

**2025-26 Draft
Statement of
Accounts**

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Introduction by the Director of Finance

I am pleased to introduce our financial accounts for 2025/26. The purpose of these accounts is to present a true and fair view of the financial results of our activities for the year and the value of our assets and liabilities at the end of the year. The Statement of Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. The Statement of Accounts play a vital role in providing Bury residents, Council Members, and other interested parties with an understanding of the Council's financial position, providing assurance that public resources have been used and accounted for in an appropriate manner.

It aims to ensure the readers of the Statement of Accounts can:

- Understand the overarching financial position of the Council and the 2025/26 financial outturn.
- Have confidence that public money with which the Council has been entrusted has been used and accounted for appropriately, and;
- Be assured of the robustness of the council's financial standing.

The Council's Statement of Accounts is presented as simply and clearly as possible. However, the accounts for such a large and diverse organisation are by their nature both technical and complex. To assist in this, a narrative report has been produced.

Neil Kissock
Director of Finance (S151 Officer)

Certificate of the Statement of Accounts

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Bury Council at 31 March 2026, and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Neil Kissock
Director of Finance (S151 Officer)
30 June 2026

Approval of the Accounts

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, I certify that the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2026, was approved under delegated powers as agreed by the Audit Committee at the meeting held on XX XXX XXXX.

Councillor Jodie Hook
Chair of the Audit Committee
XX XXX XXXX

Narrative Report

The Narrative Report provides information on the authority, its main objectives and strategies and the principal risks that it faces, as well as providing a commentary on how the authority has used its resources to achieve its desired outcomes in line with its objectives and strategies throughout 2025/26.

In the beginning of the 2025/26 financial year, Bury Council had significant financial pressures exacerbated by the challenging national financial outlook.

To provide funding certainty and allow councils to plan ahead, in December 2015 the Government offered councils a four-year funding settlement for the period 2016/17 to 2019/20. Over the six years since of 2020/21 to 2025/26 the Government has limited this to one-year only settlements, that makes it extremely difficult for councils to forecast future funding levels with any certainty and strategically forward plan.

On 3 February 2025 Government published a one-year 2025/26 Local Government Finance Settlement, Government later returned to a 3-year multi-year settlement for 2026/27 to 2028/29, which was accompanied by changes to the funding system for local government including the long delayed new fair funding formula to realign funding nationally in line with the recognised need for services whilst giving due consideration to a council's ability to raise revenue via council tax, and business rates.

Bury Council benefitted from the increased funding under the new fair funding formula in 2025/26 and this should also improve future financial position.

Introduction to Bury

Bury is a historic market town in Greater Manchester blending rich industrial heritage with modern cultural appeal. Located just 10 miles north of Manchester City Centre, it is globally renowned for its award-winning, 500-year-old Bury Market and traditional black pudding. Visitors flock to ride the vintage steam trains on the East Lancashire Railway or explore the town's vibrant Cultural Quarter, which hosts the acclaimed Bury Art Museum and The Fusilier Museum. Surrounded by beautiful Pennine countryside, Bury also offers scenic outdoor escapes like Burrs Country Park and panoramic views from Holcombe Hill's iconic Peel Tower.

Key Facts

Population

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2024 mid-year population estimate report Bury's total population as 198,921. It is forecasted to grow to 208,437 by 2047, with an expectant increase of aged over 80 from 9,208 in 2022 to 15,201, in 2047 with resultant increases in demand for health and social care services.

Age Profile

The working age population (age 16 to 64) as a proportion of the population is slightly lower than the regional and national averages, whilst those over 65 also represent a lower percentage of the population than regional and national averages. Over 85's represents 2.3% of the population compared to 2.5% nationally. Under 16s are higher than regional and national averages.

About the Council

The Council operate a cabinet structure, with the majority party on most occasion choosing the leader of the council, with the chairmanship of the cabinet heading their respective portfolios. The scrutiny

committee have an oversight of the actions of the cabinet. The member lead on the strategy with the Chief Executive and directors working with members to implement these strategies.

Political structure

Bury is made up of 17 wards with 3 Councillors representing each ward giving an overall total of 51 members. In 2025, Bury Council did not hold any local elections due to it being our 'fallow year'. There were however some changes to the political structure since the election held in May 2024, due to a by-election and Councillor defections.

The Cabinet

The Cabinet is the main decision-making body of the Council and is responsible for the strategic management of Council services. The Council in 2025/26 consisted of a Leader and 8 Cabinet Member Councillors each of whom held a Cabinet Member portfolio.

These were as follows:

- Strategic Growth
- Adult Care, Health, and Public Service Reform
- Children and Young People
- Finance and Transformation
- Culture Economy and Skills
- Environment, Climate Change and Operations
- Customer Service, Communications and Corporate Affairs
- Housing Services
- Communities and Inclusion

Cabinet members are also held to account through Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

Workforce

The Council's Executive Team provides leadership to the Council and supports the work of Councillors. The Chief Executive is supported by 4 Executive Directors – Health & Adult Care & Deputy Place Based Lead, Children and Young People, Strategy & Transformation and Place. The Chief Executive is also supported by the Director of Law & Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) and the Director of Finance (s151 Officer).

In carrying out their roles, the Executive Team support the Council in:

- Developing the Council's strategies
- Identifying and planning resources
- Delivering Council plans
- Reviewing the Council's performance and effectiveness in delivering services to residents across the borough

Council Employees

The Council employee count full time equivalents (FTE), excluding staff directly employed by schools and casuals were 2,305 (2,282 as of 31st March 2025). The slight increase in staff number is in line with bringing significant organisational change, stability, and improvements in various challenging areas, where possible. Investing in and engaging with our staff and ensuring they have the right skills and knowledge to support effective and efficient delivery is a priority and will continue to be so as the Council continues to transform in 2026/27 and beyond. These changes and embedding of organisational values and behaviours aligned to the LET'S Do It! Strategy. The Council aims to build a resilient and flexible workforce that is able to deliver the Council's plans and meet the changing needs

of the organisation. The Council aims to have the right people, with the rights skills and the right tools in place to do their job across the whole of the Council.

2025/26 Corporate Plan

The context for the Corporate Plan for 2025/26 is similar to that of previous years. Despite positive trajectories on the delivery of the content of the 2024/25 plan there continues to be a significant financial gap as described in the Council’s MTFs. In addition, as experienced elsewhere, there continues to be increased pressure on the Council and it’s partners due to the increase in the volume and complexity of demand.

Despite the scale of ambition of delivery in 2024/25, and alongside those other unforeseen activities that required additional capacity, most of the plan was delivered. However, there is still much work to do to impact against the Council’s three priorities which were always intended to be multi-year plans, contributing to the LET’S 2030 Strategy. Focus will still need to continue to be sustained against these priorities to improve outcomes in these areas.

Whilst some of the focus of the Corporate Plan for 2024/25 was preparatory for the delivery of large schemes and intervention, the plan for 2025/26 includes clear and tangible deliverables with principle regeneration sites underway and new services up and running. The outcomes of upcoming inspections with the CQC and Ofsted will be known and therefore some space will need to be included for he actions which follow from those inspections to continue to improve outcomes. In addition, an amount of focus needs to be aligned with tackling inequalities particularly because as the national and regional integrated health and care systems are subject to significant change with the national NHS reform program. The plan will also cover those milestones which were not delivered in 2024/25.



Therefore, the three priorities and an additional the enabling priority will be repeated for the 2025/26 planning year. Key objectives have been described against each of these priorities, together with a clear set of quarterly delivery milestones. The plan on a page is below and the proposed delivery milestones at Appendix Four. As per the delivery position at Quarter 4, any remaining undelivered milestones have been rolled over into this new plan.

Achieving Economic Growth

Reducing Deprivation

Enabling Actions

LET'S Do It! Values & Behaviours

Sustainable Inclusive Growth:

- Deliver the All Age Work and Skills Strategy and Action Plan
- Agree a Local Plan in context of Places for Everyone
- Develop a new Housing Strategy
- Construction of Radcliffe High School, Civic Hub and redevelopment of the Radcliffe Enterprise Centre and Market Chambers
- Progress Bury Town Centre Masterplan projects; NORA (Northern Rock Area), Millgate refurbishment, Indoor Market, Chamberhall Phase 2
- Deliver Prestwich Phase 1
- Design and deliver township development plans for Whitefield & Ramsbottom
- Progress the Northern Gateway scheme: establish MDC; Western Access OBC and first-phase planning
- Continue to deliver the Local Transport Strategy including Bury Interchange improvements, the Highway Improvement Strategy and the active travel programme
- Develop Annual Sustainability Plan and progress Climate Change Strategy including town centre heat network and the EV Charging point network
- Support implementation of flood defence scheme by Environmental Agency

Improving Children's Lives:

- Progress the SEND Improvement Journey (inc. free special schools)
- Continue the transformation of our Pupil Referral Unit offer
- Progress the Children's Social Care Improvement Journey: embed family safeguarding; develop commissioning strategy and workforce development
- Establish an Education and Inclusion Strategy
- Agree a multi-agency plan in response to the social care reforms, outlined in Keeping Children Safe, Helping Families Thrive and the Children's Wellbeing and Education Bill

Tackling Inequalities:

- Deliver the Bury Locality Plan update for health and care transformation in the borough
- Develop the health inequalities strategy and deliver our improvement plan for Adult Social Care
- Accelerate development of the Bury neighbourhood model, in context of GM Live Well approach, including economic inactivity trailblazer pilot
- Update the anti-poverty action plan and evaluate impact
- Develop the Wellness strategy inc. the leisure business case and deliver the Green Flag Parks Programme and Green Spaces Strategy
- Deliver the Culture Strategy through the Community Culture Fund, the annual co-created events programme and repairing the Bury Art Gallery and Ramsbottom Library roofs
- Implement the New Community Safety Plan
- Deliver on plans to improve social housing, including decarbonisation, and increase tenant satisfaction

Financial Sustainability

- Delivery of MTFS Savings and develop 2026/27 MTFS
- Refresh of the Capital Programme
- Production of a Commercial Strategy
- Improve strategic commissioning and procurement
- Deliver finance restructure and improvement plan

Workforce, Culture & Inclusion

- Develop HR Service Improvement Plan
- Deliver the Inclusion Strategy
- Quarterly OD programme to embed LETS principles
- Ensure continued compliance with PDRs, Mandatory Training and Service Planning, inc. Health & Safety
- Deliver the Council's Improvement Plan

Transformation

- Implementation of the Digital Strategy
- Deliver the Unit 4 Upgrade and change plan
- Confirm the Council's Corporate Estate Plan
- Increase community engagement through the new VCFA SLA and our social cohesion strategy

The Plan also includes new objectives and milestones for the enabling actions needed to ensure the organisational conditions necessary to deliver these priorities. These objectives and milestones pay particular attention to the external auditor's recommendations regarding improved governance and robustness around financial decision making.

A new suite of key performance indicators is also being developed as part of a refreshed performance framework for the organisation. This is in two tiers where a set of high-level indicators which can be benchmarked where appropriate can be utilised for monitoring the impact of the corporate plan delivery and then a second tier of indicators which demonstrate activity that is happening within services. The proposed suite of Corporate Plan KPIs is attached at Appendix Five.

Performance:

Following Quarter Four, the overall position against delivery of the Corporate Plan for 2025/26 remains positive. The majority of objectives have been delivered or are on track, with a small number subject to managed risks where delivery is influenced by external dependencies or system pressures.

Progress has been sustained across key areas, including regeneration, children's services and targeted action to address inequalities. This has been supported by delivery of enabling programmes, particularly in relation to financial sustainability and organisational stability.

Performance trends broadly align with delivery, with improvement in a number of indicators, alongside continued pressures in housing, health inequalities and organisational compliance.

Overall, the year-end position reflects a stable and improving picture of delivery, with a strong foundation for continued progress in 2026/27.

Governance

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

The Annual Governance Statement explains how the Council has complied with the CIPFA Financial Management Code and meets the requirements of regulation 6(2) Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, in relation to the approval of the Annual Governance Statement.

The Head of Fraud, Audit, Insurance & Risk's opinion for 2025/26

Based on the results of the audit work undertaken during the year, there is clear evidence of continued improvement across the Council's control environment. The overall direction of travel is positive, with significant progress being made in addressing key risks and strengthening controls across a number of service areas. While it is considered too early at this stage to provide a moderate assurance conclusion, the Council has demonstrated sustained improvement and a strong commitment to implementing agreed actions. Consequently, the Head of Audits conclusion is that it remains one of a limited assurance, but with encouraging and measurable progress noted throughout the period. Importantly, the risks facing the Authority are being actively addressed, and there is positive momentum in the implementation of recommendations.

Outstanding recommendations identified following second follow-up reviews continue to be actively monitored by the embedded Governance and Assurance Board through its monthly oversight arrangements. This robust process is helping to identify areas where additional support and focus may be beneficial, ensuring that improvements continue to be driven forward across the Council. The continued involvement and scrutiny provided by this Board is making a positive and meaningful contribution to strengthening governance arrangements, promoting accountability, and supporting ongoing improvement across the organisation.

Performance Management

A new suite of key performance indicators was developed as part of a refreshed performance framework for the organisation. This is in two tiers where a set of high-level indicators which can be benchmarked where appropriate can be utilised for monitoring the impact of the corporate plan delivery and then a second tier of indicators which demonstrate activity that is happening within services. To support and empower the executives and management, the performance dashboard was utilised to present this information in an accessible format, including trend information and benchmarking data.

Financial Sustainability

The finance department is committed to its mission of providing timely reports and support the business units in managing their respective resources as well as responding responsibly to our various stakeholders in good stead. By so doing the finance department continues to challenge itself and restructure its operations to be as fluid as possible in its mission, in optimising the resources of the council. It is key that finance is seen as an enabler to all departments to achieve the objectives and priorities of the Council, whilst ensuring financial sustainability and resilience.

Workforce Culture and Inclusion

Our People Strategy was agreed November 2025. It set out our four strategic outcomes -

- Leaders who listen, learn and inspire
- Empowered & Engaged colleagues – retaining & attracting great people
- Teams who collaborate, innovate and grow
- Supported colleagues

In 2025/26 We finished a comprehensive programme of development for all managers who line manage staff and delivered a staff survey which highlighted many strengths, in particular an excellent rate of completion (45%), and 7 in 10 colleagues saying they would recommend Bury Council as a great place to work. Our future focus now is delivery of a People Plan that will include –

A new Leadership development programme

- Improving our approach to managing talent - aligned with our inclusion priorities - embedding support and forums for colleagues as well as exploring different approaches to recruiting.
- Linking development activity to our transformation activity
- Re-evaluating our benefits and wellbeing offer

Transformation

In July 2021, Cabinet agreed a multi-year internal transformation programme with the objectives of both improving service quality and reducing costs. The programme is comprised of three workstreams: Let's do it....

- Once – an integrated customer contact strategy.
- Flexibly – estates rationalisation and agile working.
- Well – internal improvement and efficiencies.

Underpinning much of this work is the Council's digital programme, which seeks to promote digital-first user engagement, a digital workplace and improved business intelligence. During 2025/26 transformation activity has progressed, including implementation of the finance restructure and continued work on the Unit 4 system. While delivery timelines have been revised due to system complexity, progress continues with a clear recovery plan in place.

Budget Setting

The 2025/26 budget has been designed to support the delivery of the 2030 vision of the "The LET'S DO IT!" strategy as set out in February 2024 and the Council's priorities and key deliverables as partly highlighted above, which appraises the Council's Corporate Plan and associated plans.

Financial Performance 2025/26

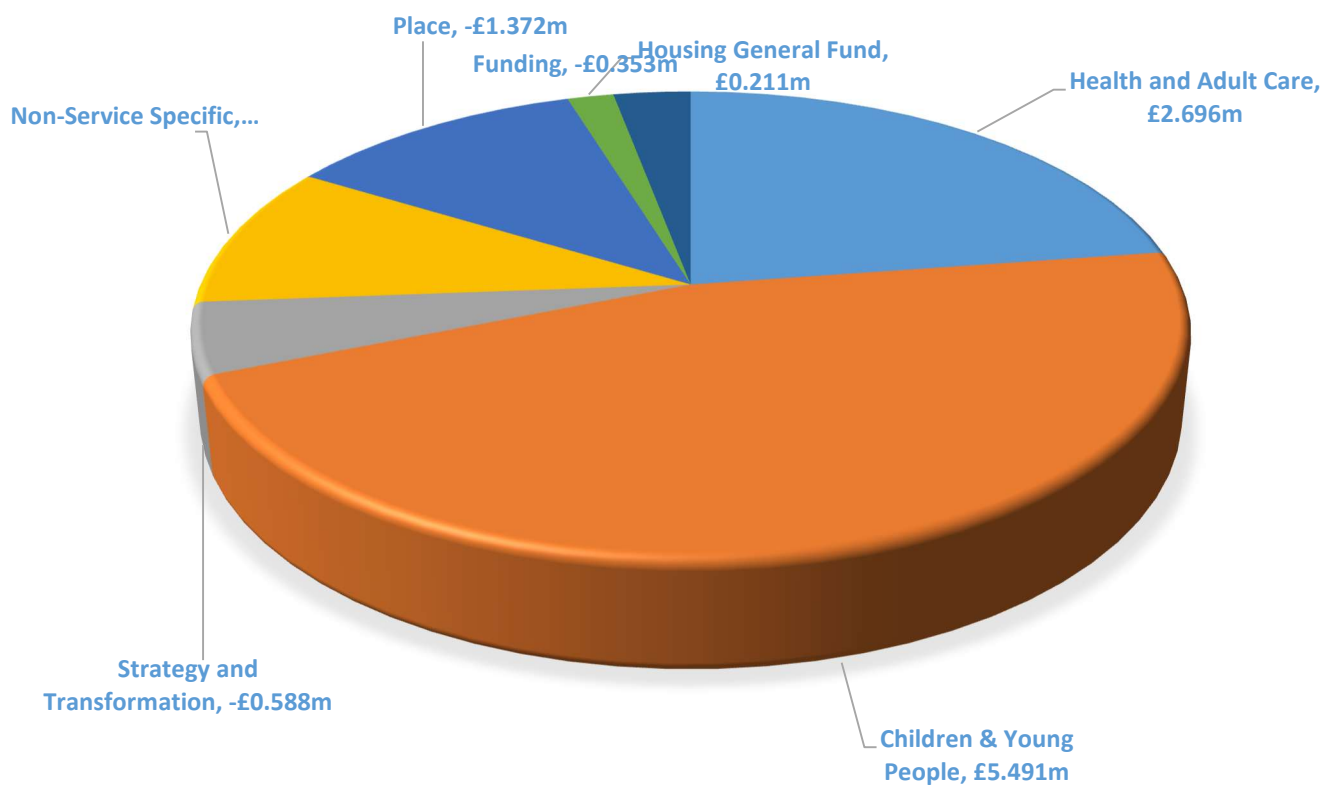
Revenue

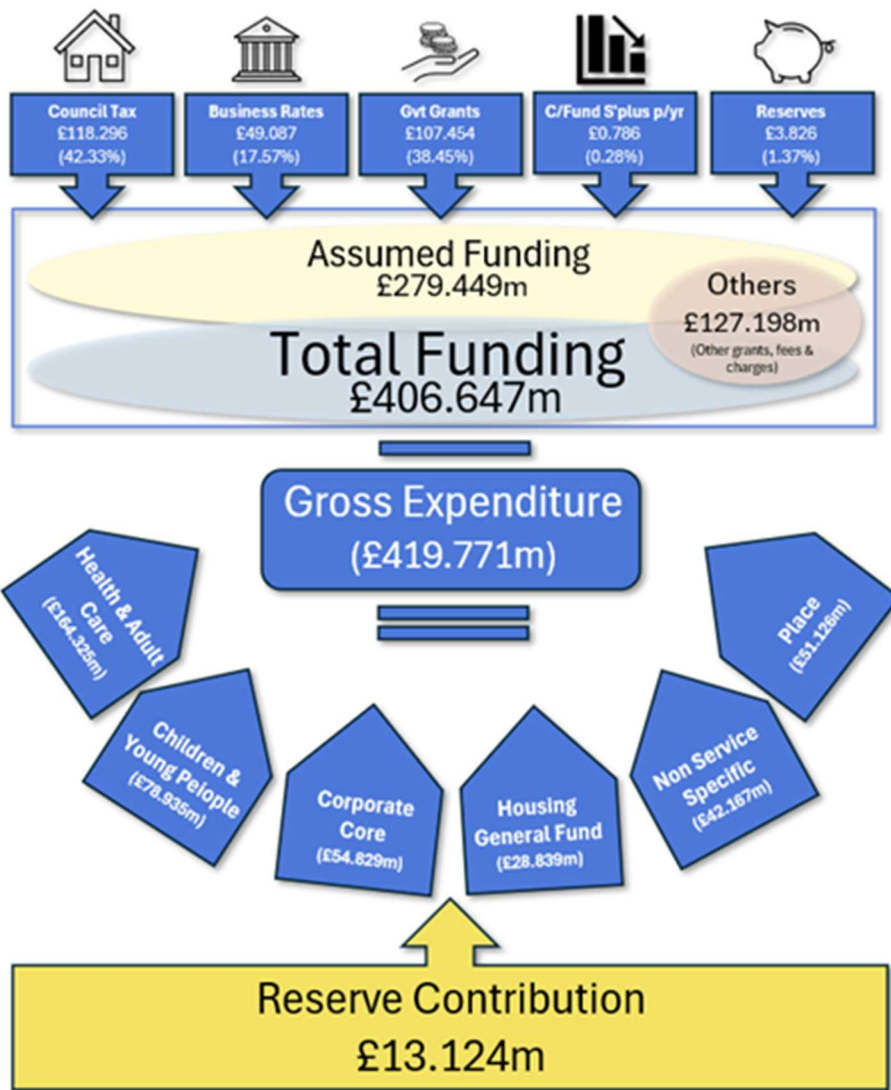
The 2025/26 general fund revenue outturn position was an overspend of £7.266m (including the use of reserves) which represents a variance of 3.04% compared to the overall revenue budget of £238.987m. The final outturn is £0.666m lower than the forecast outturn position at quarter 3 which was reported to Cabinet in March and represents an additional call on reserves.

This Income and Expenditure is analysed by department below:

2025/26 Outturn	Revised Budget £m	Actual £m	Actual to Budget Variance £m
Health and Adult Care	£98.892	£101.588	£2.696
Children & Young People	£65.494	£70.985	£5.491
Strategy & Transformation	£30.082	£29.494	(£0.588)
Non-Service Specific	£29.294	£30.474	£1.180
Place	£15.304	£13.932	(£1.372)
Housing General Fund	(£0.079)	£0.132	£0.211
DIRECTORATE TOTAL	£238.987	£246.606	£7.618
FUNDING:	(£233.129)	(£233.482)	(£0.353)
Use of Reserves	(£5.858)	(£5.858)	£0.000
BUDGET POSITION	£0.000	£7.265	£7.265

2025-26 GENERAL FUND OUTTURN £7.266M





Savings

The Council recognises the need for savings plans to be delivered. The Finance Board Project management capacity has increased and a programme that supports and monitors the delivery and deliverability of savings is in place for 2025/26 supported by the Executive Delivery Board. There have been 65.63% delivery of savings plans in 2025/26 (£7.439m achieved compared to £11.334m planned).

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

Approved on the 6 November 2020 but coming into effect from the 29 November 2020 parliament agreed to establishing new accounting practices in relation to the treatment of local authorities' schools budget deficits. Where the Council has a deficit on its schools budget it must not charge the amount of that deficit to a revenue account. The Council must record any such deficit in a separate account established solely for the purpose of recording deficits relating to its school's budget. The new accounting practice has the effect of separating schools budget deficits from the Councils' general fund for a period of three financial years. This issue can only be fully resolved by closing the deficits.

At the end of 2025/26 the Council held a net deficit balance of £20.285m on its DSG account, an increase of £1.244m from £19.041m at the end of 2024/25. The overall outturn was an increase in the deficit position as a result of increased demand for supporting pupils with high needs.

In February 2026, the Government announced the introduction of the High Needs Stability Grant, which will fund 90% of the DSG unusable reserve as at 31 March 2026. The unusable reserve is £21.473m. The grant will be paid from Autumn 2026, on submission of an approved SEND Reform Plan. A number of workstreams have been, and continue to be developed, which will reduce the DSG deficit position in future years. The focus of this activity is around the High Needs Block and the demands against this funding stream. The Council is also working with Department for Education colleagues on a SEND Reform Plan.

Reserves

There was £5.858m budgeted use of reserves and £7.266m of reserves to balance the 2025/26 outturn.

Earmarked reserves have however been used throughout the year to deliver key priorities and deliver outcomes where specific funding had been received and was being held in reserves.

The accounts show that the Council has £36.89m (£56.29m at 31 March 2025) in general fund earmarked reserves at 31 March 2026 and £10.000m (£10.000m at 31st March 2025) in General Reserves at 31 March 2026.

The Council is faced with an uncertain financial climate over the medium to long-term which presents a high risk to the authority and there remains potential for further, yet unrecognised, risks. For this reason, a prudent approach to the level of reserves held by the Council remains a sensible and necessary approach that underpins the financial resilience of the organisation.

Usable Reserves	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
General Fund	(£10,000)	(£10,000)
Earmarked General Fund Reserve	(£56,290)	(£36,891)
Housing Revenue Account	(£16,746)	(£19,861)
Major Repairs Reserve	(£13)	(£13)
Capital Receipts Unapplied	(£16,532)	(£15,408)
Capital Grants Unapplied	(£28,935)	(£31,892)
Balance at 31 March	(£128,516)	(£114,065)

Pension liabilities/(Asset)

The Council has reported a nil pension liability/(asset) as at 31 March 2026 due to the effect of the asset ceiling, more detail on the asset ceiling calculation is provided in Note 38, (asset of nil as at 31 March 2025). Pension assets & liabilities are based on the requirements of IAS 19, Employee Benefits, and calculations are carried out using a prescribed method. The liability/(asset) is not an immediate deficit/surplus that has to be met now. The sum is the current assessment taking a long-term view of the future liabilities for existing pensioners and current employees who are accruing pension entitlement and of future expected investment performance.

Capital

In 2025/26, the amount expended on capital related activities, was £100.413m (£59.814m, 24/25). A capital finance requirement of contracts entered to commence in 2025/26 not including slippage from prior years and other minor contracts is estimated to be £17.336 (£19.360m, 24/25). These commitments are part of its LET'S DO IT! Priorities, - Achieving Inclusive Economic Growth", and does not include the amount for housing development.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE by THEME	£m
Regeneration and Economic Growth	48.616
Highways	13.539
Open Spaces / Sports and Leisure	1.553
Children and Young People	6.936
Property	2.656
Housing	21.525
Climate Change	0.016
ICT	2.573
Capital Receipts Flexibility	3.000
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	100.413

CAPITAL FINANCING	£m
Prudential Borrowing	49.249
External Funding	33.528
Capital Receipts	9.554
General Fund RCCO	0.010
Housing Revenue Account DRF/MRR	8.072
TOTAL CAPITAL FINANCING	100.413

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Under legislation, income and expenditure on Council Housing is ringfenced within the HRA. This means the Council is not able to make contributions to or from its General Fund from or to the HRA.

After taking into account adjustments between the accounting basis and the funding basis under legislation and transfers to and from earmarked reserves there is an increase of £3.115m on the HRA Balance as at 31 March 2026 bringing it to £19.861m.

Collection Fund

The council is required by legislation to maintain a separate Collection Fund Account for the administration of Council Tax and Business Rates income. All income collected from local taxpayers is paid into this account and then distributed to the Council's General Fund, and to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) for the GMCA Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner precept and the GMCA Mayoral General precept (including fire services).

The 2025/26 movement on the Collection Fund is a deficit of £2.908m, from an overall surplus of £0.684m to an overall deficit of £2.223m.

The Council's and the Precepting Authorities share of the surplus is shown in the table below:

The Collection Fund	Council Tax	Business Rates	Total
	£000s	£000s	£000s
Opening Collection Fund Balance (Surplus)/Deficit for the year	(£918) £3,401	£233 (£493)	(£684) £2,908
Closing Cumulative (surplus)/Deficit carried forward	£2,483	(£260)	£2,223
<u>Allocated to:</u>			
Bury Council	£2,050	(£257)	£1,793
GMCA Mayoral General	£277		£277
GMCA Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	£156	(£3)	£153
Total Allocation	£2,483	(£260)	£2,223

Greater Manchester 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot

On 1 April 2017, the GMCA, Bury Council and the nine other GM districts commenced a pilot scheme for the 100% local retention of Business Rates. The participants agreed to pilot full Business Rates Retention on the basis that no district would be worse off than they would have been under the original '50/50' arrangements whereby Business Rates revenues are shared between Central Government and the Local Authority sector. This has become known as the 'no detriment' principle. Under the pilot scheme, additional rates income is offset by reductions in other funding streams such as the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and Public Health Grant.

