by precepting authorities on billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from Council Tax payers on their behalf, for example Lancashire County Council is a precepting authority which requires Rossendale Borough Council to collect an amount from each householder within the borough. Details of these charges made and the amounts collected and owing are kept separate from the day-to-day running of Rossendale Borough Council in the Collection Fund.

Prior Period Adjustment

Prior period adjustments are material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

Post Balance Sheet Events

Events arising after the balance sheet date which provide additional evidence of conditions that existed at the balance sheet date and are of a material nature.

Primacy of Legislative Requirements

The non-cash effects of transactions and other events should be reflected, as far as is possible, in the financial statements for the accounting period in which they occur and not in the period in which any cash involved is received or paid. (This replaces the principle of matching that underlays the accruals concept.)

Glossary

Provision

An amount set aside in the accounts for liabilities that are certain to be incurred in the future, but which cannot be quantified accurately at the balance sheet date.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)

A Government agency that provides longer term loans to local authorities.

Reserve

Amounts included in one financial year's accounts to provide for payment for goods or services, whether revenue or capital, in a future financial year.

Revenue Account

The Revenue Account records the authority's day-to-day expenditure and income on such items as salaries and wages and other running costs of services. The is sometimes also referred to as the General Fund.

Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP)

Local authorities in England prepare their Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement in accordance with the Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (SeRCOP). The SeRCOP stipulates the service divisions to be used in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement, including the collection of central managerial costs under 'Other Central Services'.

SOLACE

The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers was formed in 1974. SOLACE is the representative body for senior strategic managers working in the public sector. Its aim is to promote excellence in public service.

Tangible Assets

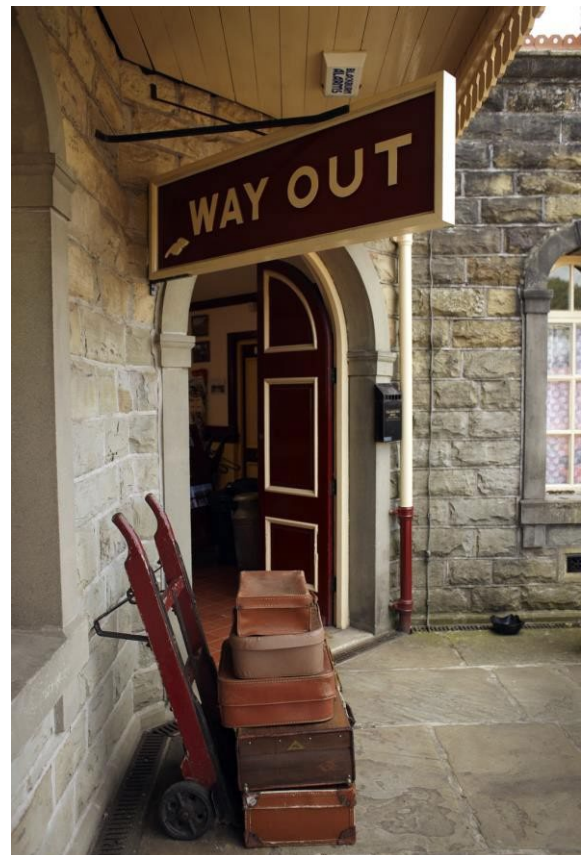
Tangible assets that yield benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Useable and Unuseable Reserves

The Reserves in the Balance Sheet are reported in two categories:-

Useable Reserves are those that the authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or to repay debt).

Unuseable reserves, are those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold, and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations.'



আপনি যদি এসব তথ্যের সার সংক্ষেপ বড় হরফের ছাপায়, অডিও ক্যাসেটে অথবা ইংরেজী ছাড়া অন্য কোন ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে আমাদেরকে জানালে আমরা অত্যন্ত খুশী মনে তার ব্যবস্থা করব।

অনুগ্রহ করে ০১৭০৬ ২১৭৭৭৭ এই নাম্বারে অথবা কমিউনিকেশন সেকশন, টাউন সেন্টার অফিস, রটেনস্টল বি.বি.৪ ৭এল.জেড. এই ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ করুন।

اگر آپ کو ان معلومات کا خلاصہ بڑے حروف میں، آڈیو کیسٹ پر، یا انگریزی کے علاوہ کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہے تو برائے مہربانی ہمیں بتائیں، ہم بخوشی آپ کے لیے اس کا انتظام کریں گے۔

برائے مہربانی 01706 217777 پر ٹیلیفون کریں یا پھر کمیونٹی کیشن سیکشن سے اس پتہ پر رابطہ قائم کریں:

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