The Council continued with the 100% increased Business Rates Retention arrangements in 2025/26. Business rates income is a complex and volatile tax, changes in rateable values and increases in appeals by businesses are difficult to predict and can have a significant impact on the actual benefit realised at the end of the financial year.

From the Government's perspective, the primary purpose of the increased Business Rates Retention arrangements was to develop and trial approaches to manage risk and reward in a Local Government finance system that included the full devolution of Business Rates revenues.

The expected reform of Local Government Funding including the Business Rates Retention scheme has taken place for financial year 2026/27 and it has been confirmed that the Greater Manchester 100% increased Business Rates Retention arrangements will continue in 2026/27.

Treasury Management

The Treasury management function is essentially how Bury council manages its money on a day to day and long-term basis to make sure it has enough cash to operate and invest safely. It involves borrowing money when needed (for example, to fund schools, roads, or major projects), investing any spare cash to earn a return, and carefully managing risks such as interest rates and economic changes. To ensure the council can deliver services reliably while getting good value for taxpayers, the aim is to balance three key priorities:

1. Security (keeping money safe),
2. Liquidity (having cash available when needed)
3. Yield (earning a reasonable return)

Treasury management activities are managed within an overall framework determined by the Treasury Management and Investment Strategies that were agreed by Full Council in February 2026 and are approved annually. Interest income and expenditure as a result of investments or borrowing are reflected in our revenue budgets.

Included in our investment income is the Council's interest in Manchester Airport Group which provides Bury Council with a valuable source of stable income while supporting a key regional asset which supports, Jobs, Tourism and Business growth.

Risks

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards 2017 require the Council to maintain a robust, adequate, and effective system of risk management in its delivery of core services. Operation of an effective and embedded risk management framework is an important element of such a system so that the Council effectively discharges its corporate governance responsibilities.

As part of Bury Council's Code of Corporate Governance, risk management underpins its system of internal control.

The Executive Team is responsible for identifying potential strategic risk (internal and external of significant impact to the body), monitoring the Corporate Risk and maintaining a Register, ensuring that the management of risk continues to be within the Council's risk appetite.

Audit Committee is responsible for considering the effectiveness of the council's corporate risk management arrangements and constantly challenging its adequacy.

As at the end of the 2025/26 financial year, there were 26 corporate identified strategic risk in the register.

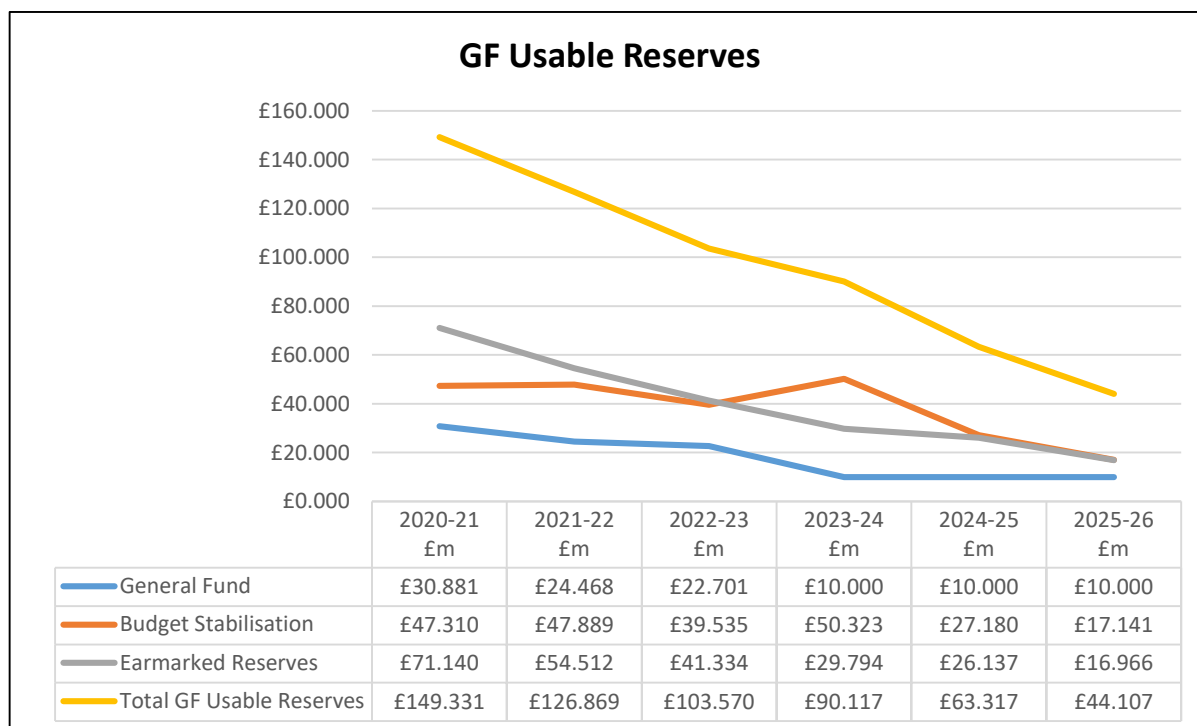
Outlook

MTFS

At the time when the 2025/26 budget was set, there remained a budget gap for 2025/26 of £5.858m and a cumulative budget gap over the three years of £11.571m. The additional funding announced in the Local Government Financial Settlement and the increase in Council Tax and Business Rates has helped to bridge part of the gap in our budget.

Savings proposal of £11.334m had been included within the budget for 2025/26. The savings were approved by members as part of setting both the 2023/24 budget in February 2023 and the 2025/26 budget in February 2025. The Director of Finance chaired the Finance Board and Executive Delivery Board to agree a strategy to deliver savings to close the gap and to oversee the delivery of the budgeted savings.

As part of the budget, reserves had been reviewed. The use of reserves has been modelled over a three-year period to assess the worst-case scenario should savings not materialise to close the £11.571m budget gap. There are sufficient reserves to manage the budget gap however a strategy to close the gap over the three-year period needs to be developed to ensure the financial sustainability of the Council.



Finance Settlement

The Local Government Finance Settlement reform has now been announced which gives more a multi-year settlement from 2026/27 onwards which gives more certainty and aids future planning. The MTFS now includes assumptions on the future based on the announcements to date and will continue to be amended as the government release further updates. It is important that Bury spends within this approved budget, especially with pressures on current resources.

Other significant risks that impact on the delivery of a balanced budget over the medium term, includes:

- Financial Sustainability & Capacity
- Increasing Demand Pressures
- Digital Transformation
- Climate change
- Workforce Skills & Capability
- Children's Social Care Services
- Adult Social Care Reforms and financial pressures in NHS GM
- Increasing Energy Prices and increase in Fuel and Oil Costs

The risks are monitored and reported:

- Included in the Corporate Risk Register.
- Regularly reported to Governance and Assurance Board
- Reviewed through quarterly monitoring and updates to the Audit Committee.

Financial Statements

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, as amended, set out the statutory deadlines for an authority to publish both the 2025/26 unaudited Statement of Accounts by 30 June 2026 and 2025/26 audited Statement of Accounts by 31 January 2027.

The Statement of Accounts provide an overview of the Council's financial position for 2025/26. The 2025/26 set of accounts conform to the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2025/26 (the Code), which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Explanatory Statements

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 shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation (or rents). Authorities raise taxation (and rents) to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the expenditure and funding analysis and the movement in reserves statement.

Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The statement shows how the movements in year of the authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax (or rents) for the year. The net increase/decrease line shows the statutory general fund balance and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

Balance Sheet shows the value as at the balance sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the authority. The net assets of the authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the authority.

Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the authority 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 authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from 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. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the authority.

Notes to the Core Financial Statements

All the notes to the core statements above are collected in one place. Later in this document there is an explanation of the policies used in the preparation of the figures in these accounts, especially changes made during the year.

Other Statements

The Collection Fund and notes 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.

Housing Revenue Account and notes shows the in-year economic cost of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

Group Accounts

In accordance with the Code the following have been consolidated in the Council's Group Accounts:

The Council relationship with three organisations over which it has substantial control and influence that have been identified as Subsidiaries of Bury Council, of:

- Six Town Housing Ltd
- Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd

- Persona Care and Support Ltd and Persona Group Ltd

The two joint arrangements formed during 2022/23, whereby the Council has agreed to share joint control and has rights to the net assets of the arrangement, have been classed as a Joint Venture, of:

- Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP
- The Prestwich Regeneration LLP

Further details on the Group entities and the Group Accounts can be found in the Group Accounts section of the Council's statement of Accounts.

Glossary

At the end of the statement there is a glossary which explains some of the technical terms used in these accounts.

Further information

As a result of complying with regulation these accounts can be complex to read. However, I hope you find them informative in helping you understand how the Council manages its finances and its service delivery. If you have any questions or comments please e-mail closedown@bury.gov.uk or write to the Director of Finance, Bury Metropolitan Council, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0SW.

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required:

- To make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In Bury that Officer is the Section 151 Officer.
- To manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient, and effective use of its resources and safeguard its assets.
- To approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Responsibilities of Audit Committee

Audit Committee is required:

- To monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the Council and to review significant financial reporting judgements contained in them;
- To review the Council's internal financial controls including its risk management systems;
- To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Council's internal audit function;
- To review and monitor the external auditor's independence and objectivity and the effectiveness of the audit process;
- To consider significant accounting policies, any changes to them, and any significant estimates and judgements;
- To review the clarity and completeness of disclosures in the financial statements and consider whether the disclosures made are set properly in context; and
- To approve the audited Statement of Accounts.

The Responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts which, in terms of CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in Great Britain, is required to present **a true and fair view** of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the Authority at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026.

In preparing the Statement of Accounts the Section 151 Officer has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent; and
- Complied with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

The Section 151 Officer has also:

- Kept proper accounting records which are up to date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities;
- Signed the letter of representation with the External Auditor;
- Signed and dated the draft Statement of Accounts, confirming satisfaction that it presents a true and fair view of the authority's financial position at the balance sheet date, the authority's income and expenditure for the year;
- Commenced the period for the exercise of public rights with regards to the inspection of the statement of accounts;
- Notified the External Auditor of the date on which that period began;
- Assessed the Authority's [and the Group's] ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- Used the going concern basis of accounting on the assumption that the functions of the Authority [and the Group] will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future;
- Maintained such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- Reconfirmed satisfaction that the accounts present a true and fair view of the financial position at the balance sheet date and the income and expenditure for the year, upon conclusion of the public inspection period and immediately prior to approval of the audited accounts by Audit Committee.

Independent Auditors Report

Intentionally Blank – Auditors Report to be Inserted on Completion of the Audit

Core Financial Statements and Explanatory Notes

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Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation [or rents]. Authorities raise taxation [and rents] to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the expenditure and funding analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

2024/25			Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		2025/26		
Restated Gross Expenditure £000s	Restated Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Description	Note	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
£164,533	(£56,434)	£108,099	Health & Adult Care		£173,358	(£59,831)	£113,527
£223,833	(£148,777)	£75,056	Children & Young People		£237,772	(£152,766)	£85,006
£39,877	(£19,084)	£20,794	Place		£48,391	(£23,845)	£24,546
£30,992	(£12,365)	£18,627	Strategy & Transformation		£34,311	(£15,055)	£19,256
£33,615	(£33,617)	(£2)	Housing General Fund		£28,389	(£28,257)	£132
£10,278	(£5,278)	£5,000	Non-Service Specific		£3,615	(£4,916)	(£1,301)
£29,059	(£39,344)	(£10,285)	Housing Revenue Account		£31,739	(£38,715)	(£6,976)
£532,187	(£314,898)	£217,289	Cost of Services		£557,575	(£323,386)	£234,190
£63,450	£0	£63,450	Other Operating Expenditure	10	£51,382	£0	£51,382
£2,657	(£8,703)	(£6,046)	Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure	11	(£4,168)	(£22,517)	(£26,685)
£0	(£246,474)	(£246,474)	Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income & Expenditure	12	£0	(£267,638)	(£267,638)
£598,295	(£570,074)	£28,220	(Surplus) or Deficit On Provision of Services		£604,790	(£613,541)	(£8,751)
		(£94,964)	(Surplus)/Deficit on Revaluation of Property, Plant & Equipment				(£9,200)
		£0	Impairment Losses on Non-Current Assets Charged to the Revaluation Reserve				£0
		£2,880	(Surplus)/Deficit from Investments in Equity Instruments Designated at Fair Value through Comprehensive Income				£6,420
		(£122,382)	Actuarial (gains)/losses on the Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability/(Asset)				£15,434
		£129,714	Asset Ceiling Adjustment	38			£6,049
		(£84,752)	Total Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				£18,703
		(£56,532)	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				£9,952

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the authority, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Movement in Reserves Statement shows how the movements in year of the authority's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax [or rents] for the year. The net increase/decrease line shows the statutory General Fund balance and Housing Revenue Account balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

Movement in Reserves Statement 2025/26	Usable Reserves							Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves	
	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Total General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Usable Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied			Total Usable Reserves
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Balance at 1 April Brought Forward	(£10,000)	(£56,291)	(£66,291)	(£16,746)	(£16,532)	(£13)	(£28,935)	(£128,517)	(£468,597)	(£597,114)
<i>Movement in Reserves During 2025/26:</i>										
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	£4,255	£0	£4,255	(£13,005)	£0	£0	£0	(£8,751)	£18,703	£9,953
Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations (Note 8)	£15,145	£0	£15,145	£9,890	£1,124	£0	(£2,957)	£23,202	(£23,202)	£0
Net (Increase)/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	£19,400	£0	£19,400	(£3,115)	£1,124	£0	(£2,957)	£14,452	(£4,499)	£9,953
Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	(£19,400)	£19,400	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
(Increase)/Decrease in Year	£0	£19,400	£19,400	(£3,115)	£1,124	£0	(£2,957)	£14,452	(£4,499)	£9,953
Balance at 31 March Carried Forward	(£10,000)	(£36,891)	(£46,891)	(£19,861)	(£15,408)	(£13)	(£31,892)	(£114,065)	(£473,096)	(£587,161)

The following table is provided for comparative purposes:

Movement in Reserves Statement 2024/25	Usable Reserves							Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Total General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Usable Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied			
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Balance at 1 April Brought Forward	(£10,000)	(£83,161)	(£93,161)	(£10,510)	(£18,474)	£0	(£28,098)	(£150,243)	(£390,339)	(£540,582)
<i>Movement in Reserves During 2024/25:</i>										
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	£38,390	£0	£38,390	(£10,170)	£0	£0	£0	£28,220	(£84,752)	(£56,532)
Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations (Note 8)	(£11,635)	£0	(£11,635)	£3,933	£1,941	(£13)	(£722)	(£6,494)	£6,494	£0
Net (Increase)/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	£26,755	£0	£26,755	(£6,236)	£1,941	(£13)	(£722)	£21,726	(£78,258)	(£56,532)
Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	(£26,755)	£26,870	£115	£0	£0	£0	(£115)	£0	£0	£0
(Increase)/Decrease in Year	£0	£26,870	£26,870	(£6,236)	£1,941	(£13)	(£837)	£21,726	(£78,258)	(£56,532)
Balance at 31 March Carried Forward	(£10,000)	(£56,291)	(£66,291)	(£16,746)	(£16,532)	(£13)	(£28,935)	(£128,517)	(£468,597)	(£597,114)

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the authority. The net assets of the authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves 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 repay debt). The second category of reserves are those that the authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the revaluation reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

31 March 2025	Balance Sheet	2021	31 March 2026
£000s	Description	Note	£000s
£730,436	Property, Plant & Equipment	13 & 14	£779,754
£26,353	Heritage Assets	15	£26,355
£19,226	Investment Property	16	£20,605
£3,378	Intangible Assets	17	£2,773
£47,820	Long-Term Investments	19	£41,400
£69,228	Long-Term Debtors	21	£67,915
£0	Pension Asset	38	£0
£896,440	LONG TERM ASSETS		£938,802
£20,700	Short-Term Investments	19	£14,618
£4,953	Assets Held For Sale	18	£385
£2,081	Stocks & Work in Progress		£1,991
£65,973	Short-Term Debtors	21	£86,973
£1,288	Cash and Cash Equivalents	22	(£5,324)
£94,995	CURRENT ASSETS		£98,642
(£24,868)	Short-Term Borrowing	19	(£38,999)
(£46,493)	Short-Term Creditors	23	(£36,753)
(£2,830)	Short-Term Provisions	24	(£4,051)
(£3,304)	Revenue Grants in Advance	33	(£3,279)
(£77,495)	CURRENT LIABILITIES		(£83,082)
(£139)	Long-Term Creditors		(£139)
(£8,478)	Long-Term Provisions	24	(£8,303)
(£270,401)	Long-Term Borrowing	19	(£330,806)
(£12)	Deferred Liabilities		(£12)
(£10,349)	Other Long-Term Liabilities		(£9,943)
£0	Pension Liability	38	£0
(£27,447)	Capital Grants Receipts in Advance	33	(£17,999)
(£316,826)	LONG TERM LIABILITIES		(£367,201)
£597,114	NET ASSETS		£587,161
(£128,517)	Usable Reserves	09	(£114,065)
(£468,597)	Unusable Reserves	26	(£473,096)
(£597,114)	TOTAL RESERVES		(£587,161)

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the authority 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 authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources that are intended to contribute to the authority's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the authority.

Cash Flow Statement	Note	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services		£28,220	(£8,751)
Adjustment to Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services for Non-Cash Movements		(£65,621)	(£11,977)
Adjust for Items Included in the Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services that are Investing and Financing Activities		£39,816	£44,918
Net Cash flows from Operating Activities	27	£2,415	£24,191
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	27	£40,445	£51,170
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	27	(£43,614)	(£68,749)
Net Increase or (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(£755)	£6,612
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Reporting Period		(£533)	(£1,287)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period	22	(£1,287)	£5,324

Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The expenditure and funding analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the council's [directorates/services/departments]. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices are presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Expenditure and Funding Analysis	2025/26							
	Outturn as Reported to Cabinet	Adjustments to Management Reporting (Note 7)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the GF and HRA	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 7)	Net Change for Pensions Adjustments (Note 7)	Other Statutory Differences (Note 7)	Adjustments Between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Health & Adult Care	£101,588	£11,638	£113,226	£1,238	(£936)	£0	£301	£113,527
Children & Young People	£70,985	£8,032	£79,017	£6,705	(£1,877)	£1,160	£5,989	£85,006
Place	£13,932	(£506)	£13,427	£11,974	(£854)	£0	£11,120	£24,546
Strategy & Transformation	£29,494	(£14,263)	£15,231	£5,054	(£908)	(£121)	£4,025	£19,256
Housing General Fund	£132	£0	£132	£0	£0	£0	£0	£132
Non-Service Specific	£30,474	(£32,672)	(£2,198)	£897	£0	£0	£897	(£1,301)
Housing Revenue Account	£0	(£6,956)	(£6,956)	£254	(£273)	(£2)	(£21)	(£6,976)
Net Cost of Services	£246,606	(£34,727)	£211,879	£26,121	(£4,848)	£1,037	£22,311	£234,190
Other Income and Expenditure	(£239,340)	£43,745	(£195,594)	(£19,147)	(£16,635)	(£11,564)	(£47,346)	(£242,940)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	£7,266	£9,019	£16,285	£6,975	(£21,483)	(£10,527)	(£25,035)	(£8,751)

Opening General Fund and HRA Balance 1 April 2025 *

(£83,037)

Less/Plus (Surplus) or Deficit on General Fund Balance In-Year

£16,285

Reserve Transfers

£0

Closing General Fund and HRA Balance 31 March 2026 *

(£66,752)

* For a further split of this balance – see the Movement in Reserves Statement

Restated Expenditure and Funding Analysis	2024/25							
	Outturn as Reported to Cabinet	Adjustments to Management Reporting (Note 7)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the GF and HRA	Adjustments for Capital Purposes (Note 7)	Net Change for Pensions Adjustments (Note 7)	Other Statutory Differences (Note 7)	Adjustments Between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Health & Adult Care	£96,349	£10,568	£106,916	£1,401	(£218)	£0	£1,183	£108,099
Children & Young People	£60,124	£6,495	£66,620	£7,226	£1,047	£164	£8,437	£75,056
Place	£13,675	(£737)	£12,938	£8,197	(£342)	£0	£7,856	£20,793
Strategy & Transformation	£30,968	(£17,129)	£13,839	£4,279	(£266)	£775	£4,788	£18,627
Housing General Fund	(£11)	£9	(£2)	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£2)
Non-Service Specific	£28,556	(£25,941)	£2,615	£2,385	£0	£0	£2,385	£5,000
Housing Revenue Account	£0	(£10,361)	(£10,361)	£156	(£83)	£4	£77	(£10,285)
Net Cost of Services	£229,660	(£37,097)	£192,564	£23,644	£138	£944	£24,726	£217,290
Other Income and Expenditure	(£225,267)	£53,222	(£172,045)	(£3,507)	(£7,470)	(£6,047)	(£17,024)	(£189,069)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	£4,393	£16,125	£20,518	£20,137	(£7,332)	(£5,103)	£7,702	£28,220

Opening General Fund and HRA Balance 1 April 2024 * (£103,671)

Less/Plus (Surplus) or Deficit on General Fund Balance In-Year £20,518

Reserve Transfers £115

Closing General Fund and HRA Balance 31 March 2025 * (£83,037)

* For a further split of this balance – see the Movement in Reserves Statement

Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis:

a) Adjustments to Management Reporting

This column adjusts the outturn figures reported to management for items chargeable to the General Fund (GF) and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) column, for:

Net Cost of Services – the insertion of both the Housing Revenue Account and Schools, income, and expenditure.

Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure – the reallocation of Investment Properties and Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure to/from the Net Cost of Services to Other Operating Income and Expenditure.

Reserves – the removal of transfers to/from reserves included in the management outturn report as these are not shown on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account.

b) Adjustments for Capital Purposes

This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the net cost of service, for:

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

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

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

c) Net Change for the Pension Adjustments

This column removes employer pension contributions and adds IAS19 Employee Benefits related expenditure and income, as follows:

For the Net Cost of Services – this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the Council as allowed by statute and their replacement with current service costs and past service costs.

For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

d) Other Statutory Adjustments

This column shows the differences between amounts debited/credited to the CIES and amounts payable/receivable to be recognised under statute are set out below:

For Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure – the other statutory adjustments column recognises adjustments to the General Fund of the timing differences for premiums and discounts.

For Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income – represents the difference between what is chargeable under statute for Council Tax and Business Rates to that which was estimated to be received at the start of the year, and the income recognised under general accepted accounting practices. This is a timing difference as any difference is brought forward in the surpluses or deficits on the Collection Fund.

For Dedicated School Grant – represents accumulated deficits relating to schools' budget.

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Notes to the Core Financial Statements

01. Accounting Policies for the 2025/26 Statement of Accounts

General Principals

Basis of preparation

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2025/26 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2026. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which require the accounts to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices under Section 21 of the 2003 Act primarily comprise the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2025/26 (the Code) supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

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

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

Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Events after the Balance Sheet reporting period are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date when the statement of accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

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

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

Group Accounts

The Council has material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries and joint ventures and require it to prepare group accounts. In the Council own single-entity accounts, the interests in companies and other entities are recorded as financial assets at cost, less any provision for losses.

The Council has material interest in external entities that are classified as subsidiaries and which are consolidated into the Council's group accounts on a line-by-line basis, after eliminating intra group transactions.

The Council has material interests in Joint Venture arrangements, IFRS 11 requires that a joint venturer shall recognise its interest in a joint venture by using the equity method.

The equity method for accounting for joint ventures requires an investor to bring an investment into its Group Balance Sheet at cost (identifying any goodwill arising) and then to adjust the carrying value by the change in the investor's share of the joint venture's net assets. The investor calculates its share of the joint venture's operating results for the year and includes this amount in the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement immediately after its group operating result. The share is the aggregate of the holdings in the joint venture by the authority (and its subsidiaries).

An entity could be material but still not consolidated if all its business is with the Council and eliminated on consolidation – i.e. the consolidation would mean that the group accounts are not materially different to the single entity accounts.

Pooled Budgets

The Council is the host partner of the pooled funds in respect of Health and Social care and the Better Care Fund. The arrangements are made in accordance with section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and allows budgets to be pooled between authorities and health and social care organisations.

The arrangements are accounted for as joint operations and, therefore, the Council accounts for its share of the funds' assets, liabilities, expenditure, and income.

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

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

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

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

Accounting Policies for Income and Expenditure

Accruals of Income and Expenditure

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

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue in financing and investment income and expenditure for the income that might not be collected.

Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are charged an accounting estimate of the cost of holding non-current assets during the year. This comprises:

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

The Council is not allowed to raise Council Tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement [equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance, as approved Minimum Revenue Provision policy].

Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses, and amortisation are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund balance [MRP or the statutory repayment of loans fund advances]. By way of an adjusting transaction with the capital adjustment account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates Income

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (i.e. the collection fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NDR. Under the legislative framework for the collection fund, billing authorities, major preceptors, and central government (for NDR) share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for council tax and NDR

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) is the authority's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the authority's General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the CIES and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the collection fund adjustment account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement. The Balance Sheet includes the authority's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable During Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave, paid sick leave, flexi, and time off in lieu (TOIL) as well as bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. mobile phones) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council.

Employee Accumulated Absence Accrual

An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end that employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the current accounting year. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement to the accumulated absences account so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday entitlement occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant services lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of three separate pension schemes:

- The Greater Manchester Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council.
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).
- The NHS Pension Scheme, administered by EA Finance NHS Pension

These schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees working for the Council.

However, the arrangements for the teachers' and NHS schemes means that liability for these benefits cannot be identified specifically to the Council. These schemes are therefore accounted for as if they are a defined contribution scheme and no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet.

The Greater Manchester Local Government Pension Scheme

The Greater Manchester Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme.

- The liabilities of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method; an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates and projections of future earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate (based on the indicative rate of return on a basket of high-quality corporate bonds, Government gilts and other factors).
- The assets of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - quoted securities – current bid price
 - unquoted securities – professional estimate
 - unitised securities – current bid price
 - property – market value

Reporting of Pensions Surpluses and IFRIC 14

The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements, and their interaction in accordance with the prescriptions in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). This has risen due to number of authorities pension funds moving from a net defined benefit liability to a net defined benefit asset position in 2022/23, leading to consideration of an asset ceiling that would limit the authority's ability to recognise the asset.

When an authority has a surplus in a defined benefit plan, under the Code and IAS 19, it is required to measure the net defined benefit asset at the lower of:

- the surplus in the defined benefit plan, and
- the asset ceiling, determined using the discount rate specified in the Code. "The IAS 19 asset ceiling is a specified estimate of the present value of the economic benefit which the employer organisation can realise, either through refunds or by gaining economic benefit through reductions in future contributions. Such an economic benefit may be available even if it is not realisable immediately at the end of the reporting period."

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

- Service cost comprising:
 - **Current service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned in the current year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.

- **Past service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years - debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non-Service Specific.
 - **Net interest on the net defined benefit liability**, i.e. net interest expense for the authority - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period - taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
- Remeasurement comprising:
 - **The return on plan assets** – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
 - **Actuarial gains and losses** – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
 - **Contributions paid to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund** - cash paid as employer contributions to the pension scheme in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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

Discretionary Benefits

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

Government Grants and Contributions

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

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

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

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

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

Where revenue grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement but have yet to be used to fund revenue expenditure, they are posted to the Revenue Grant Reserve. When eligible expenditure is incurred in future years the grant is transferred back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against Council Tax for the expenditure.

Business Improvement Districts (BID)

A BID scheme applies across the whole of the authority. The scheme is funded by a BID levy paid by non-domestic ratepayers. The authority acts as an agent under the scheme.

Overheads and Support Services

The costs of support services such as administration and management are charged to services in accordance with the Council's arrangements for accountability and performance.

Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place on or before the Balance Sheet date:

- that gives the Council a present (legal or constructive) obligation.
- that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and
- where a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

If it is not clear whether an event has taken place on or before the Balance Sheet date, it is deemed to give rise to a present obligation if, taking account of all available evidence, it is more likely than not that a present obligation exists at the Balance Sheet date. The present obligation can be legal or constructive.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet.

Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made) the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service revenue account.

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

Contingent Liabilities

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

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

Contingent Assets

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

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

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year.

Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

Value Added Tax payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from HMRC. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

Accounting Policies for Assets and Liabilities

Cash and Cash Equivalents

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

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

Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

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

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

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

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

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cash flow characteristics.

There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI), and
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL).

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

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

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

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of a financial asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Expected Credit Loss Model

The Council recognises expected credit losses on all its financial assets held at amortised cost (or where relevant FVOCI), either on a 12-month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the Council.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

Financial Assets measured at Fair Value through other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI)

These assets relate to financial instruments where the amounts received relating to them are solely principal and interest, but they are held to collect cash and sell the assets. The interest received on these assets is spread evenly over the life of these instruments.

Changes in fair value are posted to Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure and are balanced by an entry in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

When the asset is de-recognised, the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure is transferred from the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve and recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit of Loss (FVPL)

These assets relate to financial instruments where the amounts received relating to them are not principal and interest (e.g. equity investments). Dividends received are accounted for at the point they are received.

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

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

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

An equity instrument that has been classed as FVPL can be designated as FVOCI if it is not held for trading (e.g. a strategic investment). Once this designation has been made it cannot be reversed. This designation would mean that any gains and losses would be held in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

Fair Value Measurement

The Council measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value at the end of the reporting period. Fair value is the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

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

The Council uses both in house and external valuers to provide a valuation of its non-financial assets and liabilities, for recognition or disclosure as appropriate, in line with the highest and best use definition within IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement.

The highest and best use of the asset or liability being valued is considered from the perspective of a market participant. Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of the Council's fair value measurement of its assets and liabilities 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.

Heritage Assets

The Council's Heritage Assets are held by the Council principally for their contribution to knowledge and/or culture. These include Civic Regalia, Artefacts, and various gifts & bequests some of which are held in the Museum and Art Gallery. These are recognised and measured, including treatment of revaluation gains and losses, in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on Property Plant and Equipment.

The land and building assets identified to date include Radcliffe Tower, the Dungeon and Rodger Worthington's grave. As there is no available valuation for these assets they have been reported at nominal value as recommended by the Council's property valuer.

However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed allowing the Council's Heritage Assets to be included on the Balance Sheet at their insured value where available. Where insurance valuations are not available there is a narrative disclosure.

Heritage assets are deemed to have an indefinite life, therefore are not depreciated as the charge made would be minimal and immaterial. Nevertheless, where there is evidence of physical deterioration to a Heritage Asset, or doubts arise to its authenticity, the value of the asset must be reviewed.

Investment Property

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

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

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

Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Council as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Council.

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

Infrastructure Assets

Highways infrastructure assets include carriageways, footways and cycle tracks, structures (e.g. bridges), street lighting, street furniture (e.g. illuminated traffic signals, bollards), traffic management systems and land which together form a single integrated network.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition or replacement of components of the network is capitalised on an accrual basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Measurement

Highways infrastructure assets are generally measured at depreciated historical cost. However, this is a modified form of historical cost – opening balances for highways infrastructure assets were originally recorded in balance sheets at amounts of capital undischarged for sums borrowed as at 1 April 1994, which was deemed at that time to be historical cost.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by the carrying amount of the asset being written down to the recoverable amount.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on the parts of the highways network infrastructure assets that are subject to deterioration or depletion and by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis.

Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year.

Useful lives of the various parts of the highways network are assessed by the Chief Highways Engineer using industry standards where applicable as follows:

Part of Highways Network	Useful Life
Roads	25 Years
Bridges	80 Years
Street Furniture	30 Years
Street Lighting	40 Years
Footways & Cycle Tracks	25 Years

Disposals and derecognition

When a component of the network is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the component in the Balance Sheet is written off to the 'Other operating expenditure' line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal).

The written-off amounts of disposals are not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are transferred to the capital adjustment account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Inventories

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

Long-term Contracts

Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the surplus or deficit on the provision of services with the consideration allocated to the performance obligations satisfied based on the goods or services transferred to the service recipient during the financial year.

Leases

The council adopted IFRS 16 Leases with effect from 1 April 2024. At the inception of a contract, the council assesses whether a contract contains a lease. A contract contains a lease if it conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time.

The council considers:

- whether the asset is explicitly or implicitly identified in a contract whether the asset identified in the contract is physically distinct,
- the rights to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits and service potential from the asset,
- the right to direct use.

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases. Leases that are peppercorn or nominal lease payments are those leases for which consideration is paid but the lease payments are substantially below market lease payments. Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

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

The Council as Lessee

A Right-of-Use Asset

The Code expands the scope of IFRS 16 Leases to include arrangements with nil consideration, peppercorn or nominal payments, and removes the previous classifications of operating and finance leases for lessees. Initial Measurement Leases are recognised as right-of-use assets in the Balance Sheet/disclosure note with a corresponding liability at the date from the commencement date.

The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability,
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any incentives received,
- any initial direct costs incurred, and
- any dilapidation or restoration costs.

However, for peppercorn, nominal payments or nil consideration leases, the asset is measured at fair value at the commencement date. The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. The lease liability is measured at the present value of lease payments that are not paid at that date, discounted by the interest rate implicit in the lease, or if that cannot be determined the lessee's incremental borrowing rate specific to the term and start date of the lease.

Subsequent Measurement

The right-of-use asset is subsequently measured at fair value. The right-of-use asset is depreciated straight-line over the shorter period of remaining lease term and useful life of the underlying asset as at the date of adoption and is tested for impairment if there are indicators of impairment. The lease liability is subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method. The lease liability, and corresponding adjustment to the right-of-use asset, is remeasured when:

- there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in index or rate such as inflation,
- there is a change in the estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee,
- the council changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option, or
- there is a change in the lease term.

When such a remeasurement occurs, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, with any further adjustment required from remeasurement being recorded in the income statement.

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

The council has elected to apply recognition exemptions to low value assets (those below £20,000 when new) and to short term leases (leases that expire on or before 31 March 2027, and new leases with a duration of less than 12 months) in accordance with the Code.

The council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. However, it is required to make an annual Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) to contribute towards the reduction in its capital financing requirement (equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the authority in accordance with statutory guidance). Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses are therefore replaced by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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

Lease payments are apportioned between:

A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment – applied to write down the lease liability.

A finance charge (debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES).

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

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

Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the CIES as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased Property, Plant or Equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

The Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

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

Lease rentals receivables are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received).
- Finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES).

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

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

Operating Leases

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

Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred. The Council has a £15,000 de-minimis limit for the recognition of Capital Expenditure.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

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

Assets that are being constructed by the Council will initially be recognised at cost.

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred in the cost of acquisition, construction, and completion of qualifying assets.

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

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

Category	Measurement Basis
Community Assets and Assets Under Construction	Depreciated historical cost
Dwellings	Current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH).
Surplus Assets	Fair value, determined by the measurement of the highest and best use value of the asset
All Other Operational Assets	Current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value.

Where non-property assets that have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

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

Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for as follows:

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

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

Impairment

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

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for as follows:

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

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

Depreciation

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

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

Category	Measurement Basis
Dwellings	Component Life
Other Buildings	Straight line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer.
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture, and Equipment	Straight-line allocation over the useful life of the asset as estimated by a suitably qualified officer.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately.

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

Component Accounting

Component accounting is applied only to housing stock in accordance with the analysis provided by the valuer.

Indexation

Assets included on the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year end, but as a minimum every five years. In line with the CIPFA code, assets not valued in the intervening years between each valuation cycle, are indexed based on the indices provided by the valuer.

Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an asset held for sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the other operating expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously recognised losses in the surplus or deficit on the provision of services. Depreciation is not charged on assets held for sale.

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

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

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

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. If the disposal relates to housing assets a proportion of the capital receipt is payable to the Government (75% for dwellings, 50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances). The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are transferred to the Useable Capital Receipts Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Reserves

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

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

Schools

In line with accounting standards and the Code on group accounts and consolidation, all maintained schools are considered to be entities controlled by the Council. Rather than produce group accounts the income, expenditure, assets, liabilities, reserves, and cash flows of each school are recognised in the Council's single entity accounts.

The Council has the following types of maintained schools under its control:

- Community
- Voluntary Aided
- Voluntary Controlled

Schools' non-current assets (school buildings and playing fields) are recognised on the Balance Sheet where the Council directly owns the assets, where the Council holds the balance of control of the assets or where the school or the school governing body own the assets or have had rights to use the assets transferred to them through a licence arrangement.

When a maintained school converts to an Academy, the school's non-current assets held on the Council's Balance Sheet are treated as a disposal. The carrying value of the asset is written off to Other Operating Income and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

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

02. Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard which has been issued but is yet to be adopted by the 2025/26 Code.

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

The standards introduced by the 2026/27 Code where disclosures are required in the 2025/26 financial statements, in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 3.3.4.3 of the Code, are:

- a) Amendments to FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Amendments to Heritage assets) issued in March 2024
- b) Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7) issued in May 2024
- c) Annual improvements to IFRS accounting standards – Volume 11 issued in July 2024
- d) Contracts Referencing Nature-dependent Electricity (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7) issued in December 2024.

03. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the 2025/26 statement of accounts are:

Accounting for Schools – Balance Sheet Recognition of Schools

The Council recognises the land and buildings used by schools in line with the provisions of the Code of Practice. It states that property used by Local Council maintained schools should be recognised in accordance with the asset recognition tests relevant to the arrangements that prevail for the property.

The Council recognises schools land and buildings on its Balance Sheet where it directly owns the assets. Where the land and building assets used by the school are owned by an entity other than the Council, school or school Governing Body then it is not included on the Council's Balance Sheet. The exception is where the entity has transferred the rights of use of the asset to the Council, school or school Governing Body.

The Council has completed a school-by-school assessment across the different types of schools it controls within the Borough. Judgements have been made to determine the arrangements in place and the accounting treatment of the land and building assets.

In 2014/15 the Council completed a school-by-school assessment across the different types of schools it controls within the Borough. Letters of confirmation were received from the Diocese of Manchester, Salford Diocese, Manchester Mesivta * and Bury and Whitefield Jewish Primary School that state that the schools occupy the school premises subject to the direction of the Trustees who own the land on which the schools are sited.

All decisions relating to land and buildings rest with the Trustees and there has been no assignment of rights to the property. No formal documentation exists, the schools occupy the premises under a "mere" license which has passed no interest to the school's governing body, and which is terminable by the Trustees at any time. As such none of the schools are included on the Council's balance sheet.

(*The Department for Education (DfE) purchased the land occupied by Manchester Mesivta in January 2016 and the Trustees have a 125-year lease arrangement with the DfE. This does not affect the local authority accounts.)

All 9 community schools are owned by the Council and the land and buildings used by the schools are included on the Council's Balance Sheet. The Council recognises on its Balance Sheet the playing fields located within the boundaries of Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools that remain in the control of the Council.

Academies are not considered to be maintained schools in the Council's control. The existing schools' land and building assets are transferred to academies on conversion date on a long-term lease of 125 years. The nominal value shown on the Council's Balance Sheet at year end reflects this arrangement.

For local authority-maintained schools transferring to academy status an academy conversion accounting policy is in place that sets out the critical actions that must be completed for the school to transfer to an academy trust. This includes the treatment of transactions and balances of the schools being derecognised from the local authority single entity financial statements and the consideration of non-current assets.

Group Boundary

The Council carries out a complex range of activities, often in conjunction with external organisations. Where those organisations are in partnership with or under the ultimate control of the Council a judgement is made by management as to whether they are within the Council's group boundary. This judgement is made in line with the provisions set out in the Code and relevant accounting standards.

Those entities which fall within the boundary and are considered to be material are included in the Council's group accounts. Profit and loss, net worth, and the value of assets and liabilities are considered individually for each organisation against a materiality limit set by the Council. An entity could be material but still not consolidated if all its business is with the Council and eliminated on consolidation – i.e. the consolidation would mean that the group accounts are not materially different to the single entity accounts. The assessment of materiality also considers qualitative factors such as whether the Council depends significantly on these entities for the continued provision of its statutory services or where there is concern about the level to which the Council is exposed to commercial risk.

The Council has assessed its group boundary for 2025/26 and has Subsidiaries and Joint Ventures who are considered to be material and will be consolidated into its group accounts.

Basis of Consolidation

The Council relationship with three organisations over which it has substantial control and influence that have been identified as Subsidiaries of Bury Council., of:

- Six Town Housing Ltd
- Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd
- Persona Care and Support Ltd and Persona Group Ltd

Basis of consolidation, line-by-line consolidation

The two joint arrangements formed during 2022/23, whereby the Council has agreed to share joint control and has rights to the net assets of the arrangement, have been classed as a Joint Venture, of:

- Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP
- The Prestwich Regeneration LLP

Basis of consolidation, equity method

Investment Properties

Investment properties have been assessed using the identifiable criteria under the international accounting standards and are being held for rental income or for capital appreciation. Properties have been assessed using these criteria, which is subject to interpretation to determine if there is an operational reason for holding the property such as regeneration.

Airport Investment

The Council has a 3.22% shareholding in Manchester Airport Holdings Limited (MAHL). Following the adoption of accounting standard IFRS 9 Financial Instruments which came into effect 1 April 2018, the default valuation method of the Council's equity holdings would be Fair Value through Profit and Loss. However, the shareholding is a strategic investment and not held for trading and therefore the Council has designated the investment as fair value through other comprehensive income. It is the Council's view that this is a reasonable and reliable accounting policy for the investment.

The Council has made an equity investment in Manchester Airport Car Park (1) Limited, (along with the other nine Greater Manchester District Councils). The Council's investment is to provide car parking facilities at Manchester Airport. The Council holds 3 Class C ordinary shares. The shareholding will be classed as a financial instrument and held at fair value on the Council's Balance Sheet. Under IFRS 9 the shareholding (investment) will be designated as a strategic investment and not held for trading therefore the Council has opted to designate it as fair value through Other Comprehensive Income. The decision to designate to fair value through Other Comprehensive Income is irrevocable and it is the Council view that this is a reasonable and reliable accounting policy for this investment.

Borrowing – Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) Loans

LOBO loans contain options which allow, on specific dates, the lender to alter the interest rate on the loan, and the Council then has an option to decide to either accept the new rate or repay the loan without penalty. These loans have a fixed rate of interest, but the options mean it could change over the life of the loan. This means that there cannot be any certainty as to whether the loans will be paid early, and therefore the Council has treated these loans as fixed loans which will run to their existing maturity. Therefore, we have taken the decision to disclose these as long-term liabilities.

Pensions Liability (Asset)

In calculating the net pensions asset, the Council has made a judgement that the statutory framework for setting employer's contributions under the Local Government Pension Scheme constitutes a minimum funding requirement. As a result, the Council's ability to realise the full economic benefits of the net pensions asset of £290.486m calculated under the Accounting Code's provisions for post-employment benefits through reductions in future employer's contributions is limited. An asset ceiling therefore applies.

The effect means that the asset ceiling has reduced what would otherwise be the net pensions asset of £290.486m to £0m.

The practical effect of this is to move the basis of measurement for the net pensions asset/liability closer to the assumptions made in the triennial valuation of the Scheme under which the employer's contributions were set by the Scheme's actuaries. It does not indicate that the Council has paid excess amounts into the Scheme that it will never be able to recover.

04. 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. The assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty disclosed below relate to the estimates that require the Council's most difficult, subjective, or complex judgements. As the number of variables and assumptions affecting the possible future resolution of the uncertainties increases, those judgements become more subjective and complex. As a result, balances cannot be determined with certainty and actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2026 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Property, Plant and Equipment – Depreciation

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 authority will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.

Long-Term Assets – Manchester Airport Holdings Limited (MAHL)

The Authority's shareholding in the Manchester Airport Group is 3.22%. The asset is valued using the earnings-based method resulting in the asset being valued at fair value rather than historic cost, therefore requiring an annual valuation. The valuation includes reviewing the financial performance, stability, and business assumptions of the MAHL and is based on estimations and assumptions.

Pensions Liability (Asset)

Estimation of the pensions net liability (Asset) depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the authority with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

Provision for NNDR Appeals

Following the introduction of the Business Rate Retention Scheme in 2013/14 and the 100% GM Business Rates Pilot in 2017/18. The Council is responsible for a 99% share of the cost of successful appeals by businesses against their rateable value. A provision is recognised in the statement of accounts, that has been calculated using the latest Valuation Office (VAO) ratings list of ratings appeals and potential appeals against the analysis of successful appeals to date.

05. Material Items of Income and Expense

The Code requires individual items of income or expenditure that exceed materiality and have not been individually recorded on the face of the financial statements or in one of the other notes to the accounts to be disclosed in this note.

For the purposes of this note, the materiality is set at £5m.

There were no individual items above £5m which have not been individually disclosed.

06. Events After the Reporting Period

The statement of accounts was authorised for issue by the Director of Finance on 30 June 2026. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2026, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

There are no adjusting events after the Balance Sheet date, in relation to the 2025/26 Statement of Accounts.

07. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

2025/26												
	Health & Adult Care	Children & Young People	Place	Strategy & Transformation	Housing General Fund	Non-Service Specific	Other Income and Expenditure	Outturn as Reported to Cabinet	Adjustments to Management Reporting (EFA Note 1)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the GF and HRA	Adjustments Between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Fees & Charges	(£24,366)	(£1,557)	(£18,483)	(£5,358)	£0	(£4,850)	£0	(£54,614)	(£40,828)	(£95,442)	£0	(£95,442)
Other Service Income	(£33,060)	(£473)	(£5,253)	(£3,883)	£0	£37	£0	(£42,633)	(£6,449)	(£49,081)	£0	(£49,081)
Financing and Investment Income	£0	£0	£0	(£0)	£0	(£6,393)	£0	(£6,393)	(£2,231)	(£8,624)	(£13,893)	(£22,517)
Government Grants and Contributions	(£2,404)	(£4,847)	(£715)	(£5,814)	(£28,257)	(£103)	(£65,313)	(£107,454)	(£137,965)	(£245,419)	(£35,244)	(£280,663)
Income from Council Tax	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£119,350)	(£119,350)	£0	(£119,350)	£2,820	(£116,530)
Income from Business Rates	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£48,819)	(£48,819)	£0	(£48,819)	(£488)	(£49,307)
Total Income	(£59,831)	(£6,878)	(£24,451)	(£15,055)	(£28,257)	(£11,309)	(£233,482)	(£379,262)	(£187,473)	(£566,735)	(£46,805)	(£613,541)
Employee Benefits Expenses	£27,582	£29,097	£23,282	£32,755	£0	(£8)	£0	£112,708	£66,787	£179,495	(£5,055)	£174,441
Other Service Expenses	£135,152	£48,707	£14,326	£14,873	£28,389	£2,726	£0	£244,173	£104,808	£348,981	£0	£348,981
Support Service Charges	£0	£0	(£43)	(£11)	£0	£0	£0	(£54)	£4	(£50)	£0	(£50)
Depreciation, Amortisation, Revaluations and Impairment	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£26,904	£26,904
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue Balances	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£10	£10	(£10)	£0
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute & De-minimis	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£7,299	£7,299
Financing and Investment Expenses	£0	£0	£0	£1	£0	£10,999	£0	£10,999	£6,880	£17,879	(£22,047)	(£4,168)
Precepts and Levies	£0	£0	£566	£0	£0	£28,066	£0	£28,632	£0	£28,632	£0	£28,632
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
(Gain) or Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£22,750	£22,750
Posting of HRA Resources from Revenue to the MRR	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£8,072	£8,072	(£8,072)	£0
Total Expenditure	£162,733	£77,804	£38,131	£47,618	£28,389	£41,783	£0	£396,459	£186,561	£583,020	£21,770	£604,790
Contributions to/(from) Reserves	(£1,315)	£59	£252	(£3,069)	£0	£0	(£5,858)	(£9,930)	£9,930	£0	£0	£0
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	£101,588	£70,985	£13,932	£29,494	£132	£30,474	(£239,340)	£7,266	£9,019	£16,285	(£25,035)	(£8,751)

2024/25

	Health & Adult Care	Children & Young People	Place	Strategy & Transformation	Housing General Fund	Non-Service Specific	Other Income and Expenditure	Outturn as Reported to Cabinet	Adjustments to Management Reporting (EFA Note 1)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the GF and HRA	Adjustments Between Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Fees & Charges	(£21,932)	(£1,411)	(£15,925)	(£4,343)	£0	(£3,126)	£0	(£46,738)	(£40,021)	(£86,758)	£0	(£86,758)
Other Service Income	(£32,509)	(£622)	(£3,670)	(£5,027)	£0	(£2,244)	£0	(£44,072)	(£4,659)	(£48,731)	£0	(£48,731)
Financing and Investment Income	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£5,352)	£0	(£5,352)	(£3,351)	(£8,703)	£0	(£8,703)
Government Grants and Contributions	(£1,993)	(£4,003)	(£76)	(£2,983)	(£33,617)	(£2,168)	(£55,492)	(£100,332)	(£135,151)	(£235,483)	(£33,380)	(£268,863)
Income from Council Tax	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£110,931)	(£110,931)	£0	(£110,931)	(£241)	(£111,172)
Income from Business Rates	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£40,044)	(£40,044)	£0	(£40,044)	(£5,804)	(£45,848)
Total Income	(£56,434)	(£6,036)	(£19,672)	(£12,353)	(£33,617)	(£12,890)	(£206,467)	(£347,469)	(£183,181)	(£530,650)	(£39,425)	(£570,075)
Employee Benefits Expenses	£25,009	£25,621	£21,838	£30,644	£0	£69	£0	£103,181	£74,674	£177,854	£500	£178,354
Other Service Expenses	£128,903	£41,243	£10,927	£13,294	£33,606	£6,661	£0	£234,633	£88,052	£322,685	£0	£322,685
Support Service Charges	£0	£91	(£84)	(£249)	£0	£0	£0	(£242)	£4	(£238)	£0	(£238)
Depreciation, Amortisation, Revaluations and Impairment	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£26,957	£26,957
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue Balances	£0	£0	£306	£0	£0	£0	£0	£306	£23	£329	(£329)	£0
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute & De-minimis	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£4,431	£4,431
Financing and Investment Expenses	£0	£0	£0	£1	£0	£8,979	£0	£8,979	£6,182	£15,161	(£12,504)	£2,657
Precepts and Levies	£0	£0	£550	£0	£0	£27,414	£0	£27,963	£0	£27,963	£0	£27,963
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£55	£55
(Gain) or Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£35,431	£35,431
Posting of HRA Resources from Revenue to the MRR	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£7,414	£7,414	(£7,414)	£0
Total Expenditure	£153,912	£66,954	£33,537	£43,689	£33,606	£43,122	£0	£374,821	£176,348	£551,169	£47,127	£598,295
Contributions to/(from) Reserves	(£1,130)	(£794)	(£189)	(£368)	£0	(£1,676)	(£18,800)	(£22,958)	£22,958	£0	£0	£0
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	£96,349	£60,124	£13,675	£30,968	(£11)	£28,556	(£225,267)	£4,393	£16,125	£20,518	£7,702	£28,220

08. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure recognised by the Council in the year, in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against:

General Fund balance

The General Fund is the statutory fund into which all the receipts of an authority are required to be paid and out of which all liabilities of the authority are to be met, except to the extent that statutory rules might provide otherwise. These rules can also specify the financial year in which liabilities and payments should impact on the General Fund balance, which is not necessarily in accordance with proper accounting practice. The General Fund balance therefore summarises the resources that the council is statutorily empowered to spend on its services or on capital investment (or the deficit of resources that the council is required to recover) at the end of the financial year. [For housing authorities however, the balance is not available to be applied to funding HRA services.]

Housing Revenue Account balance

The HRA balance reflects the statutory obligation to maintain a revenue account for local authority council housing provision in accordance with Part VI of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. It contains the balance of income and expenditure as defined by the 1989 Act that is available to fund future expenditure in connection with the council's landlord function or (where in deficit) that is required to be recovered from tenants in future years.

Major Repairs Reserve

The authority is required to maintain the major repairs reserve, which controls an element of the capital resources limited to being used on capital expenditure on HRA assets or the financing of historical capital expenditure by the HRA. The balance shows the capital resources that have yet to be applied at the year-end.

Capital Receipts Reserve

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

Capital Grants Unapplied

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

2025/26	Revenue Reserves		Capital Reserves			Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied			
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s			
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REVENUE RESOURCES								
Pensions Costs (transferred to (or from) the Pension Reserve)	(£20,488)	(£995)	£0	£0	£0	(£21,483)	£21,483	£0
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	(£7,373)	(£6,523)	£0	£0	£0	(£13,896)	£13,896	£0
Council Tax & NDR (transfers to (or from) the Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	£2,332	£0	£0	£0	£0	£2,332	(£2,332)	£0
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(£205)	(£2)	£0	£0	£0	(£207)	£207	£0
DSG Deficits (transferred to the DSG Adjustment Account)	£1,244	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,244	(£1,244)	£0
Reversal of Entries Included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in Relation to Capital Expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account or Capital Grants Unapplied)	£16,318	£11,355	£0	£0	£13,253	£40,925	(£40,925)	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REVENUE RESOURCES	(£8,172)	£3,835	£0	£0	£13,253	£8,916	(£8,916)	£0
ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN REVENUE & CAPITAL RESOURCES								
Transfer of Non-Current Asset Sale Proceeds from Revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(£2,906)	(£5,642)	£0	£8,548	£0	£0	£0	£0
Administrative Costs of Non-Current Asset Disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	£23	£94	£0	(£117)	£0	£0	£0	£0
Payments to the Government Housing Receipts Pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Posting of HRA Resources from Revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	£0	(£8,072)	£8,072	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Statutory Provision for the Repayment of Debt transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	(£4,081)	(£105)	£0	£0	£0	(£4,186)	£4,186	£0
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue Balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(£10)	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£10)	£10	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN REVENUE & CAPITAL RESOURCES	(£6,973)	(£13,725)	£8,072	£8,431	£0	(£4,196)	£4,196	£0
ADJUSTMENTS TO CAPITAL RESOURCES								
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	£0	(£9,555)	£0	(£9,555)	£9,555	£0
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	(£8,072)	£0	£0	(£8,072)	£8,072	£0
Application of Unapplied Capital Grants to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£10,295)	(£10,295)	£10,295	£0
Cash Payments in Relation to Deferred Capital Receipts	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Cash Payments in Relation to Long-Term Debtor Loans	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS TO CAPITAL RESOURCES	£0	£0	(£8,072)	(£9,555)	(£10,295)	(£27,922)	£27,922	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	(£15,145)	(£9,890)	£0	(£1,124)	£2,957	(£23,202)	£23,202	£0

2024/25	Revenue Reserves		Capital Reserves			Total Usable Reserves	Total Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied			
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s			
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REVENUE RESOURCES								
Pensions Costs (transferred to (or from) the Pension Reserve)	(£6,948)	(£384)	£0	£0	£0	(£7,332)	£7,332	£0
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	(£2)	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£2)	£2	£0
Council Tax & NDR (transfers to (or from) the Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	(£6,045)	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£6,045)	£6,045	£0
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	£358	£5	£0	£0	£0	£362	(£362)	£0
DSG Deficits (transferred to the DSG Adjustment Account)	£582	£0	£0	£0	£0	£582	(£582)	£0
Reversal of Entries Included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in Relation to Capital Expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account or Capital Grants Unapplied)	£30,261	£7,463	£0	£0	£5,703	£43,427	(£43,427)	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REVENUE RESOURCES	£18,206	£7,083	£0	£0	£5,703	£30,992	(£30,992)	£0
ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN REVENUE & CAPITAL RESOURCES								
Transfer of Non-Current Asset Sale Proceeds from Revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(£2,482)	(£3,458)	£0	£5,940	£0	£0	£0	£0
Administrative Costs of Non-Current Asset Disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	£27	£60	£0	(£86)	£0	£0	£0	£0
Payments to the Government Housing Receipts Pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	£55	£0	£0	(£55)	£0	£0	£0	£0
Posting of HRA Resources from Revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	£0	(£7,414)	£7,414	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Statutory Provision for the Repayment of Debt transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	(£3,841)	(£204)	£0	£0	£0	(£4,045)	£4,045	£0
Capital Expenditure Financed from Revenue Balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(£329)	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£329)	£329	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN REVENUE & CAPITAL RESOURCES	(£6,571)	(£11,016)	£7,414	£5,799	£0	(£4,375)	£4,375	£0
ADJUSTMENTS TO CAPITAL RESOURCES								
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	£0	(£7,740)	£0	(£7,740)	£7,740	£0
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	(£7,401)	£0	£0	(£7,401)	£7,401	£0
Application of Unapplied Capital Grants to Finance New Capital Expenditure	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£4,981)	(£4,981)	£4,981	£0
Cash Payments in Relation to Deferred Capital Receipts	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Cash Payments in Relation to Long-Term Debtor Loans	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS TO CAPITAL RESOURCES	£0	£0	(£7,401)	(£7,740)	(£4,981)	(£20,123)	£20,123	£0
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	£11,635	(£3,933)	£13	(£1,941)	£722	£6,494	(£6,494)	(£0)

09. Movement in Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2025/26.

General Fund Earmarked Reserves are held for the following purposes:

Directorate Reserves - These are reserves held to support service specific outcomes across the council and are included on a thematic basis relating to current priorities.

Investment Reserves - These are reserves held to support corporate specific outcomes across the council and are presented on a thematic basis relating to current priorities.

Risk Reserves - These reserves are utilised to manage in-year financial variations such as fluctuations in demand or any other financial risk.

Stabilisation Reserves - These reserves will be utilised to manage areas of spending where costs in any one year are variable and unpredictable but where annual fluctuations are averaged over the medium term.

External Funding - This reserve is utilised to manage external funding received for specific purposes

Schools Reserves - This includes the balances held by schools under the scheme of delegation.

Section 106 Commuted Sums - This reserve represents money received as part of Section 106 agreements from Housing and other developers. The reserve is earmarked and is not available for general use.

The following table and note explains the amount and purpose of the earmarked reserves held by the Council.

Usable Reserves	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
General Fund	(£10,000)	(£10,000)
Earmarked General Fund Reserve	(£56,290)	(£36,891)
Housing Revenue Account	(£16,746)	(£19,861)
Major Repairs Reserve	(£13)	(£13)
Capital Receipts Unapplied	(£16,532)	(£15,408)
Capital Grants Unapplied	(£28,935)	(£31,892)
Balance at 31 March	(£128,516)	(£114,065)

General Fund Reserves	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000s	Transfers Between 2024/25 £000s	Transfers Out 2024/25 £000s	Transfers In 2024/25 £000s	Balance at 31 March 2025 £000s	Transfers Between 2025/26 £000s	Transfers Out 2025/26 £000s	Transfers In 2025/26 £000s	Balance at 31 March 2026 £000s
General Fund	(£10,000)	£0	£0	£0	(£10,000)	£0	£0	£0	(£10,000)
Directorate Reserves	(£3,224)	(£1,767)	£2,317	(£714)	(£3,388)	£632	£286	(£207)	(£2,677)
Investment - Invest To Save	(£1,519)	(£369)	£0	(£69)	(£1,957)	£0	£0	(£16)	(£1,973)
Investment - Regeneration	£0	(£136)	£116	£0	(£20)	£0	£19	£0	(£1)
Investment - Transformation	(£838)	£0	£0	£0	(£838)	£0	£0	£0	(£838)
Risk - Volatility / Demand Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Risk - Insurance	(£4,664)	£0	£1,555	(£1,797)	(£4,906)	£0	£2,920	£0	(£1,986)
Risk - DSG	(£6,000)	£0	£0	£0	(£6,000)	£0	£2,000	£0	(£4,000)
Stabilisation Reserves - Net Budget	(£43,130)	(£1,409)	£18,901	£0	(£25,638)	(£3,085)	£13,124	£0	(£15,599)
Stabilisation Reserves - Funding	(£7,193)	£0	£6,383	(£732)	(£1,542)	£0	£0	£0	(£1,542)
External Funding	(£13,549)	£3,796	£1,718	(£993)	(£9,028)	£2,453	£1,564	(£477)	(£5,488)
Earmarked Council Balances Sub-Total	(£80,117)	£115	£30,990	(£4,305)	(£53,317)	£0	£19,913	(£700)	(£34,104)
Schools Reserves	(£3,043)	£0	£2,555	(£2,484)	(£2,972)	£0	£2,484	(£2,296)	(£2,784)
Earmarked General Fund Reserves Total	(£83,160)	£115	£33,545	(£6,789)	(£56,289)	£0	£22,397	(£2,996)	(£36,888)
Total General Fund Reserves	(£93,160)	£115	£33,545	(£6,789)	(£66,289)	£0	£22,397	(£2,996)	(£46,888)

10. Other Operating Expenditure

This note provides an analysis of other operating expenditure within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Other Operating Expenditure	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Levies	£27,963	£28,632
Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	£55	£0
(Gains)/Losses on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	£35,431	£22,750
Total	£63,450	£51,382

11. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

This note provides an analysis of financing and investment income and expenditure within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Interest Payable and Similar Charges	£11,091	£13,661
Net Interest on the Net Defined Benefit Liability (Asset)	(£7,470)	(£16,635)
Interest Receivable and Similar Income	(£5,111)	(£20,872)
Income and Expenditure in Relation to Investment Properties and Changes in their Fair Value	(£1,398)	(£1,799)
Other Investment Income and Expense	(£3,158)	(£1,040)
Total	(£6,046)	(£26,685)

12. Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

This note provides an analysis of taxation and non-specific grant income within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Council Tax Income	(£111,172)	(£116,530)
Non-Domestic Rates Income and Expenditure	(£70,704)	(£74,515)
Non-Ringfenced Government Grants	(£30,636)	(£40,105)
Capital Grants and Contributions	(£33,962)	(£36,487)
Total	(£246,474)	(£267,638)

13. Property, Plant and Equipment

Depreciation

The Council carried out depreciation on a straight-line basis of the estimated useful life of the asset which is reviewed as part of the asset revaluing process. The following useful asset lives, and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

- Land - is not depreciated
- Council Dwellings – Componentised *
- Other Land & Buildings – as estimated by the valuer
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment – estimated by a suitably qualified officer
- Infrastructure:
 - Roads – 25 Years
 - Bridges – 80 Years
 - Street Furniture – 30 Years
 - Street Lighting – 40 Years
 - Footways & Cycle Tracks – 25 Years

*Council Dwellings are valued on a beacon basis, in order to ensure that the depreciation is not materially misstated the beacon lives are componentised to reflect the different rates at which the components will be consumed. For 2025/26 the estimated component lives are as follows:

- Main Structure – 50 Years
- Roof – 35 Years
- M&E – 15 Years
- Other Works – 15 Years

Revaluations

The Council undertakes a rolling programme of revaluating assets no more than every 5 years, which is carried out by revaluing 20% of the Council's assets each year. In 2019/20 the Council undertook a full revaluation of assets, which was done by external valuers Align (80%) with the remaining 20% carried out by our in-house valuers. In 2020/21 the Council returned to its rolling 5-year programme, and this has continued in 2025/26.

In 2025/26, all revaluations were carried out externally by Align.

Fair Values have been calculated in line with the CIPFA Code of Practice and the RICS Valuation standards. This includes reviewing comparable valuations reviewing property of an equivalent nature and location. The effective date of all the 2025/26 revaluations was 31 March 2026.

For the purposes of valuation materiality is set at £50k. There are some assets held at depreciated historical cost in the categories revalued. This is because they were either below the de-minimis level for revaluation or because purchases of new assets and additions to assets, which were below de-minimis during 2025/26, means that they have yet to be revalued. This will take place in subsequent years.

Right of Use

Right of use assets are included within the Other Land & Building balance

Revaluations 2025/26	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	PPE Note Total
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Depreciated Historical Cost	£2	£0	£9,115	£11,001	£0	£96,230	£116,348
Valued at Current Value:							
31.03.2025	£1,911	£16,379	£0	£0	£821	£0	£19,112
31.03.2024	£73,952	(£15,336)	£0	£0	£2,647	£0	£61,263
31.03.2023	£297,047	£147,814	£0	£0	(£256)	£0	£444,605
31.03.2022	£0	£43,434	£0	£0	£3,493	£0	£46,927
31.03.2021	£0	£4,427	£0	£0	£5,475	£0	£9,902
	£372,912	£196,718	£9,115	£11,001	£12,180	£96,230	£698,156

Capital Commitments

By 31 March 2026, the Council had entered a number of external contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment in 2026/27 and future years budgeted to cost £24.428m. Similar commitments at 31 March 2025 were £55.678m. The major commitments are:

Scheme	£000s
Bury Flexi Hall - LUF	£643
Radcliffe Hub - LUF	£522
Prestwich Village	£3,933
Highways Schemes	£5,898
DDaT schemes	£597
Housing improvement schemes	£12,836
Total	£24,428

The actual level of expenditure on any of the uncommitted schemes for future years will depend upon the availability of capital financing resources.

Movements on Balances

Property, Plant and Equipment Note 2025/26	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	TOTAL
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Certified Value as at 1 April 2025	£371,217	£225,042	£31,827	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£695,253
Additions & Acquisitions	£19,179	£5,315	£1,088	£1,072	£0	£52,364	£79,018
Increase/(Decrease) Revaluations Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(£12,822)	£8,151	£0	£0	£1,288	£0	(£3,383)
Increase/(Decrease) Revaluations Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(£227)	(£1,856)	£0	£0	(£1,960)	£0	(£4,043)
Derecognition - Disposals	(£4,433)	£0	£0	£0	(£200)	£0	(£4,633)
Derecognition - Others	£0	(£25,313)	£0	£0	(£1,778)	£0	(£27,091)
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£0	£2,138	£0	(£90)	£351	£1,197	£3,596
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Movement in Cost/Valuation	£1,697	(£11,564)	£1,088	£982	(£2,299)	£53,561	£43,465
Amount as at 31 March 2026	£372,914	£213,478	£32,915	£11,002	£12,180	£96,230	£738,718
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairments as at 1 April 2025	£0	(£16,126)	(£21,237)	£0	£0	£0	(£37,363)
Depreciation charged In-year	(£8,072)	(£6,539)	(£2,564)	£0	£0	£0	(£17,175)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	£7,974	£4,609	£0	£0	£0	£0	£12,583
Depreciation written out to (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	£2	£200	£0	£0	£0	£0	£202
Impairments Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Impairments Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Derecognition - Disposals	£96	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£96
Derecognition - Other	£0	£1,094	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,094
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Other Movements in Depreciation and Impairment	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Movement in Depreciation & Impairment	(£0)	(£637)	(£2,564)	£0	£0	£0	(£3,200)
Amount as at 31 March 2026	(£0)	(£16,763)	(£23,801)	£0	£0	£0	(£40,564)
Opening NBV	£371,217	£208,916	£10,589	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£657,890
Total Movement	£1,697	(£12,201)	(£1,475)	£982	(£2,299)	£53,561	£40,264
Closing NBV	£372,914	£196,715	£9,114	£11,002	£12,180	£96,230	£698,154

The following table is provided for comparative purposes:

Property, Plant and Equipment Note 2024/25	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	TOTAL
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Certified Value as at 1 April 2024	£300,296	£231,226	£29,605	£8,371	£19,922	£20,841	£610,261
Adjustments	£0	£12,007	£0	£0	£0	£0	£12,007
Adjusted Value as at 1 April 2024	£300,296	£243,233	£29,605	£8,371	£19,922	£20,841	£622,268
Additions & Acquisitions	£16,083	£2,551	£1,254	£1,526	£22	£23,139	£44,574
Revaluations Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£57,789	£17,804	£0	£0	£4,790	£0	£80,384
Revaluations Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(£156)	(£2,625)	£0	£0	(£292)	£0	(£3,072)
Derecognition - Disposals	(£2,117)	(£1,015)	£0	£0	(£1,514)	£0	(£4,647)
Derecognition - Others	(£633)	(£37,537)	£0	(£4)	(£1,917)	(£1,012)	(£41,103)
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	(£44)	£2,631	£968	£127	(£6,533)	(£299)	(£3,149)
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	(£1)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£1)
Movement in Cost/Valuation	£70,921	(£18,191)	£2,221	£1,649	(£5,444)	£21,828	£72,985
Amount as at 31 March 2025	£371,217	£225,042	£31,827	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£695,253
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairments as at 1 April 2024	(£245)	(£18,623)	(£18,124)	£0	£0	£0	(£36,992)
Adjustments	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Adjusted Value as at 1 April 2024	(£245)	(£18,623)	(£18,124)	£0	£0	£0	(£36,992)
Depreciation charged In-year	(£7,414)	(£8,828)	(£2,635)	£0	£0	£0	(£18,876)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	£7,600	£6,980	£0	£0	£0	£0	£14,581
Depreciation written out to (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	£0	£133	£0	£0	£0	£0	£133
Impairments Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Impairments Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Depreciation Written out on Disposal	£44	£40	£10	£0	£0	£0	£94
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£14	£4,171	£0	£0	£0	£0	£4,185
Other Movements in Depreciation and Impairment	£0	£0	(£489)	£0	£0	£0	(£489)
	£1	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1
Movement in Depreciation & Impairment	£245	£2,497	(£3,113)	£0	£0	£0	(£371)
Amount as at 31 March 2025	(£0)	(£16,126)	(£21,237)	£0	£0	£0	(£37,363)
Opening NBV	£300,051	£224,610	£11,481	£8,371	£19,922	£20,841	£585,276
Total Movement	£71,166	(£15,694)	(£892)	£1,649	(£5,444)	£21,828	£72,614
Closing NBV	£371,217	£208,916	£10,589	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£657,890

14. Infrastructure Assets

Movements on balances

In accordance with the temporary relief offered by the Update to the Code on Infrastructure Assets this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements.

The authority has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to infrastructure assets.

Infrastructure Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Certified Valuation or Cost at 1 April	£65,774	£72,546
Additions in Year	£9,802	£13,391
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£43	£0
Derecognition - Other	£310	£0
Depreciation charged in year	(£3,383)	(£4,337)
As at 31st March	£72,546	£81,600

As infrastructure assets are not being disclosed on the face of the Balance Sheet a reconciling note has been prepared:

PPE Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Infrastructure Assets	£72,546	£81,600
Other PPE Assets	£657,890	£698,154
Total PPE Assets	£730,436	£779,754

The authority has determined in accordance with Regulation [30M England] of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England/Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for infrastructure assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

15. Heritage Assets

Reconciliation of the carrying value of heritage assets held by the authority.

Heritage Assets	Artifacts and Gifts £000s	Pictures £000s	Civic Regalia £000s	Total Assets £000s
Cost or Valuation 1 April 2024	£31	£25,693	£629	£26,353
Additions	£0	£0	£0	£0
Revaluation Gains/(Losses) Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0
31 March 2025	£31	£25,693	£629	£26,353
Cost or Valuation 1 April 2025	£31	£25,693	£629	£26,353
Additions	£2	£0	£0	£2
Revaluation Gains/(Losses) Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0
31 March 2026	£33	£25,693	£629	£26,355

Heritage assets are defined as assets intended to be preserved in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental, or historical association. They are held by the council in pursuit of our overall objectives in relation to the maintenance of our local heritage. These include Civic Regalia, Artefacts, and various gifts & bequests some of which are held in the Museum and Art Gallery. These are recognised and measured, including treatment of revaluation gains and losses, in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on Property Plant and Equipment.

Heritage assets are deemed to have an indefinite life, therefore are not depreciated as the charge made would be minimal and immaterial. Nevertheless, where there is evidence of physical deterioration to a Heritage Asset, or doubts arise to its authenticity, the value of the asset has to be reviewed. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment.

Further Information on The Collections

The two principal collections of heritage assets held in Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre are:

Fine and Decorative Art – this collection consists of over 1,870 artworks including oil paintings, watercolours, prints, sculpture, and other mixed media works. Of particular interest and value are the oil painting, 'Calais Sands: Poissards Gathering Bait' and 4 watercolours by J.M.W. Turner. The collection also has significant paintings by Clausen, Landseer, Riviere, and Lady Butler. A selection of works is displayed at Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre and works not on display are kept in store and available to view by appointment. Images and information about paintings is available to view on the Art UK searchable website (<https://www.artuk.org/visit/venues/bury-art-museum-6547>) and also our own website (<https://www.buryartmuseum.co.uk>)

Social History – This collection consists of around 62,000 items and is of significant value as material evidence of the social history of Bury and its people. The collections relate to the area's archaeology, industrial and domestic history and include ephemera representing the everyday life of the Borough. The founding collection included natural history, geology, and ethnography. Some objects from the collections are of significant historical importance, such as a Thomas Lees long case clock, George III Spade Guineas, Sir Robert Peel's cradle, Bronze Age urns, a Roman bracelet, and coins, 2 Celtic heads, Hutchinson family furniture, African ivories, Wedgwood vases and one hundred pieces of Pilkington's Royal Lancastrian pottery.

Civic Regalia – forms part of the Social History Collection and is stored in the Strong Room.

Other Heritage Assets – Additionally, the Authority has in its care three Historic Buildings that are classed as Heritage Assets these carried in the accounts at a nominal value only and are named as the Radcliffe Tower in Radcliffe, The Dungeon in Tottington and Rodger Worthington's Grave in Hawkshaw.

16. Investment Properties

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

Items accounted for in the Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure [CIES]	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Rental Income from Investment Property	(£434)	(£606)
Direct Operating Expenses Arising from Investment Property	£23	£30
Movement in Fair Value of Investment Properties	(£987)	(£1,224)
Net (Gain)/Loss	(£1,398)	(£1,799)

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or to repair, maintain or enhance it.

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year:

Movement in Fair Value of Investment Properties	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£18,037	£19,226
Additions in Year	£118	£155
Disposals in Year	£0	£1,224
Reclassifications of Assets	£84	£0
Net Gain (Loss) from Fair Value Adjustment	£987	£0
Balance At 31 March	£19,226	£20,605

Fair Value Hierarchy

All the Council's investment properties have been value assessed as Level 2 on the fair value hierarchy for valuation purposes (please refer to accounting policy – fair value measurement for more information) Valuation Techniques Used to Determine Level 2 Fair Values for Investment Properties.

The fair value of investment properties has been measured using a market approach, which takes into account quoted prices for similar assets in active markets, existing lease terms and rentals, research into market evidence including market rentals and yields, the covenant strength for existing tenants, and data and market knowledge gained in managing the Council's Investment Asset portfolio. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs are significant, leading to the properties being categorised as level 2 on the fair value hierarchy. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year for investment properties.

Highest and Best Use

In Council's estimates the fair value of our investment properties by taking the highest and best use value of the asset at the balance sheet date.

17. Intangible Assets

The Council regards the cost of purchased software as an intangible asset, which is carried at the historical cost of purchase and amortised over its expected useful life.

Economic lives for the purposes of amortisation have been assessed at 5 and 10 years as per the Council's accounting policies.

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

Intangible Assets	2024/25 Software Licences £000's	2025/26 Software Licences £000's
Gross Carrying Amount	£13,404	£12,847
Accumulated Amortisation	(£8,200)	(£9,469)
Net Carrying Amount at 1 April	£5,204	£3,378
Additions	£411	£622
Amortisation in Year	(£1,758)	(£1,552)
Reclassifications/Transfers	(£479)	£187
Derecognition - Other	£0	£138
Net Carrying Amount at 31 March	£3,378	£2,773

Comprising:		
Gross Carrying Amount	£12,847	£12,847
Accumulated Amortisation	(£9,469)	(£10,074)
Net Carrying Amount at 31 March	£3,378	£2,773

18. Assets Held for Sale

This note contains assets that are held for sale and are shown as non-current assets on the balance sheet as they are expected to be sold within 1 year. In accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice, these assets are available for immediate sale in their present condition and are being actively marketed for sale.

Assets Held for Sale	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£1,088	£4,953
Assets Newly Classified as Held for Sale	£0	(£3,783)
Derecognition - Disposals	£0	(£785)
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	(£125)	£0
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	£3,990	£0
Movements in Year	£3,865	(£4,568)
Balance as 31 March	£4,953	£385

19. Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instruments of another entity. Non exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes and government grants, do not give rise to financial instruments.

Categories of Financial Instruments

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

Financial Assets

Financial Assets	Non-Current				Current				Total	
	Investments		Debtors		Investments		Debtors		31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s
	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s		
Amortised Cost										
Long-Term Debtor Loans	£0	£0	£69,228	£67,914	£0	£0	£0	£0	£69,228	£67,914
Investments	£0	£0	£0	£0	£20,700	£14,618	£0	£0	£20,700	£14,618
Deposits (Short Maturity) and Bank Accounts	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,270	(£5,340)	£0	£0	£1,270	(£5,340)
Short-Term Debtors (Financial Assets)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£35,957	£52,389	£35,957	£52,389
Amortised Cost Total	£0	£0	£69,228	£67,914	£21,970	£9,278	£35,957	£52,389	£127,155	£129,581
Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income - Designated Equity Instruments	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income - Other	£47,820	£41,400	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£47,820	£41,400
Total Financial Assets	£47,820	£41,400	£69,228	£67,914	£21,970	£9,278	£35,957	£52,389	£174,975	£170,981
Short-Term Debtors (Non-Financial Assets)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£30,016	£34,584	£30,016	£34,584
Total	£47,820	£41,400	£69,228	£67,914	£21,970	£9,278	£65,973	£86,973	£204,991	£205,565

Financial Liabilities

Financial Liabilities	Non-Current				Current				Total	
	Borrowings		Creditors		Borrowings		Creditors		31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s
	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s	31-Mar 2025 £000s	31-Mar 2026 £000s		
Amortised Cost										
Borrowings - Temporary Loans	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Borrowings - PWLB Loans	(£242,398)	(£298,803)	£0	£0	(£4,868)	(£7,959)	£0	£0	(£247,266)	(£306,762)
Borrowings - LOBO/Market Loans	(£28,000)	(£32,000)	£0	£0	(£20,000)	(£31,040)	£0	£0	(£48,000)	(£63,040)
Borrowings - Local Bonds PFI, Finance Lease and Transferred Debt	(£3)	(£3)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£3)	(£3)
Short-Term Creditors (Financial Assets)	£0	£0	(£10,361)	(£9,955)	£0	£0	(£828)	(£427)	(£11,189)	(£10,382)
	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£30,442)	(£21,999)	(£30,442)	(£21,999)
Total Financial Liabilities	(£270,401)	(£330,806)	(£10,361)	(£9,955)	(£24,868)	(£38,999)	(£31,270)	(£22,426)	(£336,900)	(£402,186)
Short-Term Creditors (Non-Financial Liabilities)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£15,224)	(£14,327)	(£15,224)	(£14,327)
Total	(£270,401)	(£330,806)	(£10,361)	(£9,955)	(£24,868)	(£38,999)	(£46,494)	(£36,753)	(£352,124)	(£416,513)

Investments in Equity Instruments Designated at Fair Value through other Comprehensive Income

With the introduction of IFRS 9 the Council has designated the following equity at 31 March 2026 as fair value through other comprehensive income:

Investments in Equity Instruments Designated at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income	Nominal £000s	Fair Value £000s	Change in Fair Value during 2025/26 £000s	Dividend 2025/26 £000s
Manchester Airport Shares	£10,214	£37,500	(£5,920)	£0
Manchester Airport Car Park (1) Limited	£5,610	£3,900	(£500)	£452
Total	£15,824	£41,400	(£6,420)	£452

The Council holds 3.22% shares in Manchester Airport Holdings Ltd, the shareholding is a strategic investment and not held for trading and therefore the Council has opted to designate it as fair value through Other Comprehensive Income. This would mean that there is no impact on the revenue budget and the decision to designate to fair value through other comprehensive income is irrevocable. Any gains or losses on the valuation of the shareholding will therefore be transferred to a Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

Items of Income, Expense, Gains or Losses

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

Items of Income, Expense, Gains or Losses	2024/25			2025/26		
	Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services £000s	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure £000s	Total £000s	Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services £000s	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure £000s	Total £000s
Net Gains/Losses on: Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income	£0	£2,880	£2,880	£0	£6,420	£6,420
Total Net Gains/(Losses)	£0	£2,880	£2,880	£0	£6,420	£6,420
Interest Income: Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost	(£5,111)	£0	(£5,111)	(£20,872)	£0	(£20,872)
Other Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income	(£3,158)	£0	(£3,158)	(£1,040)	£0	(£1,040)
Total interest income	(£8,269)	£0	(£8,269)	(£21,912)	£0	(£21,912)
Interest Expense	£11,091	£0	£11,091	£13,661	£0	£13,661

Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair Values of Financial Assets

Some of the Council's financial assets are measured in the Balance Sheet at fair value on a recurring basis and are described in the following table, including the valuation techniques used to measure them.

Recurring Fair Value Measurements	Input Level in Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation Technique Used to Measure Fair Value	As at 31/03/2025 Fair Value £000s	As at 31/03/2026 Fair Value £000s
Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income				
Manchester Airport	Level 2	Earnings Based	£47,820	£41,400
Total			£47,820	£41,400

The Council holds a 3.22% share in Manchester Airport Holdings Limited (MAHL). The shares in this company are not traded in an active market; however, the fair value shown above is based on a high degree of comparability to listed company data including any movement in share prices. An earnings-based method has been employed which takes as its basis for the profitability of the company, assessing its historic earnings and arriving at a view of "maintainable" or "prospective" earnings.

The method involves the application of an EV/EBITDA multiple (Enterprise Value by Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation) to the maintainable or prospective earnings and draws on data from comparable quoted companies. The data is then adjusted by discount factors to allow for the fact that the shares are not publicly traded and that the Council holds a minority interest with no voting rights. These unobservable inputs have been developed using the best information about the assumptions that the market participants would use when pricing the asset.

The valuation has been made using annual audited accounts of MAHL for the financial year ending 31 March 2026. These shares are subject to annual valuation. In 2025/26, this has seen a decrease in value of (£6.420m).

Fair Values of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities that are not measured at Fair Value

Except for the financial assets carried at fair value (described in the table above), all other financial liabilities and financial assets represented by loans and receivables and long-term debtors and creditors are carried on the Balance Sheet at amortised cost.

Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that take place over the remaining life of the instruments (Level 2) using the following assumptions:

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

The fair values are calculated as follows:

The Fair Values of Financial Liabilities that are Not Measured at Fair Value	31 March 2025		31 March 2026	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Temporary Loans	£0	£0	£0	£0
PWLB Loans	(£247,266)	(£217,927)	(£306,762)	(£298,606)
LOBO/Market Loans	(£48,000)	(£48,474)	(£63,040)	(£58,203)
Local Bonds	(£3)	(£3)	(£3)	(£3)
PFI, Finance Lease and Transferred Debt	(£11,189)	(£11,189)	(£10,382)	(£10,382)
Short-Term Creditors (Financial Assets)	(£30,442)	(£30,442)	(£21,999)	(£21,999)
Financial liabilities	(£336,900)	(£308,035)	(£402,186)	(£389,193)

The fair value of the liabilities is lower than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is lower than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date. This shows a notional future gain (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2026) arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders below current market rates.

The Fair Values of Financial Assets that are Not Measured at Fair Value	31 March 2025		31 March 2026	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Long-Term Debtor Loans	£69,228	£77,435	£67,914	£78,290
Investments	£20,700	£20,720	£14,618	£14,619
Deposits (Short Maturity) and Bank Accounts	£1,270	£1,270	(£5,340)	(£5,340)
Short-Term Debtors (Financial Assets)	£35,957	£35,957	£52,389	£52,389
Financial Assets	£127,155	£135,382	£129,581	£139,958

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

Fair Value hierarchy for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities that are not measured at Fair Value

Recurring Fair Value Measurements Using:	Other Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Other Significant Observable Inputs (Level 2)
	31 March 2025 £000s	31 March 2026 £000s
Financial Liabilities		
PWLB Loans	(£217,927)	(£298,606)
LOBO/Market Loans	(£48,474)	(£58,203)
Total	(£266,401)	(£356,809)
Financial Assets		
Investments	£20,720	£14,619
Long-Term Debtor Loans	£66,586	£67,325
Total	£87,306	£81,944

The fair value for financial liabilities and financial assets that are not measured at fair value included in Level 2 in the table above have been arrived at using a discounted cash flow analysis with the most significant inputs being the discount rate detailed.

20. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

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

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

Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The Council's management of treasury risks actively works to minimise the Council's exposure to the unpredictability of financial markets and to protect the financial resources available to fund services. The Council has fully adopted CIPFA's Code of Treasury Management Practices and has written principles for overall risk management as well as written policies and procedures covering specific areas such as credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk.

Credit Risk

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

This risk is minimised through the Annual Treasury Management Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's Credit ratings Services. The Annual Investment Strategy also considers maximum amounts and time limits with a financial institution.

This Council used the creditworthiness service provided by Arlingclose throughout 2025/26. This service uses a sophisticated modelling approach with credit ratings from all three rating agencies, forming the core element. However, it does not rely solely on the current credit ratings of counterparties but also uses the following as overlays:

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

The full Investment Strategy for 2025/26 was approved by Council on 19 February 2025 and is available on the Council's website.

Customers for goods and services are assessed, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors, with individual credit limits being set in accordance with individual credit limits being set in accordance with parameters set by the Council.

The council has a total of £14.6m deposits with a number of financial institutions as 31 March 2026. The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to this amount cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at the 31 March 2026 that this was likely to crystallise.

The Council does not generally invest in quoted equity shares where there is an active market. It does have a shareholding valued at £41.4m in the Manchester Airport Group. The Council is therefore exposed

to the risk of a loss in the valuation of its investments arising as a result of poor performance by the Group. The Council would not normally attempt to spread its risk by diversifying its portfolio.

Expected Credit Loss Model

The Council recognises expected credit losses on all its financial assets held at amortised cost (or where relevant FVOCI), either on a 12-month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

We have assessed the Council's investments and concluded that the expected credit loss is not material therefore no allowances have been made.

Only lifetime expected credit losses (simplified approach) have been recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the Council.

Loss Allowance by Asset Class (Amortised Cost)	Amounts at 31 March 2026 £000s	Lifetime Expected Credit Losses: Simplified Approach %	Loss Allowance Opening Balance £000s	Amounts Written Off £000s	Changes in Models/Risk Parameters £000s	Loss Allowance Closing Balance £000s
Short-Term Debtors (Financial Assets)	£52,389	20.39%	(£9,518)	£102	(£1,267)	(£10,683)
Total	£52,389		(£9,518)	£102	(£1,267)	(£10,683)

Loss Allowance by Asset Class (Amortised Cost)	Amounts at 31 March 2025 £000s	Lifetime Expected Credit Losses: Simplified Approach %	Loss Allowance Opening Balance £000s	Amounts Written Off £000s	Changes in Models/Risk Parameters £000s	Loss Allowance Closing Balance £000s
Short-Term Debtors (Financial Assets)	£35,957	26.47%	(£6,445)	£77	(£3,150)	(£9,518)
Total	£35,957		(£6,445)	£77	(£3,150)	(£9,518)

No credit limits were exceeded during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits and bonds.

The Council does not generally allow extended credit for customers, but some of the current balances is past its due date for payment. The past due but not impaired amount can be analysed by age as follows:

Aged Debt Analysis - Past Due but Not Impaired	31 March 2025 £000s	31 March 2026 £000s
Less than one month	£8,343	£12,365
Two to three months	£809	£4,633
Four months to one year	£1,286	£3,015
More than one year	£3,137	£2,783
Total	£13,575	£22,796

Liquidity Risk

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

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow need, and the PWLB and money markets for access to longer term funds. The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The maturity analysis of financial assets is as follows:

Maturity Analysis of Financial Assets	31 March 2025	31 March 2026
	£000s	£000s
Less than 1 year	£57,927	£61,667
Between 1 and 2 years	£0	£0
Between 2 and 3 years	£0	£0
More than 3 years	£69,228	£67,914
Total	£127,155	£129,581

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains a significant debt and investment portfolio. Whilst the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer-term risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to both the maturing of longer-term financial liabilities and longer-term financial assets.

The approved treasury indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments placed for greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk. The Council approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks and the central treasury team address the operational risks within the approved parameters.

This includes:

- Monitoring the maturity profile of financial liabilities and amending the profile through either new borrowing or the rescheduling of the existing debt; and
- Monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day-to-day (daily) cash flow needs, and the spread of longer-term investments provide stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer-term cash flow needs.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

Maturity Analysis of Financial Liabilities	31 March 2025	31 March 2026
	£000s	£000s
Less than 1 year	(£56,155)	(£41,515)
1 - 2 years	(£31,301)	(£114,595)
2 - 5 years	(£32,534)	(£65,567)
5 - 10 years	(£86,044)	(£111,987)
More than 10 years	(£130,866)	(£68,521)
Total	(£336,900)	(£402,186)

Of the £5m of Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans, all loans mature in more than 10 years (the average maturity time being 52.1 years).

The terms of the LOBO state that loans could be recalled within 12 months; this occurred during 2025/26 for one loan totalling £8m, that were repaid during the financial year. However, for the one remaining loan totalling £5m, we have taken the decision to disclose this as long-term liabilities as they are very likely to be on our balance sheet for a period of greater than 12 months and so the classification of long-term creditors provides the most realistic status of these loans to the users of the accounts.

Market Risk

The Council is exposed to market risk in terms of its exposure that the value of an instrument will fluctuate because of changes in:

- Interest rate risk;
- Price risk; and
- Foreign Exchange rate risk

Interest Rate Risk

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

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

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the balance sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services and affect the General Fund Balance. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments that have a quoted market price will be reflected in the Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

According to this investment strategy, at 31 March 2026, if all interest rates had been 1% higher (with all other variables held constant) the financial effect would be:

Interest Rate Risk	£000s
Increase in Interest Payable on Variable Rate Borrowings	£301
Increase in Interest Receivable on Variable Rate Investments	£146
Impact on Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	£447
Decrease in Fair Value of Fixed Rate Investment Assets	£0
Impact on Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	£0
Decrease in Fair Value of Fixed Rate Borrowing Liabilities (no impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure)	£17,969

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

Price Risk

The Council does not generally invest in equity shares but does have shareholdings to the value of £41.4m in local industry. Whilst these holdings are generally illiquid, the Council is exposed to losses arising from movements in the price of the shares.

As the shareholdings have arisen in the acquisition of specific interests, the Council is not in a position to limit its exposure to price movements by diversifying its portfolio. Instead, it only acquires shareholdings in return for "open book" arrangements with the company concerned so that the Council can monitor factors that might cause a fall in the value of specific shareholdings.

Of the shares mentioned above, £41.4m has been elected as Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income, meaning that all movements in price will impact on gains and losses recognised in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve. A general shift of 5% in the general price of shares (positive or negative) would thus have resulted in a £2.07m gain or loss being recognised in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

Foreign Exchange Risk

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

21. Analysis of Long and Short-Term Debtors

Analysis of Short-Term Debtors	2024/25	2025/26
	£000s	£000s
Gross Trade Receivables	£41,289	£57,827
less Trade Receivables Impairment Allowance	(£7,043)	(£8,212)
Net Trade Receivables	£34,245	£49,615
Payments in Advance	£4,072	£6,401
Related Parties	£1,436	£2,426
Gross NNDR Payers	£12,258	£12,306
less NNDR Payers Impairment Allowance	(£7,521)	(£7,947)
Net NNDR Payers	£4,737	£4,359
Gross Council Tax Payers	£23,156	£26,301
less Council Tax Payers Impairment Allowance	(£14,923)	(£17,159)
Net Council Tax Payers	£8,234	£9,142
Collection Fund Preceptors	£926	£1,775
Gross Housing Benefit	£4,971	£4,833
less Housing Benefit Impairment Allowance	(£1,159)	(£1,028)
Net Housing Benefit	£3,812	£3,805
Gross Housing Rent	£2,750	£2,818
less Housing Rent Impairment Allowance	(£2,475)	(£2,470)
Net Housing Rent	£276	£348
Other Receivables	£8,236	£9,102
Total	£65,974	£86,973

Analysis of Long-Term Debtors	2024/25	2025/26
	£000s	£000s
Manchester Airport Loan	£29,366	£29,366
Manchester Airport Loan Interest	£8,262	£7,129
Bury MBC Townside Fields Loan	£7,257	£7,257
Six Town Housing Loan	£2,797	£2,621
Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP Loan	£20,349	£20,349
The Prestwich Regeneration (LLP) Loan	£1,127	£1,127
Debt Managed for Probation Services	£11	£11
Other Loan Accounts	£60	£57
Total	£69,228	£67,915

22. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents	2024/25	2025/26
	£000s	£000s
Cash held by the Authority	£17	£16
School Bank Accounts	(£310)	£184
Bank Call Accounts	£0	£0
Bank	£1,580	(£5,524)
Total	£1,287	(£5,324)

23. Analysis of Creditors

Analysis of Short-Term Creditors	2024/25	2025/26
	£000s	£000s
Trade Payables	(£24,494)	(£16,069)
Receipts in Advance	(£1,373)	(£1,731)
Related Party Payables	(£1,033)	(£823)
NNDR Payers	(£4,415)	(£4,303)
Council Tax Payers	(£2,387)	(£2,410)
Deposits and Client Funds	(£119)	(£119)
Leases	(£828)	(£427)
Other Payables	(£11,846)	(£10,870)
Total	(£46,493)	(£36,753)

24. Long and Short-Term Provisions

Provisions are amounts set aside by the Council to meet the cost of a future liability, for which the timing of the payment is uncertain. The amounts represent the best estimate of that liability where an exact cost is not able to be determined. In line with the Code of Practice, the provision is charged to service revenue accounts in the year it is established. When the liability falls due, the costs are charged directly to the provision.

Short-Term Provisions	Business Rates Appeals Provision £000s	Insurance Provision £000s	Other Provisions £000s	Total £000s
Balance at 1 April 2025	(£1,205)	(£1,475)	(£150)	(£2,830)
Additional Provisions Made In-Year	£0	(£2,732)	£0	(£2,732)
Amounts Used In-Year	£0	£2,776	(£0)	£2,776
Unused Amounts Reversed In-Year	£0	£0	£0	£0
Transfers between Short & Long-term	(£1,265)	£0	£0	(£1,265)
Balance at 31 March 2026	(£2,470)	(£1,432)	(£150)	(£4,051)

Long-Term Provisions	Business Rates Appeals Provision £000s	Insurance Provision £000s	Other Provisions £000s	Total £000s
Balance at 1 April 2025	(£4,405)	(£3,083)	(£989)	(£8,478)
Additional Provisions Made In-Year	£0	(£1,344)	(£80)	(£1,424)
Amounts Used In-Year	£0	£0	£0	£0
Unused Amounts Reversed In-Year	£335	£0	£0	£335
Transfers between Short & Long-term	£1,265	£0	£0	£1,265
Balance at 31 March 2026	(£2,806)	(£4,428)	(£1,069)	(£8,303)

Business Rates Provision – Provision for potential backdated liability of refunding Business Rates payers as a result of reductions in Rateable Values, following successful appeals or alterations to Valuation lists.

Insurance Provision – Provision for outstanding claims relating to 31 March 2026 and before, where there are potential settlement costs attributable to the Council.

Other Provisions - This is the total of all other amounts set aside as provisions that are individually insignificant.

25. Usable Reserves

Movements in the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement and Note 9 Movement in Earmarked Reserves.

26. Unusable Reserve

Summary of Unusable Reserves:

Reserve	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Revaluation Reserve	(£230,617)	(£223,298)
Capital Adjustment Account	(£227,636)	(£235,348)
Deferred Capital Receipts	£1	£1
Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	(£31,996)	(£25,576)
Financial Instruments Adjustment Reserve	£262	(£13,633)
Collection fund Adjustment Account	(£539)	£1,793
Accumulated Absences	£2,887	£2,680
DSG Adjustment Account	£19,041	£20,285
Pension Reserve	£0	£0
Balance at 31st March	(£468,597)	(£473,097)

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; and
- disposed of and gains are realised.

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

Revaluation Reserve	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	(£149,876)	(£230,617)
Upward Revaluation of Assets	(£97,487)	(£36,135)
Downward Revaluation of Assets and Impairment Losses Not Charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£2,523	£26,935
(Surplus) or Deficit on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets not Posted to the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(£94,964)	(£9,200)
Difference between Fair Value Depreciation and Historical Cost Depreciation	£4,148	£2,796
Accumulated Gains on Assets Sold or Scrapped	£10,075	£13,723
Amount Written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	£14,223	£16,519
Balance at 31 March	(£230,617)	(£223,298)

Capital Adjustment Account

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

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 8 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

Capital Adjustment Account	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	(£232,343)	(£227,637)
Reversal of Items Relating to Capital Expenditure Debited or Credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:		
Charges for Depreciation and Impairment of Non-Current Assets	£22,259	£21,512
Revaluation Losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	£2,939	£3,841
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	£1,758	£1,552
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	£4,431	£7,299
Amounts of Non-Current Assets Written-off on Disposal or Sale as Part of the (Gain)/Loss on Disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£41,285	£31,181
Sub-total	£72,672	£65,384
Adjusting Amounts Written-out of the Revaluation Reserve	(£14,223)	(£16,519)
Net Written-out Amount of the Cost of Non-Current Assets Consumed in the Year	£58,449	£48,865
Capital financing applied in the year:		
Use of the Capital Receipts reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(£7,740)	(£9,555)
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(£7,401)	(£8,072)
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(£28,259)	(£23,235)
Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(£4,981)	(£10,295)
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(£4,045)	(£4,186)
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(£329)	(£10)
Sub-total	(£52,756)	(£55,353)
Movements in the market value of investment properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(£987)	(£1,224)
Repayment of Long-Term Debtors	£0	£0
Balance at 31 March	(£227,637)	(£235,348)

Deferred Capital Receipts

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

Financial Instrument Revaluation Account

The Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its investments that are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income. The balance is reduced when investments with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost; and
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1st April	(£34,876)	(£31,996)
Downward Revaluation of Investments	£2,880	£6,420
Balance at 31st March	(£31,996)	(£25,576)

Financial Instrument Adjustment Account

The Financial Instrument Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenditure relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefitting from gains per statutory provisions.

The Council uses the Account to manage premiums paid and discounts received on the early redemption of loans. Premiums are debited and discounts are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the net expense is posted back to the General Fund balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on Council Tax payers. In the Council's case this period is the unexpired term that was outstanding on loans when they were redeemed.

Financial Instrument Adjustment Account	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£265	£262
Discounts Incurred in the Year and Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£0	(£13,893)
Proportion of Premiums Incurred in Previous Financial Years to be Charged Against the General Fund Balance in Accordance with Statutory Requirements	(£2)	(£2)
Balance at 31 March	£262	(£13,633)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax and Business Rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from Council Tax and Business Rate payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

Collection Fund Adjustment Account	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£5,506	(£539)
Amount by Which Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rate Income Credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is Different from Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rate Income Calculated for the Year in Accordance with Statutory Requirements	(£6,045)	£2,332
Balance at 31 March	(£539)	£1,793

Accumulated Absences

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

Accumulative Absences	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£2,525	£2,887
Settlement or Cancellation of Accrual Made at the End of the Preceding Year	(£2,525)	(£2,887)
Amounts Accrued at the End of the Current Year	£2,887	£2,680
Amount by Which Officer Remuneration Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an Accruals Basis is Different from Remuneration Chargeable in the Year in Accordance with Statutory Requirements	£362	(£207)
Balance at 31 March	£2,887	£2,680

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Adjustment Account

The Dedicated Schools Grant adjustment account holds accumulated deficits relating to the schools budget. Where the authority has incurred a deficit on its schools budget in years beginning 1 April 2020 ending 31 March 2028, the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations do not allow for such amounts to be included in the General Fund and instead must be held in this adjustment account.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Adjustment Account	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£18,459	£19,041
School Budget Deficit Transferred from General Fund in Accordance with Statutory Requirements	£582	£1,244
Balance at 31 March	£19,041	£20,285

Pension Reserve

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

For further details on the effect of the asset ceiling that has resulted in a nil balance on the Pensions Reserve in 2024/25, please see Note 38.

Pension Reserve	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance at 1 April	£0	£0
Remeasurements of the Net Defined Benefit Liability/(Asset)	(£122,385)	£15,434
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	£129,714	£6,049
Reversal of Items Relating to Retirement Benefits Debited or Credited to the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£12,121	(£588)
Employer's Pension Contributions and Direct Payments to Pensioners Payable in the Year	(£19,450)	(£20,895)
Balance at 31 March	£0	£0

27. Cash Flow Statement Notes

Operating Activities

The cash flows for Operating Activities include the following items:

Operating Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Interest Received	(£5,313)	(£5,235)
Interest Paid	£10,806	£7,111
Dividends Received	(£3,158)	(£1,040)

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

Non-Cash Movements	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Depreciation	(£22,259)	(£21,511)
Impairment and Downward Valuations	(£2,939)	(£3,841)
Amortisation	(£1,758)	(£1,552)
Increase/(Decrease) in Impairment for Credit Losses	(£4,077)	(£3,696)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(£2,347)	£3,688
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	£2,071	£24,340
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	£331	(£90)
Movement in Pension Liability	£7,332	£21,483
Carrying Amount of Non-current Assets and Non-current Assets Held for Sale, Sold or Derecognised	(£41,285)	(£31,181)
<i>Other Non-cash Items Charged to the Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services:</i>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Provisions	(£1,314)	(£1,046)
Movements in the Value of Investment Properties	£987	£1,224
(Increase)/Decrease in Accumulated Absences	(£362)	£207
	(£65,621)	(£11,977)

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

Investing or Financing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Proceeds from Short-term (not considered to be cash equivalents) and Long-term Investments (includes investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries)	£0	£0
Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	£5,854	£8,431
Capital Grants credited to surplus or deficit on the provision of services	£33,962	£36,487
	£39,816	£44,918

Investing Activities

Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	£67,584	£94,528
Purchase of Short-term and Long-term Investments	£487,489	£842,787
Other Payments for Investing Activities	£498	£0
Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	(£5,854)	(£8,431)
Proceeds from Short-term and Long-term Investments	(£474,789)	(£848,869)
Proceeds from Other Long Term Loans	(£370)	(£1,313)
Other receipts from Investing activities	(£34,113)	(£27,533)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	£40,445	£51,170

Financing Activities

Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Cash (Receipts) of Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowing	(£98,000)	(£207,176)
Repayments of Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowing	£65,431	£121,334
Cash Payments for the Reduction of Outstanding Liabilities Relating to Finance Leases and on-Balance Sheet PFI Contracts	(£11,173)	£807
Discount/Premium on Early Repayment of Debt	£0	£15,437
Billing Authority Collection Fund Adjustments	£128	£849
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(£43,614)	(£68,749)

Reconciliation of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities

Liabilities from Financing Activities	Balance at 1 April 2025 £000s	Financing Cash Flows £000s	Non-Cash Changes		Balance at 31 March 2026 £000s
			Acquisition £000s	Other £000s	
Long-term Borrowings	(£270,401)	(£60,405)	£0	£0	(£330,806)
Long-term Borrowings Other	(£12)	£0	£0	£0	(£12)
Short-term Borrowings	(£24,868)	(£10,000)	£0	(£4,131)	(£38,999)
Lease Liabilities	(£11,177)	£807	£0	£0	(£10,370)
Total Liabilities from Financing Activities	(£306,458)	(£69,598)	£0	(£4,131)	(£380,187)

Liabilities from Financing Activities	Balance at 1 April 2024 £000s	Financing Cash Flows £000s	Non-Cash Changes		Balance at 31 March 2025 £000s
			Acquisition £000s	Other £000s	
Long-term Borrowings	(£223,005)	(£12,830)	£0	(£34,566)	(£270,401)
Long-term Borrowings Other	(£12)	£0	£0	£0	(£12)
Short-term Borrowings	(£42,185)	(£19,739)	£0	£37,057	(£24,868)
Lease Liabilities	(£4)	(£11,173)	£0	£0	(£11,177)
Total Liabilities from Financing Activities	(£265,207)	(£43,742)	£0	£2,491	(£306,458)

28. Pooled Funds

Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 allowed joint working arrangements between NHS organisations and local authorities. Pooled funds enable these bodies to work collaboratively to address specific local health issues.

The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) ceased to exist as a legal entity from the 1st of July 2022 with NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care (NHS GM) being the successor entity from the 1st of July 2022. On this basis, NHS GM will be a party to the S75 with the Council moving forward.

The pooling of budgets between the two organisations, Bury Council and NHS GM, is in line with NHSE guidelines to progress integration of Adult Social Care and Health and is in accordance with the decision made by Cabinet.

Bury Council and NHS GM have worked together to support health and social care integration within the locality. From 1 October 2019 the Integrated Commissioning Fund (ICF) includes the total revenue budget allocations of both the Council and NHS GM (previously CCG).

The single fund is overseen by The Bury Integrated Care Partnership Locality Board whose membership includes equal representation from the NHS GM and the Council.

The ICF supports the 4 strategic priorities of the Bury Locality Plan:

- **Building new relationships:** We will enable a radical shift in both the relationship between local people and public services, and the way in which public services work together towards a common set of outcomes.
- **Staying well for longer:** We will support local people to remain well for longer by systematically tackling the causes of illness, radically up-scaling prevention, and implementing a whole system wellness and wellbeing programme.
- **Reducing failure demand:** We will identify and remove the demand that exists in most Public Service systems that occur as a result of the way in which services are delivered and the way in which organisations work together within the system.
- **Tackling wider determinants of health:** We will make a concerted system-wide effort to tackle the wider determinants which impact upon the health and wellbeing of local people such as deprivation, work and skills, housing, education, and the environment.

The ICF is made up of 3 component sections:

- **Section 75 Pooled Budget:** Decisions on the utilisation of this budget are delegated to the Strategic Commissioning Board (SCB).
- **Aligned Services Budget:** For services that cannot be pooled under Section 75 legislation, or the Council and NHS GM have agreed are not yet in a position to pool. Recommendations on the utilisation of this budget are made by the SCB with decisions taken by the appropriate sovereign organisation.
- **In View Services Budget:** For services that are influenced but not directly commissioned by the partners. Decisions on the utilisation of in-view budgets are made by committees/bodies outside of Bury and are shared for information purposes only.

2025/26 Integrated Commissioning Fund Contributions and Costs

Table 1 below summarises the 2025/26 Integrated Commissioning Fund contribution and costs and any net (surplus)/deficit. In 2025/26 there is a £6.211m deficit arising on the Pooled budget.

The Council deficit of £3.016m is driven by demand pressures within the Care in the community budget. The £3.195m ICB deficit is driven by pressures in the Complex Care budgets.

Table 1

Integrated Commissioning Fund incorporating the Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Integrated Commissioning Fund Contribution		
Bury Council (Note 1)	(£136,242)	(£143,129)
NHS GM Bury Locality	(£71,129)	(£76,895)
Sub-Total	(£207,371)	(£220,024)
Integrated Commissioning Fund Costs		
Bury Council	£139,143	£146,145
NHS GM Bury Locality	£78,379	£80,090
Sub-Total	£217,522	£226,235
Net (Surplus)/Deficit Arising on the Pooled Budget During the Year	£10,151	£6,211

Risk Share Agreement

Each partner organisation accounts for their own contributions and details of the spend from the pool are reported to the Bury Strategic Commissioning Board.

Under the risk share arrangements of the ICF each organisation shares financial risk on a 50:50 basis. However, as in previous years when NHS GM Bury Locality has overspent NHS GM Bury Locality will not seek for any local authority support towards the deficit.

29. Members' Allowances

The council paid the following amounts to Members of the Council during the year:

Members' Allowances & Expenses	2024/25	2025/26
	£000s	£000s
Allowances	£932	£903
Expenses	£1	£0
TOTAL	£932	£903

30. Officers' Remuneration and Termination Benefits

The remuneration of senior employees, which is defined as those who are members of the Executive Leadership Team, those holding statutory posts, or those whose remuneration is £150,000 or more per year, is set out below. Salary, (including Fees and Allowances) includes elements such as market supplements and honoraria. No payments were made for bonuses, benefits in kind & expense allowances in either year.

Senior Officers

The remuneration paid to the authority's senior employees is as follows:

Authority's Senior Employees	2024/25						2025/26					
	Note	Salary, Fees and Allowances £000s	Expenses Allowances £000s	Compensation for Loss of Office £000s	Pension Contribution £000s	Total £000s	Note	Salary, Fees and Allowances £000s	Expenses Allowances £000s	Compensation for Loss of Office £000s	Pension Contribution £000s	Total £000s
Chief Executive and Placed Based Lead [L Ridsdale]	A	£202	£0	£0	£38	£240	A	£202	£0	£0	£39	£242
Executive Director: Health & Adult Care		£142	£0	£0	£21	£163		£147	£0	£0	£21	£168
Executive Director: Children & Young People		£141	£0	£0	£28	£169		£143	£0	£0	£28	£171
Executive Director: Strategy & Transformation		£134	£0	£0	£25	£159		£140	£0	£0	£27	£168
Executive Director: Place		£132	£0	£0	£26	£158		£140	£0	£0	£27	£168
Executive Director: Operations		£142	£0	£0	£28	£170	B	£3	£0	£92	£1	£96
Director of Finance	B	£91	£0	£0	£18	£108		£124	£0	£0	£24	£148
Executive Director: Finance (Interim)	C	£21	£0	£0	£0	£21		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Director of Law & Governance		£112	£0	£0	£21	£133		£113	£0	£0	£22	£136
Director of Adult Social Services & Community Commissioning		£121	£0	£0	£23	£144		£128	£0	£0	£25	£153
Director of Public Health		£111	£0	£0	£22	£132		£117	£0	£0	£23	£140

Senior Officers served for the whole of 2024/25 and 2025/26 unless stated below.

2025/26 Notes:

- A The Chief Executive is also the Place Based Lead for NHS GM, 50% was recharged to NHS GM in 2025/26
- B Executive Director of Operations left on 07/04/25. This post now no longer exists.

2024/25 Notes:

- A The Chief Executive is also the Place Based Lead for NHS GM, 50% was recharged to NHS GM in 2024/25.
- B The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer for the Council), started 1st July 2024
- C The Interim Executive Director: Finance role (IR35 Worker) terminated 28th May 2024

Remuneration Bands

The Council's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer pension contributions) were paid the following amounts:

Remuneration Band	2024/25 Teaching Staff	2024/25 Non- Teaching Staff	2025/26 Teaching Staff	2025/26 Non- Teaching Staff
£50,000 - £54,999	82	74	95	102
£55,000 - £59,999	58	35	56	43
£60,000 - £64,999	21	32	32	17
£65,000 - £69,999	13	17	16	23
£70,000 - £74,999	11	6	6	6
£75,000 - £79,999	15	5	12	4
£80,000 - £84,999	6	6	11	5
£85,000 - £89,999	2	6	4	0
£90,000 - £94,999	3	3	3	5
£95,000 - £99,999	0	1	0	0
£100,000 - £104,999	2	2	0	1
£105,000 - £109,999	0	1	1	2
£110,000 - £114,999	2	1	0	2
£115,000 - £119,999	2	0	1	2
£120,000 - £124,999	1	1	1	1
£125,000 - £129,999	0	0	0	1
£130,000 - £134,999	0	0	0	0
£135,000 - £139,999	0	0	0	0
£140,000 - £144,999	0	1	0	3
£145,000 - £149,999	0	0	0	2
TOTAL	218	191	238	219

Exit Packages

The numbers of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below.

Exit Package Cost Band (including special payments)	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of Other Departures Agreed		Total Number of Exit Packages by Cost Band		Total Cost of Exit Packages in Each Band	
	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
£0 - £20,000	6	15	36	30	42	45	£273	£330
£20,001 - £40,000	1	0	7	12	8	12	£213	£293
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	0	4	0	4	£0	£196
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	0	1	0	1	£0	£62
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	0	2	0	2	£0	£192
Total Cost Included in Bandings and in the CIES	7	15	43	49	50	64	£485	£1,073

31. External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and statutory inspections and to non-audit services provided by the Council's External Auditors:

External Audit Costs	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Fees Payable with Regard to External Audit Services Carried Out by the Appointed Auditor for the Year	£349	£355
Additional Fees to External Audit Services Carried Out by the Appointed Auditor	£0	£0
Total	£349	£355

32. Dedicated Schools Grant

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The DSG is ringfenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the schools' budget, as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2022. The schools budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the individual schools budget (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of the DSG receivable for 2025/26 are as follows:

DISCLOSURE OF DEPLOYMENT OF DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT 2025/26				
Note		Central Expenditure £000s	Individual Schools Budget £000s	Total £000s
A.	Final DSG for 2025/26 before Academy and High Needs Recoupment			£256,574
B.	Academy and High Needs Figure Recouped for 2025/26			£128,598
C.	Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2025/26			£127,975
D.	Plus: Brought-forward from 2024/25			£2,432
E.	Less: Carry-forward to 2026/27 Agreed in Advance			£0
F.	Agreed Initial Budgeted Distribution in 2025/26	£45,275	£85,132	£130,407
G.	In-year Adjustments	£1,000	(£347)	£653
H.	Final Budget Distribution for 2025/26	£46,275	£84,786	£131,061
I.	Less: Actual Central Expenditure	£48,128		£48,128
J.	Less: Actual ISB Deployed to Schools		£84,364	£84,364
K.	Plus: Local Authority Contribution for 2025/26	£2,620	£0	£2,620
L.	In-year Carry-forward to 2025/26	£767	£421	£1,188
M.	Plus: Carry-forward to 2025/26 Agreed in Advance			£0
N.	Carry-forward to 2026/27			£1,188
O.	DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2024/25			(£21,473)
P.	Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2025/26			£0
Q.	Total of DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2025/26			(£21,473)
R.	Net DSG Position at the End of 2025/26			£20,285

- A:** Final DSG figure before any amount has been recouped from the Council as published March 2026. Do not include the adjustment to the 2024/25 DSG for early years made during 2025/26 based on 2025-26 Jan and termly census data (see G below).
- B:** Figure recouped from the Council in 2025/26 by the DfE for the conversion of maintained schools into academies and for high needs payments made by ESFA.
- C:** Total DSG figure after academy and high needs recoupment for 2025/26, as published March 2026. (Do not deduct centrally funded licences.)
- D:** Figure brought forward from 2024/25. There can only be an entry here if this is a surplus or zero; a deficit must have been placed in the DSG unusable reserve created by MHCLG's amending regulations (see line O).
- E:** Any amount which the Council decided after consultation with the schools forum to carry forward to 2026/27 rather than distribute in 2025/26 – this may be the difference between estimated and final DSG for 2025/26, or a figure brought forward from 2024/25 that the Council is carrying forward again.
- F:** Budgeted distribution of DSG, adjusted for carry-forward, as agreed with the schools forum. Note that the ISB column should include only money distributed to schools (including high needs place funding) and to other early years providers; centrally held schools block items such as the growth fund belong in the central expenditure column.
- G:** Changes to the initial distribution, for example adjustments for exclusions, NNDR payments, or the final early years block adjustment for 2024/25 made during 2025/26 based on 2025-26 Jan and termly census data. Safety valve payments count as DSG and should be included here if paid in 2025/26.

- H: Budgeted distribution of DSG as at the end of the financial year.
- I: Actual amount of central expenditure items in 2025/26 – amounts not actually spent, eg money that is moved into earmarked reserves, should be included in items L20 or L21 as carried forward.
- J: Amount of ISB actually distributed to schools (ISB is regarded for DSG purposes as spent by the Council once it is deployed to schools' budget shares). Note that budget shares include early years funding, sixth form funding and high needs place funding; they do not include high needs top-up funding, which is treated as central expenditure.
- K: Any contribution from the local Council in 2025/26 that will have the effect of substituting for DSG in funding the schools budget. Do not include any change in balances held by schools as they are not to be recorded in this note.
- L: In-year position at end of 2025/26, ie:
- For central expenditure, difference between final budgeted distribution of DSG (item H12) and actual expenditure (item I15), plus any local Council contribution (item K17).
 - For ISB, difference between final budgeted distribution (item H13) and amount actually deployed to schools (item J16), plus any local Council contribution (item K18).
- M: Plus/minus any carry-forward to 2026/27 already agreed (Item E5).
- N: Total carry-forward on central expenditure (item L20) plus carry-forward on ISB (item L21) plus/minus any carry-forward to 2026/27 already agreed (item E5). To be entered in this line, this figure can only be a surplus or zero; if it results in a deficit, enter zero. Any in-year deficit in 2025/26 must be recorded as part of the DSG unusable reserve (item P26).
- O: DSG unusable reserve at end of 2024/25 (if any) – any amount placed in the unusable reserve at the end of 2020/21, and/or 2021/22 and/or 2022/23 and/or 2023/24 and/or 2024/25 in accordance with the MHCLG amending regulations.
- P: Any addition to DSG unusable reserve in 2025/26 because of an in-year deficit in 2025/26; figure 24 is to be entered here rather than at N when it is a deficit.
- Q: Total of DSG unusable reserve at end of 2025/26; this is the total of O25 and P26.
- R: Net DSG position at the end of 2025/26; this is a memorandum item designed to show the overall position on DSG. It is calculated by taking the figure (if any) at N24 and deducting the figure (if any) at Q27 and will therefore show any net deficit that the local Council would have if the unusable reserve were not held separately.

Details of the deployment of the DSG receivable for 2024/25 is as follows:

DISCLOSURE OF DEPLOYMENT OF DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT 2024/25				
Note		Central Expenditure £000s	Individual Schools Budget £000s	Total £000s
A.	Final DSG for 2024/25 before Academy and High Needs Recoupment			£230,280
B.	Academy and High Needs Figure Recouped for 2024/25			£107,211
C.	Total DSG after Academy and High Needs Recoupment for 2024/25			£123,069
D.	Plus: Brought-forward from 2023/24			£3,014
E.	Less: Carry-forward to 2025/26 Agreed in Advance			£0
F.	Agreed Initial Budgeted Distribution in 2024/25	£40,686	£85,397	£126,083
G.	In-year Adjustments	£0	£794	£794
H.	Final Budget Distribution for 2024/25	£40,686	£86,191	£126,877
I.	Less: Actual Central Expenditure	£40,641		£40,641
J.	Less: Actual ISB Deployed to Schools		£84,424	£84,424
K.	Plus: Local Authority Contribution for 2024/25	£620	£0	£620
L.	In-year Carry-forward to 2024/25	£665	£1,767	£2,432
M.	Plus: Carry-forward to 2025/26 Agreed in Advance			£0
N.	Carry-forward to 2025/26			£2,432
O.	DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2023/24			(£21,473)
P.	Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2024/25			£0
Q.	Total of DSG Unusable Reserve at the End of 2024/25			(£21,473)
R.	Net DSG Position at the End of 2024/25			£19,041

- A: Final DSG figure before any amount has been recouped from the Council as published March 2025. Do not include the adjustment to the 2023/24 DSG for early years made during 2024/25 based on January 2024 numbers or top-up funding (see G below).
- B: Figure recouped from the Council in 2024/25 by the DfE for the conversion of maintained schools into academies and for high needs payments made by ESFA.
- C: Total DSG figure after academy and high needs recoupment for 2024/25, as published March 2025. (Do not deduct centrally funded licences.)
- D: Figure brought forward from 2023/24. There can only be an entry here if this is a surplus or zero; a deficit must have been placed in the DSG unusable reserve created by MHCLG's amending regulations (see line O).
- E: Any amount which the Council decided after consultation with the schools forum to carry forward to 2025/26 rather than distribute in 2024/25 – this may be the difference between estimated and final DSG for 2024/25, or a figure brought forward from 2023/24 that the Council is carrying forward again.
- F: Budgeted distribution of DSG, adjusted for carry-forward, as agreed with the schools forum. Note that the ISB column should include only money distributed to schools (including high needs place funding) and to other early years providers; centrally held schools block items such as the growth fund belong in the central expenditure column.

- G: Changes to the initial distribution, for example adjustments for exclusions, NNDR payments, or the final early years block adjustment for 2023/24 made during 2024/25 based on January 2024 numbers. Safety valve payments count as DSG and should be included here if paid in 2024/25.
- H: Budgeted distribution of DSG as at the end of the financial year.
- I: Actual amount of central expenditure items in 2024/25 – amounts not actually spent, eg money that is moved into earmarked reserves, should be included in items L20 or L21 as carried forward.
- J: Amount of ISB actually distributed to schools (ISB is regarded for DSG purposes as spent by the Council once it is deployed to schools' budget shares). Note that budget shares include early years funding, sixth form funding and high needs place funding; they do not include high needs top-up funding, which is treated as central expenditure.
- K: Any contribution from the local Council in 2024/25 that will have the effect of substituting for DSG in funding the schools budget. Do not include any change in balances held by schools as they are not to be recorded in this note.
- L: In-year position at end of 2024/25, ie:
- For central expenditure, difference between final budgeted distribution of DSG (item H12) and actual expenditure (item I15), plus any local Council contribution (item K17).
 - For ISB, difference between final budgeted distribution (item H13) and amount actually deployed to schools (item J16), plus any local Council contribution (item K18).
- M: Plus/minus any carry-forward to 2025/26 already agreed (Item E5).
- N: Total carry-forward on central expenditure (item L20) plus carry-forward on ISB (item L21) plus/minus any carry-forward to 2025/26 already agreed (item E5). To be entered in this line, this figure can only be a surplus or zero; if it results in a deficit, enter zero. Any in-year deficit in 2024/25 must be recorded as part of the DSG unusable reserve (item P26).
- O: DSG unusable reserve at end of 2023/24 (if any) – any amount placed in the unusable reserve at the end of 2020/21, and/or 2021/22 and/or 2022/23 and/or 2023/24 in accordance with the MHCLG amending regulations.
- P: Any addition to DSG unusable reserve in 2024/25 because of an in-year deficit in 2024/25; figure 24 is to be entered here rather than at N when it is a deficit.
- Q: Total of DSG unusable reserve at end of 2024/25; this is the total of O25 and P26.
- R: Net DSG position at the end of 2024/25; this is a memorandum item designed to show the overall position on DSG. It is calculated by taking the figure (if any) at N24 and deducting the figure (if any) at Q27 and will therefore show any net deficit that the local Council would have if the unusable reserve were not held separately.

33. Grant Income

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

Grant Income Credited to Services	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) (Including PSV)	(£123,175)	(£127,365)
Housing Benefit Subsidy - Rent Allowances	(£22,517)	(£18,996)
Housing Benefit Subsidy - Rent Rebates	(£11,097)	(£9,261)
Pupil Premium Grant	(£3,838)	(£3,335)
COVID 19 grants	(£2,405)	£0
Asylum Seekers (UASC)	(£895)	(£1,224)
Discretionary Housing payments	(£3)	£0
Other Government Grants	(£15,479)	(£18,682)
Total	(£179,409)	(£178,862)

Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Business Rates Top-Up and S31 Compensation Grants	(£24,856)	(£25,208)
<i>Non-ringfenced Government Grants:</i>		
Social Care Support Grant	(£16,595)	(£19,524)
Improved Better Care Fund	(£7,628)	(£9,411)
Market Sustainability	(£3,573)	(£3,573)
Lower Tier and Services Grant	(£251)	£0
ASC Discharge Fund	(£1,783)	£0
Housing Benefit Administration Grants	(£483)	(£477)
Business Rates Levy Surplus	(£302)	£0
New Homes Bonus	(£20)	(£29)
Recovery Grant	£0	(£2,489)
NNDR Transitional Protection Receipts	£0	£0
Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Grant	£0	(£2,413)
Childrens Social Care Prevention Grant	£0	(£852)
NIC's compensation grant	£0	(£1,339)
Non-ringfenced Government Grants	(£30,636)	(£40,105)
<i>Capital Grants and Contributions:</i>		
DfE Schools Capital Grants	(£3,606)	(£8,257)
DfT (GMCA) Highways Funding	(£5,292)	(£5,515)
DLUHC Levelling Up Funding	(£16,669)	(£10,205)
DLUHC Disabled Facilities Grant	(£1,846)	(£2,117)
GMCA Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)	(£2,500)	(£1,308)
The Football Foundation	(£1,635)	(£180)
GMCA Mayor Challenge Fund	(£289)	(£3,619)
GMCA UK Shared Prosperity Fund	(£933)	(£2,054)
TfGM Local Authority Delivered Transport Schemes	(£248)	£0
DOH Social Care Single Capital Pot	(£57)	£0
Homes England	(£114)	£0
Suez Communities Trus	(£40)	£0
MHCLG Rough Sleepers Programme	(£92)	£0
GMCA CRSTS reprioritisation	£0	(£1,650)
GMCA Streets for All	£0	(£1,041)
Other Capital Grants and Contributions	(£641)	(£541)
Capital Grants and Contributions	(£33,962)	(£36,487)
Total	(£89,454)	(£101,800)

The authority has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

Revenue Grants Received in Advance (Current)	Balance 31 March 2024 £000s	Receipts 2024/25 £000s	Applied 2024/25 £000s	2024/25 £000s	Receipts 2025/26 £000s	Applied 2025/26 £000s	2025/26 £000s
DfE Schools Grants	(£326)	(£46)	£326	(£46)	(£57)	£46	(£57)
GMCA UK Shared Prosperity Fund	(£284)	£0	£284	£0	(£95)	£0	(£95)
DLUHC LUF Capacity and Capability Grant	(£123)	£0	£123	£0	£0	£0	£0
Heat Network Delivery Unit Grant	(£83)	£0	£83	£0	£0	£0	£0
GMCA Digital Inclusion	(£64)	(£49)	£64	(£49)	£0	£49	£0
GMCA Stimulating Employer Demand for Apprenticeships	(£32)	£0	£32	£0	£0	£0	£0
GMCA Evergreen Fund	(£21)	£0	£16	(£5)	£0	£0	(£5)
GMCA Adult Education Budget	(£11)	£0	£11	£0	£0	£0	£0
DfE Non-Schools Grants	(£10)	£0	£10	£0	£0	£0	£0
Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment & Recovery Grant	(£8)	£0	£8	£0	(£24)	£0	(£24)
Miscellaneous Grants	(£3)	(£3,205)	£3	(£3,205)	(£4,570)	£4,678	(£3,097)
Total	(£965)	(£3,299)	£960	(£3,304)	(£4,746)	£4,772	(£3,279)

Capital Grants received in Advance (Non-Current)	Balance 31 March 2024 £000s	Receipts 2024/25 £000s	Applied 2024/25 £000s	2024/25 £000s	Receipts 2025/26 £000s	Applied 2025/26 £000s	2025/26 £000s
The Arts Council UK	£0	£0	£0	£0	(£177)	£28	(£149)
DCMS Greater Manchester Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) Grant	(£69)	£0	£0	(£69)	£0	£0	(£69)
DfE Schools Capital Grants	(£592)	(£319)	£693	(£218)	(£181)	£411	£12
DLUHC Brownfield Land Release Funding	(£1,697)	(£11)	£0	(£1,708)	(£20)	£113	(£1,615)
DLUHC Disabled Facilities Grant	(£5,660)	(£2,629)	£1,845	(£6,444)	(£2,806)	£2,117	(£7,133)
DLUHC Levelling Up Funding	(£8,822)	(£20,349)	£16,669	(£12,502)	(£3,837)	£10,205	(£6,134)
DoH Social Care Single Capital Pot	(£459)	£0	£57	(£402)	£0	£3	(£399)
GMCA CRSTS reprioritisation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,641	£1,650	£3,291
GMCA Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	£0	(£166)	£8	(£158)	£0	£0	(£158)
GMCA Highways Funding	(£171)	(£810)	£846	(£135)	(£1,389)	£1,113	(£411)
GMCA Mayor Challenge Fund	(£287)	(£511)	£289	(£509)	(£2,850)	£3,619	£260
GMCA Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF)	£0	(£1,788)	£2,500	£712	(£1,308)	£1,308	£712
GMCA UK Shared Prosperity Fund	£34	(£1,942)	£933	(£975)	(£966)	£2,054	£113
Homes England	(£145)	£12	£113	(£20)	£20	£0	£0
MHCLG Local Authority Housing Fund	£0	(£92)	£92	£0	(£447)	£0	(£447)
Other Capital Grants and Contributions	(£183)	(£133)	£158	(£158)	(£254)	£137	(£275)
TfGM Local Authority Delivered Transport Schemes	(£173)	(£145)	£249	(£69)	(£315)	£177	(£207)
The Football Foundation	£0	(£1,153)	£1,635	£482	(£950)	£180	(£288)
The Veolia Environmental Trust	£0	(£84)	£0	(£84)	(£15)	£5	(£94)
Sub-total Capital Grants & Contributions	(£18,224)	(£30,120)	£26,087	(£22,257)	(£13,854)	£23,120	(£12,991)
Section 38 & Section 278 Contributions	(£205)	£0	£0	(£205)	£0	£205	£0
Section 106 Contributions	(£6,162)	(£569)	£1,747	(£4,984)	(£480)	£456	(£5,008)
Total	(£24,591)	(£30,689)	£27,834	(£27,446)	(£14,334)	£23,781	(£17,999)

34. Related Parties

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

This note sets out details of transactions between related parties and the Council.

Central Government: the Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants for Council services and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills, housing benefits). Grants received in 2025/26 and outstanding at 31 March 2026 from government departments are shown in Note 33.

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. Details of Members' interests, both pecuniary and non-financial are recorded in the Register of Members' Interests, which is open to public inspection. Members' interests are also available to view via the Council's web site.

The total of members' allowances paid in 2025/26 is shown in Note 29.

Corporate Directors and Service Directors are required on an annual basis to make a declaration of related parties. In addition, there is a code of conduct under which such officers must disclose any pecuniary and non-financial interests.

No such disclosures have been made for 2025/26.

Other Public Bodies [subject to common control by central government]

The Council has a pooled fund arrangement with NHS GM which encompasses Council Adult Social Care budgets and NHS commissioned expenditure, together with expenditure funded by the Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund. For further details see Note 28 Pooled Funds.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

GMCA co-ordinates key economic development, regeneration, transport, and waste disposal functions. The Council pays levies to GMCA for transport and waste disposal functions and the following amounts are included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, within Other Operating Expenditure.

Related Parties	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
GM Waste Disposal Authority	£14,069	£14,436
GM Passenger Transport Authority	£13,780	£14,078
Environment Agency	£114	£118
Total	£27,963	£28,632

Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Authority

Subsidiaries

The Council prepares Group Accounts for entities where it has material financial interests and a significant level of control. The Bury Council Group comprises Six Town Housing Ltd, Persona Care and Support Ltd and Persona Group Ltd, and Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd.

Related Party Transactions	2025/26				
	Receipts	Payments Management Fee	Payments Other	Outstanding Balances: Loans	Outstanding Balances: Debtor/ Creditor
	£000s	£000s	£000s		£000s
Subsidiaries					
Six Town Housing Ltd.,	(£538)	£0	£282	£2,621	(£209)
Persona Group Ltd., Persona Care and Support Ltd.,	(£848)	£5,371	£9,218	£0	(£26)
Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd.,	(£800)	£0	£0	£7,257	£2,021
Total	(£2,186)	£5,371	£9,500	£9,878	£1,786

Related Party Transactions	2024/25				
	Receipts	Payments Management Fee	Payments Other	Outstanding Balances: Loans	Outstanding Balances: Debtor/ Creditor
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Subsidiaries					
Six Town Housing Ltd.,	(£287)	£0	£1,860	£2,797	(£261)
Persona Group Ltd., Persona Care and Support Ltd.,	(£591)	£9,414	£4,450	£0	£85
Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd.,	(£611)	£0	£0	£7,257	£2,577
Total	(£1,489)	£9,414	£6,310	£10,054	£2,401

Six Town Housing Ltd was set up to manage and maintain the housing stock of Bury Council. Six Town Housing has no share capital and is wholly owned by the Authority. It is an ALMO (arms-length management organisation) of the Council and is a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 30 October 2003. On the 1 February 2024 the Council terminated this arrangement and brought the management of the Council's housing stock back in-house.

Six Town Housing made a profit before tax of £0.013m in 2025/26 compared to a profit before tax of £0.479m in 2024/25.

The Persona group of companies comprise of Persona Group Ltd, and Persona Care and Support Ltd. These companies were formed to provide social care services to older people and people with disabilities. The company's share capital (Called up Share Capital £3) is wholly owned by Bury Council.

The Persona group of companies made profit before tax of £0.065m in 2025/26, compared to a profit before tax of £0.112m in 2024/25. Bury Council paid management fees of £5.371m in 2025/36 (£9.414m in 2024/25).

Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd was formed to facilitate the development of Knowsley Place and was incorporated on 14 October 2009. The company's share capital (Ordinary Share Capital £1) is wholly owned by Bury Council.

Bury MBC Townside Fields Limited made a loss before tax of £0.003m in 2025/26, compared to a loss before tax of £1.992m in 2024/25.

Joint Ventures

Related Party Transactions	2025/26			
	Receipts £000s	Payments Other £000s	Outstanding Balances: Loans £000s	Outstanding Balances: Debtor/Creditor £000s
Joint Ventures				
Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP	(£1,200)	£30	£20,349	£226
The Prestwich Regeneration LLP	£0	£9,296	£1,127	£0
Total	(£1,200)	£9,326	£21,476	£226

Related Party Transactions	2024/25			
	Receipts £000s	Payments Other £000s	Outstanding Balances: Loans £000s	Outstanding Balances: Debtor/Creditor £000s
Joint Ventures				
Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP	(£1,423)	£408	£20,349	£251
The Prestwich Regeneration LLP	£0	£0	£1,127	£0
Total	(£1,423)	£408	£21,476	£251

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP

A 50/50 Joint Venture company was formed on 25 January 2022, between the Council and Bruntwood LLP, to acquire, hold and manage the Millgate Estate and Shopping Centre, alongside the development of a long-term masterplan to secure and enhance the estate in line with other important town centre projects, including the Flexi Hall and transport interchange.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP acquired the Mill Gate Estate and Shopping Centre in April 2022, that was funded by the Council through PWLB borrowing and providing loans totalling £20.350m to the Joint Venture.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP made a profit before tax of £0.550m in 2025/26, compared to a loss before tax of £0.315m in 2024/25.

The Prestwich Regeneration LLP

Following the Council acquisition of the Longfield Shopping Centre in July 2021, a 50/50 Joint Venture company was formed on 19 October 2022, between the Council and MUSE Developments Ltd, to shape a new masterplan for the site, creating new spaces to help people and businesses to thrive, with a mix of high-quality homes and family-friendly spaces, as well as a new community hub that promotes health and wellbeing.

The Prestwich Regeneration LLP made a loss before tax of £0.255m in 2025/26, compared to a loss before tax of £0.243m in 2024/25.

More information can be found at The Group Accounts section to the Statement of Accounts.

35. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing Requirement

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

Capital Expenditure and Financing Requirement	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	£383,511	£402,572
IFRS 16 Opening balance Adjustment	£12,007	£0
Updated Opening Capital Financing Requirement	£395,519	£402,572
Capital Investment		
Property Plant and Equipment	£54,376	£92,409
Heritage Assets	£0	£2
Investment Properties	£118	£155
Intangible Assets	£411	£622
Assets Held for Sale	£0	£0
Long-term Investment	£0	£0
Long-term Debtors	£498	£0
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	£4,431	£7,299
Source of Finance		
Capital Receipts	(£7,740)	(£9,555)
Government Grants And Other Contributions	(£33,240)	(£33,530)
Major Repairs Reserve	(£7,401)	(£8,072)
<i>Sums Set Aside from Revenue:</i>		
Direct Revenue Contributions	(£329)	(£10)
MRP/The Statutory Repayment of Loans Fund Advances (Capital Loans)	(£3,236)	(£3,489)
IFRS 16 MRP Adjustment	(£834)	(£874)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	£402,572	£447,529
Explanation of movement in year		
Increase in Underlying Need to Borrow (Supported by Government Financial Assistance)	£0	£0
Increase in Underlying Need to Borrow (Unsupported by Government Financial Assistance)	£11,123	£49,320
Assets Acquired Under Finance Leases	£0	£0
MRP/The Statutory Repayment of Loans Fund Advances (Capital Loans)	(£4,070)	(£4,363)
Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	£7,053	£44,957

36. Leases

Authority as Lessor

Operating Leases

The Council has numerous operating leasing agreements with private individuals and entities regarding shops, other premises, and land where the Council acts as the lessor. The most significant of these is for land leased to Manchester Airport until 31.03.2085 for an annual rental of £530,526.

The future minimum lease payments receivable is shown in the table below:

Operating Leases - Lessor	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Not later than one year	£2,019	£1,978
Later than one year and not later than five years	£7,693	£7,562
Later than five years	£120,482	£118,635
Total	£130,194	£128,175

Authority as Lessee

The Council has adopted IFRS 16 from 1 April 2024 and therefore no consolidation adjustments have been made in the current financial year. At transition date to IFRS 16, Bury Council applied the practical expedient which means Bury Council will not reassess whether the existing contracts are or contains leases at the date of initial application. Bury Council will also not restate previous year figures.

The Council is engaged in a number of leases to acquire the use of buildings.

Right of Use Assets

The council classifies contracts as leases based on their substance. Contracts and parts of contracts, including those described as contracts for services, are analysed to determine whether they convey the right to control the use of an identifiable asset, through rights both to obtain substantially all the economic benefits or service potential from that asset and to direct its use. Leases are recognised as right-of-use assets with a corresponding liability at the date from which the leased asset is available for use (or the IFRS 16 transition date, if later). This includes arrangements with nil consideration, or nominal payments.

Right of use Assets	Land and Buildings £000s
Not later than one year	£427
Later than one year and not later than five years	£4,976
Later than five years	£4,477
Total	£9,881

Movement in IFRS16 Liabilities	Current Liabilities £000s	Non-Current Liabilities £000s	Total £000s
Opening value at 1 April 2025	(£828)	(£10,345)	(£11,173)
Addition to opening balances	£0	(£71)	(£71)
Principal repayment in year	£828	£47	£874
Principal repayment due in 2026/27	(£427)	£427	£0
Total	(£427)	(£9,943)	(£10,370)

Movement in IFRS16 ROU Assets	Land and Building £000s	Total £000s
Balance at 1 April 2025	£10,637	£10,637
Additions	£71	£71
Revaluations	£0	£0
Depreciation and Amortisation	(£1,371)	(£1,371)
Disposals	£0	£0
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	£0	£0
Balance at 31 March 2026	£9,337	£9,337

Finance Leases

The Authority is committed to making minimum payments under these leases comprising settlement of the long-term liability for the interest in the property acquired by the Authority and finance costs that will be payable by the Authority in future years while the liability remains outstanding. The minimum lease payments are made up of the following amounts:

Finance Lease Liability	31 March 2025 £000s	31 March 2026 £000s
Finance Lease Liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments)	£4	£0
Minimum Lease Payments	£4	£0

37. Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Teachers employed by the Council are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). The Scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement and the Council contributes towards the cost by making contributions based on a percentage of scheme members' pensionable salaries.

The Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The scheme is unfunded, and the Department for Education (DfE) uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employer's contribution rate paid by Local Authorities. Valuations of the notional fund are undertaken every four years.

The scheme has in excess of 3,700 participating employers and consequently the Council is not able to identify its share of the underlying financial position and performance of the scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2025/26, the Council paid £7.146m (£8.406m in 2024/25) to Teachers Pensions in respect of teachers' retirement benefits, representing 28.68% of pensionable pay.

The Council is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis as detailed below.

The Council is not liable to the scheme for any other entities' obligations under the plan.

NHS Pension Scheme

Public Health employees are members of the NHS Pension Scheme, administered by the EA Finance NHS Pensions. This scheme provides its members with specified benefits on their retirement and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The NHS Pension Scheme is operated in a similar way to the Teachers' Pension Scheme, in that Employer Contributions are set nationally and all contributions from employers and employees are paid into one pot.

In 2025/26, the Council paid £0.038m (£0.039m in 2024/25) to NHS Pensions in respect of NHS retirement benefits, representing 14.38% of pensionable pay.

The Council is responsible for any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the NHS pension scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis as detailed below.

38. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

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

All employees (except teachers and members of the NHS pension scheme) are, unless they have opted out, members of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund which is administered by Tameside MBC and operates in accordance with the rules of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). This is a funded defined benefit career average (previously final salary scheme), meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.

The Greater Manchester Pension Scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the pension committee of Tameside Council. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pension fund Regulations. The investment managers of the fund are appointed by the committee and consist of the Director of Finance and Resources of Tameside Council.

The principal risks to the Council of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme (i.e. large-scale withdrawals from the scheme), changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge to the General Fund and HRA the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

Discretionary Post-retirement Benefits

Discretionary post-retirement benefits on early retirement are an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. There are no plan assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they may eventually fall due.

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services is recognised when they are earned by the employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge that is required to be made against Council Tax or Rent Payers is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

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

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Cost of Services:		
Service Cost Comprising:		
Current Service Cost	£15,905	£12,133
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	£1,477	£2,487
(Gain)/Loss from Settlements	£2,206	£1,427
Total Service Cost	£19,588	£16,047
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:		
Interest income on scheme assets	(£47,823)	(£58,479)
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	£40,353	£41,844
Total Net Interest Expense	(£7,470)	(£16,635)
Total Post Employment Benefits Charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£12,118	(£588)
Other Post-Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Remeasurements of the Net Defined Liability Comprising:		
Return on Plan Assets (excluding amounts included in net interest)	£7,772	(£42,681)
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	(£1,467)	£662
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) arising from changes in financial assumptions	(£119,694)	(£12,518)
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	(£8,993)	£69,971
The Effects of Business Combinations and Disposals	£0	£0
Total remeasurements recognised in other comprehensive income	(£122,382)	£15,434
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	£129,714	£6,049
Total Post Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£19,450	£20,895
Movement in Reserves Statement:		
Reversal of Net Charges Made to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services for Post Employment Benefits in Accordance with the Code	(£12,118)	£588
Actual Amount Charged Against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year:		
Employers' Contributions Payable to the Scheme & Benefits Paid	£19,450	£20,895

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amounts included in the Balance Sheet arising from the council's obligation in respect of its defined benefit scheme is as follows:

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Fair Value of Plan Assets	£1,016,448	£1,086,649
Present Value of Funded Liabilities	(£714,417)	(£779,438)
Present Value of Unfunded Liabilities	(£17,594)	(£16,725)
Effect of the asset ceiling	(£284,437)	(£290,486)
Net Asset / (Liability) Arising From Defined Benefit Obligation	£0	£0

Reconciliation of the Movements in Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets

Reconciliation of the Movement in Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening Fair Value of Scheme Assets	£1,005,611	£1,016,448
Interest Income	£47,823	£58,479
Remeasurement Gain/(Loss):		
Return on Plan Assets Excluding Amounts Included in Net Interest Expense	(£7,772)	£42,681
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£0	(£14,490)
Contributions from The Employer into the Scheme	£17,059	£18,609
Contributions from Employees into the Scheme	£5,613	£5,915
Benefits Paid	(£33,012)	(£35,899)
Other: Settlements	(£18,874)	(£5,094)
Other: Assets Assumed on Entity Combinations	£0	£0
Closing Fair Value of Scheme Assets	£1,016,448	£1,086,649

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening Balance at 1 April	(£850,888)	(£732,011)
Current Service Cost	(£15,905)	(£12,133)
Interest Cost	(£40,353)	(£41,844)
Contributions from Scheme Participants	(£5,613)	(£5,915)
Remeasurement (Gains)/Losses :		
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	£1,467	(£662)
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Financial Assumptions	£119,694	£12,518
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£8,993	(£55,481)
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	(£1,477)	(£2,487)
Liabilities Assumed on Entity Combinations	£0	£0
Benefits Paid	£35,403	£38,185
Liabilities Extinguished on Settlements	£16,668	£3,667
Opening Balance at 31 March	(£732,011)	(£796,163)

The Effect of the Asset Ceiling

The effect of the asset ceiling has been determined by the Scheme's actuaries on the basis of the limitation on the Council's ability to recover the full economic benefit of its assets through reductions in future employer's contributions because of the minimum funding requirement imposed on it by the funding strategy for the Scheme in place at 31 March 2026.

The Scheme actuaries have assessed the Council's estimated future service costs less the estimated minimum funding requirement contributions to establish the economic benefit that is available to the Council. The net pensions asset has therefore been adjusted down to nil by this effect of the asset ceiling.

Movement in Fair Value of Scheme Assets and Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities	2024/25				2025/26			
	Scheme Plan Assets £000s	Pensions Obligations £000s	Effect of Asset Ceiling £000s	Net Pensions Asset/ (Liability) £000s	Scheme Plan Assets £000s	Pensions Obligations £000s	Effect of Asset Ceiling £000s	Net Pensions Asset/ (Liability) £000s
Opening Balance at 1 April 2024	£1,005,611	(£850,888)	(£154,723)	£0	£1,016,448	(£732,011)	(£284,437)	£0
Current Service Cost	£0	(£15,905)	£0	(£15,905)	£0	(£12,133)	£0	(£12,133)
Contributions from Scheme Participants	£5,613	(£5,613)	£0	£0	£5,915	(£5,915)	£0	£0
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	£0	(£1,477)	£0	(£1,477)	£0	(£2,487)	£0	(£2,487)
Other: Settlements	(£18,874)	£16,668	£0	(£2,206)	(£5,094)	£3,667	£0	(£1,427)
Interest Income	£47,823	£0	£0	£47,823	£58,479	£0	£0	£58,479
Interest Cost	£0	(£40,353)	£0	(£40,353)	£0	(£41,844)	£0	(£41,844)
Remeasurement (Gains)/Losses :								
Return on Plan Assets Excluding Amounts Included in Net Interest Expense	(£7,772)	£0	£0	(£7,772)	£42,681	£0	£0	£42,681
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	£0	£1,467	£0	£1,467	£0	(£662)	£0	(£662)
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Financial Assumptions	£0	£119,694	£0	£119,694	£0	£12,518	£0	£12,518
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£0	£8,993	£0	£8,993	(£14,490)	(£55,481)	£0	(£69,971)
Change in the Effect of the Asset Ceiling	£0	£0	(£129,714)	(£129,714)	£0	£0	(£6,049)	(£6,049)
Other: Entity Combinations	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Benefits Paid	(£33,012)	£35,403	£0	£2,391	(£35,899)	£38,185	£0	£2,286
Contributions from The Employer into the Scheme	£17,059	£0	£0	£17,059	£18,609	£0	£0	£18,609
Closing Balance at 31 March 2025	£1,016,448	(£732,011)	(£284,437)	£0	£1,086,649	(£796,163)	(£290,486)	£0

Local Government Pension Scheme Assets Comprised

Fair Value of Scheme Assets	Period Ended 31 March 2025				Period Ended 31 March 2026			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	TOTAL	Percentage of Total Assets	Quoted Prices in Active Markets	Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	TOTAL	Percentage of Total Assets
	£000s	£000s	£000s		£000s	£000s	£000s	
Equity Securities:								
Consumer	£67,202	£0	£67,202	7%	£72,888	£0	£72,888	7%
Manufacturing	£49,202	£0	£49,202	5%	£57,716	£0	£57,716	5%
Energy and Utilities	£60,208	£0	£60,208	6%	£54,827	£0	£54,827	5%
Financial Institutions	£94,575	£0	£94,575	9%	£94,349	£0	£94,349	9%
Health and Care	£47,246	£0	£47,246	5%	£52,755	£0	£52,755	5%
Information Technology	£53,297	£0	£53,297	5%	£66,823	£0	£66,823	6%
Other	£13,657	£0	£13,657	1%	£14,657	£0	£14,657	1%
Debt Securities								
Corporate Bonds (investment grade)	£32,978	£0	£32,978	3%	£32,374	£0	£32,374	3%
Corporate Bonds (non-investment grade)	£0	£0	£0	0%	£0	£0	£0	0%
UK Government	£44,906	£0	£44,906	4%	£48,775	£0	£48,775	5%
Other	£41,353	£0	£41,353	4%	£35,139	£0	£35,139	3%
Private Equity								
All	£0	£63,994	£63,994	6%	£0	£60,994	£60,994	6%
Real Estate								
UK Property	£0	£53,038	£53,038	5%	£0	£62,561	£62,561	6%
Overseas Property	£0	£0	£0	0%	£0	£0	£0	0%
Investment Funds and Unit Trusts								
Equities	£18,338	£0	£18,338	2%	£55,717	£0	£55,717	5%
Bonds	£102,159	£0	£102,159	10%	£107,654	£0	£107,654	10%
Infrastructure	£0	£85,233	£85,233	8%	£0	£88,658	£88,658	8%
Other	£26,763	£131,951	£158,714	16%	£24,157	£127,711	£151,869	14%
Derivatives								
Other	(£619)	£0	(£619)	0%	(£5,502)	£0	(£5,502)	-1%
Cash and Cash Equivalents								
All	£30,969	£0	£30,969	3%	£34,398	£0	£34,398	3%
Total Assets	£682,233	£334,215	£1,016,448	100%	£746,725	£339,924	£1,086,649	100%

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

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

Both the Local Government Pension Scheme and Discretionary Benefits liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2026.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary have been:

Significant Assumptions	2024/25	2025/26
Mortality Assumptions:		
Longevity at 65 for Current Pensioners:		
- men	20.4	21.0
- women	23.4	23.9
Longevity at 65 for Future Pensioners:		
- men	21.0	21.7
- women	24.8	25.2
Rate of Inflation	2.75%	3.00%
Rate of Increase in Salaries	3.55%	4.50%
Rate of Increase in Pensions	2.75%	3.00%
Rate for Discounting Scheme Liabilities	5.80%	6.20%

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant.

The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated.

The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

Change in Assumptions at 31 March 2026	Approximate % Increase to Defined Benefit Obligation	Approximate Monetary Amount (£000s)
0.1% Decrease in Real Discount Rate	1%	£11,473
0.1% Increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	£509
0.1% Increase in the Pension Increase Rate	1%	£10,950
1 year Increase in Member Life Expectancy	4%	£31,847

Impact on the Authority's Cash Flows

The objectives of the scheme are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation is due to be completed on 31 March 2026.

The scheme will need to take account of the national changes to the scheme under the Public Pensions Services Act 2013. Under the Act, the Local Government Pension Scheme in England and Wales and

other main existing public service schemes may not provide benefits in relation to service after 31 March 2014 (or service after 31 March 2015 for other main existing public service pension schemes in England and Wales). The Act provides regulations for the scheme to be made within a common framework, to establish new career average revalued earnings schemes to pay pensions and other benefits.

The Council's estimated Employer's contributions for the period to 31 March 2027 will be approximately £14,323,000.

Bury Pension Guarantees

The Council has pension guarantees in place for two organisations Addiction Dependency Solutions and Persona Care and Support Ltd. The guarantees identified are those which the Council has an agreement in place with GMPF. Valuations have been obtained on both an on-going and cessation basis.

We have determined that these pension guarantees meet the definition of an insurance contract in accordance with IFRS4. IFRS4 defines an insurance contract as:

A contract under which one party (the insurer) accepts significant insurance risk from another party (the policyholder) by agreeing to compensate the policyholder if a specified uncertain future event (the insured event) adversely affects the policyholder.

The Council is the insurer and through the provision of the pension guarantee is accepting the risk of the admission body being unable to fund the benefits earned by its employees.

We have assessed the nature and extent of potential liabilities in respect of these guarantees and the likelihood of cash outflow is low. If any guarantee was invoked, this would be valued on an ongoing basis as the net surplus/liability would be added to the BMBC sub fund as we are a continuing employer.

The overall net surplus/deficit position for guarantees valued on an ongoing basis is a net surplus position – because there is a net surplus and because the likelihood of cash outflow is considered to be remote, no liabilities have been included in the Council's financial statements at 31 March 2026.

39. Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability is a potential liability which depends on the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events. The Council has identified the following contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2026.

Municipal Mutual Insurance Ltd

On 30 September 1992 the Council's then insurers, MMI Ltd, announced that they were no longer accepting new business. On the 13 November 2012 the directors of MMI triggered a Scheme of Arrangement which now means that the Council may be required to repay amounts for claims previously settled. The scheme provides that following a Trigger Event a levy may be imposed on all those creditors that have been paid in respect of established scheme liabilities, this rate is currently 25%.

The established scheme liabilities of gross claim payments at 31 March 2026 is £0.709m which would attract a levy of £0.165m should a Trigger Event arise. The amended liability that the Council may be required to repay is £0.544m (£0.709m less £0.165m levy) in respect of claims previously settled.

At 31 March 2026, there are no outstanding claims with MMI.

40. Contingent Assets

A contingent asset is an asset that may be received but only if a future event occurs that is not under the control of the Council. The Council has identified no contingent assets as at 31 March 2026.

Housing Revenue Account

Income and Expenditure Statement

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

Since April 2005 the Council's housing stock has been managed by an Arm's Length Management Organisation, Six Town Housing, however on the 1 February 2024 the Council terminated this arrangement and brought the management of the Council's housing stock back in-house.

HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	Note	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Income			
Dwelling Rents		(£36,745)	(£37,055)
Non-Dwelling Rents		(£233)	(£232)
Charges for Services and Facilities		(£1,132)	(£1,165)
Contributions Towards Expenditure		(£1,234)	(£264)
Sums Directed by the Secretary of State that are Income in Accordance with Proper Practices		£0	£0
Total Income		(£39,344)	(£38,715)
Expenditure			
Repairs and Maintenance		£9,335	£10,628
Supervision and Management		£9,866	£10,790
Special Services		£1,328	£1,395
Rents, Rates, Taxes & Other Charges		£183	£106
Depreciation, Impairment and Revaluation Losses of HRA Non-current Assets	5,6	£7,569	£8,326
Debt Management Costs		£25	£12
Movement in the Allowance for Bad Debts	8	£335	£98
Total Expenditure		£28,641	£31,355
Net Cost of HRA Services as included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		(£10,703)	(£7,360)
HRA Services Share of Corporate and Democratic Core		£418	£384
Net Cost of HRA Services		(£10,285)	(£6,976)
HRA Share of Operating Income and Expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:			
(Gain)/Loss on Sale of HRA Non-Current Assets		(£706)	(£1,212)
Interest Payable and Similar Charges		£4,570	£5,357
Net Interest on the Net Defined Benefit Liability (Asset)		(£301)	(£723)
Interest and Investment Income		(£649)	(£8,144)
Capital Grants and Contributions		(£2,800)	(£1,308)
(Surplus) or Deficit for the Year on HRA Services		(£10,170)	(£13,005)

Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement

Movement on the HRA Statement		2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance on the HRA at the End of the Previous Reporting Period		(£10,510)	(£16,746)
(Surplus) or Deficit for the Year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement		(£10,170)	(£13,005)
Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Statute		£3,933	£9,891
Net (Increase) or Decrease before Transfers to or from Reserves		(£6,236)	(£3,115)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves		£0	£0
(Increase) or Decrease in Year on the HRA		(£6,236)	(£3,115)
Balance on the HRA at the End of the Current Reporting Period		(£16,746)	(£19,861)

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Statute

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Statute		2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Analysis of Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Statute			
Holiday Pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)		(£5)	£2
Gain or Loss on Sale of HRA Non-Current Assets		£706	£1,212
HRA Share of Contributions to or from the Pensions Reserve		£384	£995
Capital Expenditure Funded by the HRA		£0	£0
Transfer to/from the Major Repairs Reserve		£7,414	£8,072
Transfer to/from the Capital Adjustment Account		(£4,770)	(£7,018)
HRA Revenue Provision for Debt Repayment		£204	£105
Insertion Statutory Prem/Disc to FIAA		£0	£6,523
Net Adjustment		£3,933	£9,891

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

01. Housing Stock

In preparing the HRA budget, the Council needs to estimate the total level of income it can raise from rents. In doing so it takes account of current rental income, any likely changes in the size and composition of the Housing Stock and the estimated loss of income from unoccupied dwellings.

The numbers of each type of property at 31 March were:

Housing Stock	Restated 2024/25	2025/26
Flats & maisonettes	3,282	3,271
Bungalows	803	803
Houses	3,587	3,528
Total	7,672	7,602

The total housing stock numbers for 2025/26 excludes 72 (46 in 2024/25) Council houses that were disposed of during the financial year.

The total capital receipts realised from the disposal of Council houses during the year was £5.642m (£3.458m in 2024/25). The figure represents the total selling price of Council houses (net of Right to Buy discount) and other repaid discounts relating to previous sales.

The value of the housing stock was:

Housing Stock Value	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Dwellings	287,135	259,186
Land	81,300	111,081
Shops, Offices and Garage Colonies	2,782	2,647
Total	£371,217	£372,914

02. Vacant Possession

The Vacant Possession Value (VPV) of dwellings within the Council's HRA as at 31 March 2026 was £925.67m representing an increase of approximately 0.5% over the 31 March 2025 figure of £921.08m.

The new value was established as a result of the revaluation of the Housing Stock completed in the year.

The VPV is an opinion of the best sale price that could have been obtained for the properties on the date of the valuation. The Balance Sheet value of dwellings within the HRA contains an adjustment factor advised by Government to reflect the fact that the properties have sitting tenants enjoying sub-market rents and rights, including 'right-to-buy'. This reflects the economic cost to the Government of providing council housing at less than open market rents.

The current adjustment factor for the North West and Merseyside Region originally set from April 2016 at 40% by DCLG remains, resulting in an adjusted value of £370.0m at the valuation in 2026, compared to an adjusted value of £369m at valuation in 2025.

03. Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)

The Major Repairs Allowance (MRA), that used to be paid in past years as part of the HRA subsidy provided authorities with the resources needed to maintain the value of their housing stock over time.

Under the new self-financing model Authorities can use, based on a componentised calculation for depreciation, that is transferred during the year into the Major Repairs Reserve and equates to an amount not less than the previous MRA amount.

Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Balance as at 1st April	£0	£13
Transferred to MRR During the Year	£7,414	£8,072
Debits in Respect of Financing Capital Expenditure within HRA	(£7,401)	(£8,072)
Balance as at 31st March	£13	£13

04. Capital Expenditure within HRA

The 1989 Act gives local authorities the discretion to finance expenditure for HRA capital purposes from the HRA.

Capital Expenditure within the HRA	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Total capital expenditure within the HRA	£15,210	£19,174
Financed by:		
Capital Receipts	£2,627	£3,675
Government Grants And Other Contributions	£2,779	£1,308
Major Repairs Reserve	£7,401	£8,072
Direct Revenue Contributions	£0	£0
Borrowing	£2,402	£6,119
Total	£15,209	£19,174

05. Depreciation

The HRA is charged an amount for depreciation of assets.

HRA Depreciation	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Council Dwellings	£7,321	£7,962
Shops, Offices and Garage Colonies	£93	£110
Total	£7,414	£8,072

06. Revenue Expenditure Funded From Capital Under Statute

No revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute is attributable to the HRA.

07. Rent Arrears / Impairment Allowance

Rent Arrears

The rent arrears as at 31 March 2026 totalled £2.818m, and at 31 March 2025 totalled £2.750m.

Of the arrears at 31 March 2026, 70.4% related to current tenants (70.4% at 31 March 2025) and 29.6% related to former tenants (29.6% at 31 March 2025).

Impairment Allowance

Rents Impairment Allowance	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening credit loss Provision	£2,216	£2,474
Additional Provisions Made In-Year	£335	£98
Amounts Written-off In-Year	(£77)	(£102)
Net increase / (decrease)	£258	(£4)
Closing Impairment Allowance	£2,474	£2,470

The Collection Fund

Collection Fund Statement:

Income and Expenditure Account	Note	2024/25 Council Tax £000s	2024/25 NNDR £000s	2024/25 Total £000s	2025/26 Council Tax £000s	2025/26 NNDR £000s	2025/26 Total £000s
Income							
Council Tax	1	(£134,140)	£0	(£134,140)	(£142,549)	£0	(£142,549)
Council Tax Annexe Grant		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Business Rates Receivable	2	£0	(£48,541)	(£48,541)	£0	(£52,025)	(£52,025)
Transitional Protection Receipt		£0	(£78)	(£78)	£0	(£40)	(£40)
Contributions towards Previous Year's Deficit:							
Bury MBC		£0	(£5,361)	(£5,361)	£0	(£268)	(£268)
GMCA Police & Crime Commissioner		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
GMCA Fire		£0	(£54)	(£54)	£0	(£3)	(£3)
Total Income		(£134,140)	(£54,034)	(£188,174)	(£142,549)	(£52,337)	(£194,886)
Expenditure							
Precepts and Demands on Collection Fund:							
Bury MBC		£110,199	£45,950	£156,149	£118,296	£49,803	£168,098
GMCA Police & Crime Commissioner		£14,714	£0	£14,714	£15,866	£0	£15,866
GMCA Fire		£6,484	£464	£6,948	£7,569	£503	£8,072
Transitional Protection Payments		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Cost of Collection		£0	£234	£234	£0	£235	£235
Disregards: Renewable Energy		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Impairment of Debts/Appeals:							
Write-offs of Uncollectable Amounts		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Increase/(Decrease) in the Allowance for Impairment of Debt		£1,583	(£26)	£1,557	£2,962	£657	£3,619
Increase/(Decrease) in the Allowance for Impairment of Arrears		£0	£1,550	£1,550	£0	£646	£646
Contributions towards Previous Year's Surplus:							
Bury MBC		£732	£0	£732	£1,054	£0	£1,054
GMCA Police & Crime Commissioner		£98	£0	£98	£141	£0	£141
GMCA Fire		£43	£0	£43	£62	£0	£62
Total Expenditure		£133,853	£48,172	£182,024	£145,950	£51,844	£197,793
Opening Fund Balance		(£630)	£6,096	£5,466	(£918)	£233	(£684)
Closing Fund Balance		(£918)	£233	(£684)	£2,483	(£260)	£2,223
Movement on Fund Balance		(£287)	(£5,863)	(£6,150)	£3,401	(£493)	£2,908

Notes to the Collection Fund Statement

01. Council Tax

Council Tax Band	Valuation	Total Number of Dwellings	Specified Ratio	Band D Equivalent
A reduced	Less than £40,000	65	5/9	36
A	Less than £40,000	20,647	6/9	13,765
B	£40,000 to £52,000	15,299	7/9	11,899
C	£52,000 to £68,000	15,309	8/9	13,608
D	£68,000 to £88,000	9,568	9/9	9,570
E	£88,000 to £120,000	5,244	11/9	6,409
F	£120,000 to £160,000	1,772	13/9	2,559
G	£160,000 to £320,000	1,229	15/9	2,048
H	More than £320,000	155	18/9	309
Total		69,287		60,203
Less Allowance for Losses on Collection			-2.50%	(£1,505)
Council Tax Base 2025/26				58,698

The actual number of properties was 85,370 but after adjusting for single person discounts, empty properties etc, the Band D equivalent number of dwellings is 60,203.

The Band D Council Tax levied for 2025/26 was £2,414.58 (£2,288.80 in 2024/25):

Band D Council Tax Levied	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Bury Council	£1,919.55	£2,015.33
GMCA Police & Crime Commissioner	£256.30	£270.30
GMCA Fire	£112.95	£128.95
Total	£2,288.80	£2,414.58

02. National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)

The Council collects NNDR in respect of business premises by applying a rate poundage set by central Government to the rateable value of the premises.

The national multipliers for 2025/26 were 49.9p for qualifying small businesses (49.9p in 2024/25) and the standard multiplier being 55.5p for all other businesses (54.6p in 2024/25).

The estimated non-domestic rateable value of the Borough at 31 March 2026 is £134.069m (£135.47m as at 31 March 2025).

The Group Accounts

Introduction

The CIPFA Code of Practice requires that where a Council has material financial interests and a significant level of control over one or more entity, it should prepare Group Accounts. The aim of these statements is to give an overall picture of the Authority's financial activities and the resources employed in carrying out those activities.

Definitions

- A group is a parent and all its subsidiaries.
- Group accounts are the financial statements of a group in which the assets, liabilities, reserves, income, expenses, and cash flows of the parent (reporting authority) and its subsidiaries plus the investments in associates and interests in joint ventures are presented as those of a single economic entity.
- A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership that is controlled by another entity (known as the parent).
- A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

Group Accounts Preparation

The Council has prepared the following Group Accounts due to:

The Council relationship with three organisations over which it has substantial control and influence that have been identified as Subsidiaries of Bury Council, of:

- Six Town Housing Ltd
- Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd
- Persona Care and Support Ltd and Persona Group Ltd

Basis of consolidation, line-by-line consolidation

- Adding like items of assets, liabilities, reserves, income, and expenses together line by line to those of other group members in the financial statements.
- Intragroup balances and transactions are eliminated in full.
- 100% of all other balances and transactions are consolidated.

The two joint arrangements formed during 2022/23, whereby the Council has agreed to share joint control and has rights to the net assets of the arrangement, have been classed as a Joint Venture, of:

- Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP
- The Prestwich Regeneration LLP

Basis of consolidation, equity method

- Adjusting the investment originally recognised at cost for the Councils post-acquisition change in its share of the net assets of the investee and including the Councils share of profits and losses in the group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- The Councils share of profits or losses generated by transactions between the group members (e.g. sales of assets) are eliminated.

The Group Accounts comprise the following key financial statements (with appropriate disclosures):

- Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- Group Movement in Reserves Statement.
- Group Balance Sheet; and
- Group Cash Flow Statement.

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

Restated 2024/25			Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		2025/26		
Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s	Description	Note	Gross Expenditure £000s	Gross Income £000s	Net Expenditure £000s
£165,308	(£57,190)	£108,119	Health and Adult Care		£173,632	(£60,759)	£112,873
£223,825	(£148,777)	£75,048	Children & Young People		£237,772	(£152,766)	£85,006
£39,862	(£19,026)	£20,837	Place		£48,349	(£23,704)	£24,645
£30,948	(£12,137)	£18,811	Strategy & Transformation		£34,262	(£14,702)	£19,560
£33,615	(£33,617)	(£2)	Housing General Fund		£28,390	(£28,257)	£133
£10,275	(£5,223)	£5,052	Non-Service Specific		£3,615	(£4,843)	(£1,228)
£27,849	(£38,478)	(£10,629)	Housing Revenue Account		£32,331	(£39,386)	(£7,055)
£531,683	(£314,447)	£217,236	Cost of Services		£558,351	(£324,417)	£233,934
£63,450	£0	£63,450	Other Operating Expenditure		£51,382	£0	£51,382
£2,064	(£7,017)	(£4,953)	Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure		(£5,353)	(£22,314)	(£27,667)
£0	(£246,474)	(£246,474)	Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income & Expenditure		£0	(£267,638)	(£267,638)
£597,197	(£567,938)	£29,259	(Surplus) or Deficit On Provision of Services		£604,380	(£614,369)	(£9,988)
		£732	Share of the (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services by Associates and Joint Ventures	07			£1,317
		£260	Tax Expenses of Subsidiaries (Group)				£173
		£0	Tax Expenses of Associates and Joint Ventures				£0
		£30,251	Group (Surplus) or Deficit				(£8,499)
		(£94,964)	(Surplus)/Deficit on Revaluation of Property, Plant & Equipment				(£9,200)
		£2,880	(Surplus)/Deficit from Investments in Equity Instruments Designated at Fair Value through Comprehensive Income				£6,420
		(£127,915)	Actuarial (gains)/losses on the Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability/(Asset)				£15,718
		£142,953	Asset Ceiling Adjustment				£7,038
		(£77,046)	Total Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				£19,976
		(£46,795)	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure				£11,478

Group Movement in Reserves Statement

	General Fund Balances	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Total General Fund Balance	HRA Balances	Earmarked HRA Reserve	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves	Council Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates & Joint Ventures	Total Group Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 31 March 2025	(10,000)	(56,291)	(66,291)	(16,746)	0	(16,533)	(13)	(28,935)	(128,517)	(468,597)	(597,114)	(9,090)	(606,203)
<i>Movement in Reserves during 2025-26 (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services</i>	<i>(8,774)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(8,774)</i>	<i>(12,995)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(21,769)</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>(21,769)</i>	<i>13,271</i>	<i>(8,498)</i>
<i>Other Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>18,703</i>	<i>18,703</i>	<i>1,273</i>	<i>19,976</i>
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(8,774)	0	(8,774)	(12,995)	0	0	0	0	(21,769)	18,703	(3,066)	14,544	11,478
Adjustments between Group Accounts and Council Accounts	13,029	0	13,029	<i>(10)</i>	0	0	0	0	13,019	0	13,019	<i>(13,019)</i>	0
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	15,145	0	15,145	9,890	0	1,124	0	<i>(2,957)</i>	23,202	<i>(23,202)</i>	0	0	0
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers Between Reserves	19,400	0	19,400	(3,115)	0	1,124	0	(2,957)	14,452	(4,499)	9,953	1,525	11,478
Transfers to / from Earmarked Reserves	<i>(19,400)</i>	19,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	0	19,400	19,400	(3,115)	0	1,124	0	(2,957)	14,452	(4,499)	9,953	1,525	11,478
Balance at 31 March 2026	(10,000)	(36,891)	(46,891)	(19,861)	0	(15,409)	(13)	(31,892)	(114,065)	(473,096)	(587,161)	(7,564)	(594,725)

The following table is provided for comparative purposes:

	General Fund Balances £'000	Earmarked General Fund Reserves £'000	Total General Fund Balance £'000	HRA Balances £'000	Earmarked HRA Reserve £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000	Major Repairs Reserve £'000	Capital Grants Unapplied £'000	Total Usable Reserves £'000	Unusable Reserves £'000	Total Council Reserves £'000	Council Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates & Joint Ventures £'000	Total Group Reserves £'000
Balance at 31 March 2024	(10,000)	(83,161)	(93,161)	(10,510)	0	(18,474)	0	(28,098)	(150,243)	(390,339)	(540,582)	(18,826)	(559,408)
<i>Movement in Reserves during 2024-25 (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services</i>	27,529	0	27,529	(10,800)	0	0	0	0	16,729	0	16,729	13,522	30,251
<i>Other Comprehensive (Income) and Expenditure</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(84,752)	(84,752)	7,706	(77,046)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	27,529	0	27,529	(10,800)	0	0	0	0	16,729	(84,752)	(68,023)	21,228	(46,795)
Adjustments between Group Accounts and Council Accounts	10,861	0	10,861	630	0	0	0	0	11,491	0	11,491	(11,491)	0
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(11,635)	0	(11,635)	3,933	0	1,941	(13)	(722)	(6,494)	6,494	0	0	0
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers Between Reserves	26,755	0	26,755	(6,236)	0	1,941	(13)	(722)	21,726	(78,258)	(56,532)	9,737	(46,795)
Transfers to / from Earmarked Reserves	(26,755)	26,870	115	0	0	0	0	(115)	0	0	0	0	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	0	26,870	26,870	(6,236)	0	1,941	(13)	(837)	21,726	(78,258)	(56,532)	9,737	(46,795)
Balance at 31 March 2025	(10,000)	(56,291)	(66,291)	(16,746)	0	(16,533)	(13)	(28,935)	(128,517)	(468,597)	(597,114)	(9,090)	(606,203)

Group Balance Sheet

31 March 2025	Balance Sheet	2021	31 March 2026
£000s	Description	Note	£000s
£740,699	Property, Plant & Equipment		£789,884
£26,353	Heritage Assets		£26,355
£26,348	Investment Property		£27,727
£3,385	Intangible Assets		£2,773
£47,820	Long-Term Investments		£41,400
£10,489	Investments In Associates & Joint Ventures	07	£9,172
£47,748	Long-Term Debtors		£46,612
£0	Net Pension Asset		£0
£902,842	LONG TERM ASSETS		£943,923
£20,700	Short-Term Investments		£14,618
£4,953	Assets Held For Sale		£385
£2,081	Stocks & Work in Progress		£1,991
£63,402	Short-Term Debtors		£84,727
£10,236	Cash and Cash Equivalents		£2,935
£101,372	CURRENT ASSETS		£104,656
(£24,868)	Short-Term Borrowing		(£38,999)
(£49,308)	Short-Term Creditors		(£39,157)
(£2,830)	Short-Term Provisions		(£4,051)
(£3,304)	Revenue Grants in Advance		(£3,279)
(£80,310)	CURRENT LIABILITIES		(£85,485)
(£139)	Long-Term Creditors		(£139)
(£8,489)	Long-Term Provisions		(£8,305)
(£270,177)	Long-Term Borrowing		(£330,877)
(£482)	Deferred Liabilities		(£488)
£0	Pension Liability		£0
(£28,063)	Capital Grants Receipts in Advance		(£18,615)
(£307,350)	LONG TERM LIABILITIES		(£358,423)
£616,554	NET ASSETS		£604,670
(£128,517)	Usable Reserves		(£114,065)
(£468,597)	Unusable Reserves		(£473,096)
(£9,090)	Council Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates & Joint Ventures		(£7,566)
(£606,203)	TOTAL RESERVES		(£594,728)

Group Cash Flow Statement

Cash Flow Statement	Note	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services		£29,259	(£9,988)
Adjustment to Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services for Non-Cash Movements		(£66,543)	(£10,099)
Adjust for Items Included in the Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services that are Investing and Financing Activities		£39,816	£44,918
Net Cash flows from Operating Activities		£2,532	£24,830
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		£40,622	£51,221
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		(£43,614)	(£68,749)
Net Increase or (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(£460)	£7,302
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Reporting Period		(£9,775)	(£10,236)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period		(£10,235)	(£2,934)

Operating Activities

The cash flows for Operating Activities include the following items:

Group - Operating Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Interest Received	(£5,589)	(£5,434)
Interest Paid	£11,172	£7,471
Dividends Received	(£3,158)	(£1,040)

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

Non-Cash Movements	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Depreciation	(£22,561)	(£21,813)
Impairment and Downward Valuations	(£2,939)	(£3,841)
Amortisation	(£1,771)	(£1,559)
Increase/(Decrease) in Impairment for Credit Losses	(£4,077)	(£3,696)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	£49	£4,183
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(£1,412)	£24,754
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	£331	(£90)
Movement in Pension Liability	£7,803	£22,756
Carrying Amount of Non-current Assets and Non-current Assets Held for Sale, Sold or Derecognised	(£41,285)	(£31,181)
<i>Other Non-cash Items Charged to the Net (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services:</i>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Provisions	(£1,319)	(£1,043)
Movements in the Value of Investment Properties	£987	£1,224
(Increase)/Decrease in Accumulated Absences	(£362)	£207
Amortisation of Government Grants	£14	£0
	(£66,543)	(£10,099)

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

Investing and Financing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Proceeds from Short-term (not considered to be cash equivalents) and Long-term Investments (includes investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries)	£0	£0
Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	£5,854	£8,431
Grant Receipts for the Financing of New Capital Expenditure	£33,962	£36,487
	£39,816	£44,918

Investing Activities

Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	£67,628	£94,696
Purchase of Short-term and Long-term Investments	£487,622	£842,670
Other Payments for Investing Activities	£498	£0
Proceeds from the Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment, Investment Property and Intangible Assets	(£5,854)	(£8,431)
Proceeds from Short-term and Long-term Investments (Proceeds) from Other Long Term Loans	(£474,789)	(£848,869)
Grant (Receipts) for the Financing of New Capital Expenditure	(£370)	(£1,313)
	(£34,113)	(£27,533)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	£40,622	£51,221

Financing Activities

Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Cash (Receipts) of Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowing	(£98,000)	(£207,176)
Cash (Receipts) from Other Short-Term and Long-Term Liabilities	£0	£0
Repayments of Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowing	£65,431	£121,334
Repayments of Other Short-Term and Long-Term Liabilities	£0	£0
Cash Payments for the Reduction of Outstanding Liabilities Relating to Finance Leases and on-Balance Sheet PFI Contracts	(£11,173)	£807
Discount/Premium on Early Repayment of Debt	£0	£15,437
Billing Authority Collection Fund Adjustments	£128	£849
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(£43,614)	(£68,749)

Notes to the Group Accounts

Where figures in the Group accounts differ materially from the Council's accounts, the relevant explanatory notes have been prepared on a consolidated basis. The notes below give information on the areas that have materially changed on consolidation of the group entities into the Council's accounts.

The financial year of all the subsidiaries is the same as that of Bury Council, from 1 April to 31 March, therefore no adjustments are required regarding the accounting year. However, on the 1 February 2024 the Council terminated the management arrangement of the Council housing stock with Six Town Housing and brought the management of the Council's housing stock back in-house.

01. Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Council's consolidated subsidiary companies have been aligned with the Council's Accounting Policies set out in Note 1. Any statutory adjustments between the accounting basis and funding basis included in the Council's accounting policies do not apply to the subsidiary companies.

02. Bodies Consolidated

Subsidiaries

The Council has consolidated three of its Subsidiaries into its Group Accounts, these are Six Town Housing Ltd, Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd and the Persona group of companies, Persona Care and Support Ltd and Persona Group Ltd.

Six Town Housing Ltd was set up to manage and maintain the housing stock of Bury Council. Six Town Housing has no share capital and is wholly owned by the Authority. It is an ALMO (arms-length management organisation) of the Council and is a company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 30 October 2003. On the 1 February 2024 the Council terminated this arrangement and brought the management of the Council's housing stock back in-house.

Percentage of voting rights:

The composition of the Board and the voting rights is as follows:

Board members	Members	% of voting Rights
Bury Council	4	100%
Tenant	-	-
Independent*	-	-
Advisory Director	-	-
<i>*Includes Independent Chair</i>	4	100%

The related party transactions between Council Members on the board of Six Town Housing and Bury Council are detailed in Bury Council Statement of Accounts Note 34.

Six Town Housing's pre-audit accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 have been used to prepare the group accounts. The company is audited by Horsfield and Smith Ltd.

Financial Transactions and Operations:

Six Town Housing made a profit before tax of £0.013m in 2025/26 compared to a profit before tax of £0.479m in 2024/25.

As a wholly owned subsidiary, the Council is committed that, in the event of Six Town Housing being wound up to contribute up to the limit of the guarantee. After the satisfaction of all the debts and liabilities the remaining assets will be transferred to the Council's Housing Revenue Account.

Bury Council has made several loans to Six Town Housing at commercial rates of interest, of:

Loans by Bury Council to Six Town Housing						
	No of Years of Loan	2011/12 £000s	2013/14 £000s	2014/15 £000s	2015/16 £000s	Total £000s
Redbank Housing Project	35.50	£1,140				£1,140
Mortgage Rescue	18.00		£410	£166		£576
AGMA Loans	25.00			£1,869	£250	£2,119
TOTAL		£1,140	£410	£2,035	£250	£3,835

The Persona group of companies comprise of Persona Group Ltd, and Persona Care and Support Ltd. These companies were formed to provide social care services to older people and people with disabilities. The company's share capital (Called up Share Capital £3) is wholly owned by Bury Council.

The Persona Group of companies pre-audit accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 have been used to prepare the group accounts. Both companies are audited by Horsfield and Smith Ltd.

The Persona group of companies made profit before tax of £0.065m in 2025/26, compared to a profit before tax of £0.112m in 2024/25.

Bury Council paid management fees of £5.371m in 2025/36 (£9.414m in 2024/25).

Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd was formed to facilitate the development of Knowsley Place and was incorporated on 14 October 2009. The company's share capital (Ordinary Share Capital £1) is wholly owned by Bury Council.

Bury MBC Townside Fields Limited pre-audit accounts for the year ended 31 March 2026 have been used to prepare the group accounts. The company is audited by Horsfield and Smith Ltd.

Bury MBC Townside Fields Limited made a loss before tax of £0.003m in 2025/26, compared to a loss before tax of £1.992m in 2024/25.

As at 31 March 2026, Bury Council has provided loans of £7.257m to Bury MBC Townside Fields Ltd.

Joint Ventures

Following the incorporation of the two Joint Ventures Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP and The Prestwich Regeneration LLP, the Council has included the Council share of the Joint Ventures Net Assets and Financial Results into the Group Accounts for 2022/23.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP (OC440763)

A 50/50 Joint Venture company was formed on 25 January 2022, between the Council and Bruntwood LLP, to acquire, hold and manage the Millgate Estate and Shopping Centre, alongside the development of a long-term masterplan to secure and enhance the estate in line with other important town centre projects, including the Flexi Hall and transport interchange.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP published accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 and for the period 1 April 2025 to 30 September 2025 and management accounts to the year ended 31 March 2026 have been used to prepare the group accounts.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP acquired the Mill Gate Estate and Shopping Centre in April 2022, that was funded by the Council through PWLB borrowing and providing loans totalling £20.350m to the Joint Venture.

Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP made a profit before tax of £0.550m in 2025/26, compared to a loss before tax of £0.315m in 2024/25.

The Prestwich Regeneration LLP (OC444311)

Following the Council acquisition of the Longfield Shopping Centre in July 2021, a 50/50 Joint Venture company was formed on 19 October 2022, between the Council and MUSE Developments Ltd, to shape a new masterplan for the site, creating new spaces to help people and businesses to thrive, with a mix of high-quality homes and family-friendly spaces, as well as a new community hub that promotes health and wellbeing.

The Prestwich Regeneration LLP published accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 and management accounts to the year ended 31 March 2026 have been used to prepare the group accounts.

The Prestwich Regeneration LLP made a loss before tax of £0.255m in 2025/26, at the 31 March 2026 compared to a loss before tax of £0.243m in 2024/25.

03. Plant, Property and Equipment

Six Town Housing's Property, Plant & Equipment are included and valued at either historical cost or fair value determined by DRC. Persona Care & Support Ltd Property, Plant & Equipment are included and valued at historic cost in line with Bury Council's policy. Bury MBC Townside Fields Limited accounts show no Property, Plant & Equipment but Investment Properties.

Property, Plant and Equipment Note 2025/26	Council Dwellings £000s	Other Land & Buildings £000s	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £000s	Community Assets £000s	Surplus Assets £000s	Assets Under Construction £000s	TOTAL £000s
Certified Value as at 1 April 2024	£381,403	£225,042	£32,353	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£705,966
Additions & Acquisitions	£19,334	£5,315	£1,101	£1,072	£0	£52,364	£79,186
Revaluations Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(£12,822)	£8,151	£0	£0	£1,288	£0	(£3,383)
Revaluations Recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(£227)	(£1,856)	£0	£0	(£1,960)	£0	(£4,043)
Derecognition - Disposals							£0
Derecognition - Others	(£4,433)	(£25,313)	£0	£0	(£1,978)	£0	(£31,724)
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£0	£2,138	£0	(£90)	£351	£1,197	£3,596
Movement in Cost/Valuation	£1,852	(£11,565)	£1,101	£982	(£2,299)	£53,561	£43,633
Amount as at 31 March 2025	£383,255	£213,478	£33,454	£11,002	£12,180	£96,230	£749,598
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairments as at 1 April 2024	(£264)	(£16,126)	(£21,421)	£0	£0	£0	(£37,811)
Depreciation charged in year	(£8,336)	(£6,539)	(£2,601)	£0	£0	£0	(£17,476)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	£7,974	£4,609	£0	£0	£0	£0	£12,583
Depreciation written out to Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services	£2	£200	£0	£0	£0	£0	£202
Derecognition - Disposals							
Derecognition - Other	£96	£1,094	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,189
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Movement in Depreciation & Impairment	(£264)	(£637)	(£2,601)	£0	£0	£0	(£3,501)
Amount as at 31 March 2025	(£528)	(£16,763)	(£24,022)	£0	£0	£0	(£41,313)
Opening NBV	£381,139	£208,916	£10,931	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£668,154
Total Movement	£1,588	(£12,201)	(£1,499)	£982	(£2,299)	£53,561	£40,131
Closing NBV	£382,727	£196,715	£9,432	£11,002	£12,180	£96,230	£708,285

The following table is provided for comparative purposes:

Property, Plant and Equipment Note 2024/25	Council Dwellings	Other Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	TOTAL
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Certified Value as at 1 April 2023	£310,449	£243,233	£30,120	£8,371	£19,922	£20,841	£632,936
Additions & Acquisitions	£16,116	£2,551	£1,264	£1,526	£22	£23,139	£44,617
Revaluations Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£57,788	£17,804	£0	£0	£4,790	£0	£80,383
Revaluations Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(£156)	(£2,625)	£0	£0	(£292)	£0	(£3,072)
Disposals	(£2,750)	(£38,552)	£0	(£4)	(£3,432)	(£1,012)	(£45,749)
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	(£45)	£2,631	£968	£127	(£6,533)	(£299)	(£3,150)
Other Movements in Cost or Valuation	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Movement in Cost/Valuation	£70,954	(£18,191)	£2,231	£1,649	(£5,444)	£21,829	£73,028
Amount as at 31 March 2024	£381,403	£225,042	£32,352	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£705,964
Accumulated Depreciation & Impairments as at 1 April 2023	(£245)	(£18,623)	(£18,271)	£0	£0	£0	(£37,139)
Depreciation charged In-year	(£7,678)	(£8,828)	(£2,672)	£0	£0	£0	(£19,177)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	£7,600	£6,980	£0	£0	£0	£0	£14,581
Depreciation written out to (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	£0	£133	£0	£0	£0	£0	£133
Impairments Recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Impairments Recognised in the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Depreciation Written out on Disposal	£58	£4,211	£11	£0	£0	£0	£4,279
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£1	£0	(£489)	£0	£0	£0	(£488)
Other Movements in Depreciation and Impairment	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Movement in Depreciation & Impairment	(£19)	£2,497	(£3,150)	£0	£0	£0	(£672)
Amount as at 31 March 2024	(£264)	(£16,126)	(£21,421)	£0	£0	£0	(£37,811)
Opening NBV	£310,204	£224,610	£11,849	£8,371	£19,922	£20,841	£595,797
Total Movement	£70,935	(£15,694)	(£919)	£1,649	(£5,444)	£21,829	£72,356
Closing NBV	£381,139	£208,916	£10,931	£10,020	£14,478	£42,669	£668,153

Infrastructure Assets

Movements on balances

In accordance with the temporary relief offered by the Update to the Code on Infrastructure Assets this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements. The authority has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to infrastructure assets.

The authority has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to infrastructure assets.

Infrastructure Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Certified Valuation or Cost at 1 April	£65,774	£72,545
Additions in Year	£9,802	£13,391
Reclassifications & Asset Transfers	£43	£0
Derecognition - Other	£310	£0
Depreciation charged in year	(£3,383)	(£4,337)
As at 31st March	£72,545	£81,600

As infrastructure assets are not being disclosed on the face of the Balance Sheet a reconciling note has been prepared:

PPE Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Infrastructure Assets	£72,545	£81,600
Other PPE Assets	£668,153	£708,285
Total PPE Assets	£740,698	£789,885

The authority has determined in accordance with Regulation [30M England] of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England/Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for infrastructure assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

04. Pensions

Employees of Bury Council are enrolled in the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). Employees of Persona Care and Support Limited who retain protected employment rights prior to 1 October 2015 are also enrolled in the Greater Manchester Pension Fund.

Each entity accounts individually for its net defined benefit cost and the resultant asset or liability.

The single entity also participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme and the NHS Pensions scheme, details of which are given in the single entity statements Note 37.

The following transactions have been made in the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the Balances via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year:

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Cost of Services:		
Service Cost Comprising:		
Current Service Cost	£16,533	£12,565
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	£2,000	£2,487
(Gain)/Loss from Settlements	£2,206	£1,427
Total Service Cost	£20,739	£16,479
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:		
Interest income on scheme assets	(£50,115)	(£61,338)
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	£41,961	£43,528
Total Net Interest Expense	(£8,154)	(£17,810)
Total Post Employment Benefits Charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	£12,585	(£1,331)
Other Post-Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
Remeasurements of the Net Defined Liability Comprising:		
Return on Plan Assets (excluding amounts included in net interest)	£8,220	(£44,763)
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	(£1,525)	£456
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) arising from changes in financial assumptions	(£125,358)	(£12,957)
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	(£9,252)	£72,982
The Effects of Business Combinations and Disposals	£0	£0
Total remeasurements recognised in other comprehensive income	(£127,915)	£15,718
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	£142,953	£7,038
Total Post Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£27,623	£21,425
Movement in Reserves Statement:		
Reversal of Net Charges Made to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services for Post Employment Benefits in Accordance with the Code	(£12,585)	£1,331
Actual Amount Charged Against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year:		
Employers' Contributions Payable to the Scheme & Benefits Paid	£20,388	£21,425

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amounts included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Groups obligation in respect of its defined benefit scheme is as follows:

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Fair Value of Plan Assets	£1,065,829	£1,139,160
Present Value of Funded Liabilities	(£743,584)	(£810,746)
Present Value of Unfunded Liabilities	(£17,594)	(£16,725)
Effect of the Asset Ceiling	(£304,651)	(£311,689)
Net Asset / (Liability) Arising From Defined Benefit Obligation	£0	£0

Reconciliation of the Movements in Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets

Reconciliation of the Movement in Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening Fair Value of Scheme Assets	£1,052,654	£1,065,829
Interest Income	£50,115	£61,338
Remeasurement Gain/(Loss):		
Return on Plan Assets Excluding Amounts Included in Net Interest Expense	(£8,220)	£44,763
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£0	(£16,127)
Contributions from The Employer into the Scheme	£17,997	£19,139
Contributions from Employees into the Scheme	£5,806	£6,090
Benefits Paid	(£33,649)	(£36,778)
Other: Settlements	(£18,874)	(£5,094)
Other: Assets Assumed on Entity Combinations	£0	£0
Closing Fair Value of Scheme Assets	£1,065,829	£1,139,160

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)

Reconciliation of Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Opening Balance at 1 April	(£883,721)	(£761,178)
Current Service Cost	(£16,533)	(£12,565)
Interest Cost	(£41,961)	(£43,528)
Contributions from Scheme Participants	(£5,806)	(£6,090)
Remeasurement (Gains)/Losses :		
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	£1,525	(£456)
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Financial Assumptions	£125,358	£12,957
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£9,252	(£56,855)
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	(£2,000)	(£2,487)
Liabilities Assumed on Entity Combinations	£0	£0
Benefits Paid	£36,040	£39,064
Liabilities Extinguished on Settlements	£16,668	£3,667
Opening Balance at 31 March	(£761,178)	(£827,471)

The Effect of the Asset Ceiling

The effect of the asset ceiling has been determined by the Scheme's actuaries on the basis of the limitation on the Council's ability to recover the full economic benefit of its assets through reductions in future employer's contributions because of the minimum funding requirement imposed on it by the funding strategy for the Scheme in place at 31 March 2026.

The Scheme actuaries have assessed the Council's estimated future service costs less the estimated minimum funding requirement contributions to establish the economic benefit that is available to the Council.

2025/26

- The Council net pensions asset of £311.689m has been adjusted down to nil.

2024/25

- The Council net pensions asset of £304.651m has been adjusted down to nil.
- Persona Care and Support Ltd net pensions asset of £20.214m has been adjusted down to nil.

Movement in Fair Value of Scheme Assets and Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities	2024/25				2025/26			
	Scheme Plan Assets £000s	Pensions Obligations £000s	Effect of Asset Ceiling £000s	Net Pensions Asset/ (Liability) £000s	Scheme Plan Assets £000s	Pensions Obligations £000s	Effect of Asset Ceiling £000s	Net Pensions Asset/ (Liability) £000s
Opening Balance at 1 April	£1,052,654	(£883,721)	(£161,698)	£7,235	£1,065,829	(£761,178)	(£304,651)	£0
Current Service Cost	£0	(£16,533)		(£16,533)	£0	(£12,565)		(£12,565)
Contributions from Scheme Participants	£5,806	(£5,806)		£0	£6,090	(£6,090)		£0
Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	£0	(£2,000)		(£2,000)	£0	(£2,487)		(£2,487)
Other: Settlements	(£18,874)	£16,668		(£2,206)	(£5,094)	£3,667		(£1,427)
Interest Income	£50,115	£0		£50,115	£61,338	£0		£61,338
Interest Cost	£0	(£41,961)		(£41,961)	£0	(£43,528)		(£43,528)
Remeasurement (Gains)/Losses :								
Return on Plan Assets Excluding Amounts Included in Net Interest Expense	(£8,220)	£0		(£8,220)	£44,763	£0		£44,763
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Demographic Assumptions	£0	£1,525		£1,525	£0	(£456)		(£456)
Actuarial (Gains)/Losses Arising from Changes in Financial Assumptions	£0	£125,358		£125,358	£0	£12,957		£12,957
Other Experience and Actuarial Adjustments	£0	£9,252		£9,252	(£16,127)	(£56,855)		(£72,982)
Change in the Effect of the Asset Ceiling	£0	£0	(£142,953)	(£142,953)	£0	£0	(£7,038)	(£7,038)
Other: Entity Combinations	£0	£0		£0	£0	£0		£0
Benefits Paid	(£33,649)	£36,040		£2,391	(£36,778)	£39,064		£2,286
Contributions from The Employer into the Scheme	£17,997	£0		£17,997	£19,139	£0		£19,139
Closing Balance at 31 March	£1,065,829	(£761,178)	(£304,651)	£0	£1,139,160	(£827,471)	(£311,689)	£0

The characteristics of the GMPF are set out in the single entity statements Note 38.

For Persona Care & Support, the main financial assumptions are:

Significant Assumptions	2024/25	2025/26
Rate of Inflation	2.75%	2.75%
Rate of Increase in Salaries	3.55%	3.55%
Rate of Increase in Pensions	2.75%	2.75%
Rate for Discounting Scheme Liabilities	4.85%	5.80%

The major categories of group company plan assets as a percentage of total plan assets are as follows:

Pension Scheme Assets	31 March 2025 %	31 March 2026 %
Equity	65%	64%
Bonds	17%	17%
Property	9%	10%
Cash	9%	9%
	100%	100%

05. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Cash Held by the Group	£8,966	£8,276
School Bank Accounts	(£310)	£184
Bank Call Accounts	£0	£0
Bank Overdraft	£1,580	(£5,524)
Total	£10,236	£2,936

06. Subsidiary Income and Expenditure

The operating expenditure and income of:

- **Six Town Housing** has been included within "Housing Revenue Account".
- **Bury MBC Townside Fields Limited** has been included within "Income & Expenditure in Relation to Investment Properties and Changes in their Fair Value" of Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure.
- **Persona Care & Support Limited** has been included within "Health & Adult Care".

07. Joint Ventures Summarised Financial Information

2024/25		Joint Ventures: Profit/(Loss)	2025/26	
JV Total £000s	Bury Share £000s	Description	JV Total £000s	Bury Share £000s
£5,090		Turnover	£13,674	
(£3,983)		Cost of Sales	(£11,616)	
£1,107		Gross Profit/(Loss)	£2,058	
(£549)		Administration Expenses	(£643)	
£558		Operating Profit/(Loss)	£1,415	
£74		Interest Receivable	£42	
(£1,190)		Interest Payable	(£1,162)	
(£558)	(£279)	Profit/(Loss) for the Year	£295	£148
(£911)		Gain/(Loss) on Revaluation of Investment Property	(£2,929)	
£4		Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Investment Property	£0	
(£907)	(£454)	Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	(£2,929)	(£1,465)
(£1,465)	(£732)	Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure for the Year	(£2,634)	(£1,317)

2024/25		Joint Ventures: Balance Sheet	2025/26	
JV Total £000s	Bury Share £000s	Description	JV Total £000s	Bury Share £000s
£17,109		Fixed Assets	£14,186	
£5,648		Current Assets	£7,483	
(£5,503)		Creditors: Amounts Falling due Within One Year	(£6,981)	
(£20,003)		Creditors: Amounts Falling after More Than One Year	(£20,018)	
(£2,749)	(£1,374)	NET ASSETS	(£5,330)	(£2,665)
£2,749		Profit and Loss Account	£5,330	
£2,749	£1,374	TOTAL SHAREHOLDER FUNDS	£5,330	£2,665

Bruntwood £000s	Bury £000s	Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP Member Loans/Capital Summary	Bruntwood £000s	Bury £000s
(£10,300)	(£10,300)	Members Loans/Capital 50/50 Share	(£10,300)	(£10,300)
(£250)	(£20,350)	Members Loans/Capital Actual	(£250)	(£20,350)
(£10,050)	£10,050	Debtor/Creditor	(£10,050)	£10,050

MUSE £000s	Bury £000s	The Prestwich Regeneration LLP Member Loans/Capital Summary	MUSE £000s	Bury £000s
(£1,563)	(£1,563)	Members Loans/Capital 50/50 Share	(£1,563)	(£1,563)
(£2,000)	(£1,126)	Members Loans/Capital Actual	(£2,000)	(£1,126)
£437	(£437)	Debtor/Creditor	£437	(£437)

	Bury £000s	Investments In Associates & Joint Ventures		Bury £000s
	£9,109	Bury Bruntwood (Millgate) LLP		£7,945
	£1,380	The Prestwich Regeneration LLP		£1,253
	£10,489	Balance		£9,198

08. Amount to be met from Government Grant and Local Taxes

This is the same amount as that disclosed in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement of Bury Council.

09. Goodwill

No goodwill arose in respect of any subsidiaries.

Glossary of Terms

Accounting Principles

Those principles, bases, conventions, rules, and practices applied by an entity that specify how the effects of transactions and other events are to be reflected in its financial statements through:

- Recognising
- Selecting measurement bases for, and
- Presenting

Assets, liabilities, gains, losses, and changes to reserves.

Accounting policies do not include estimation techniques. They define the process whereby transactions and other events are reflected in the financial statements.

Accruals Basis

The accruals principle is that income is recorded when it is earned rather than when it is received, and expenses are recorded when goods or services are received rather than when the payment is made.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation (experience gains and losses) or the actuarial assumptions have changed.

Agency Services

These are services that are performed by or for another Authority or public body, where the principal (the Authority responsible for the service) reimburses the agent (the Authority carrying out the work) for the costs of the work.

Amortisation

A charge to the comprehensive income and expenditure statement which spreads the cost of an intangible asset over a number of years in line with the Council's accounting policies.

Appointed Auditors

The appointment of External Auditors to Local Authorities is undertaken by the Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA), an independent company limited by guarantee and incorporated by the Local Government Association in August 2014. Mazars LLP are the Council's appointed auditor.

Asset

Items that are of worth and are measurable in terms of value. Current assets may change in value on a day-to-day basis, but the Council is expected to yield the benefit within the one financial year (e.g. short-term debtors). Non-current assets yield benefit to the Council for a period of more than one year (e.g. land).

Associated Companies

An associate is an entity over which the Council has significant influence.

Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)

AGMA represents the ten local authorities in Greater Manchester and works in partnership with Central Government, regional bodies, and other Greater Manchester public sector bodies.

Balances

The balances of the Council represent the accumulated surplus of income over expenditure on any of the Funds.

Better Care Fund (BCF)

The BCF was announced by Government in June 2013 spending round to ensure a transformation in health and social care.

Capital Adjustment Account

The capital adjustment account accumulates (on the debit side) the write-down of the historical cost of non-current assets as they are consumed by depreciation and impairments or written off on disposal. It accumulates (on the credit side) the resources that have been set aside to finance capital expenditure.

The same process applies to capital expenditure that is only capital by statutory definition (revenue expenditure funded by capital under statute). The balance on the account thus represents timing differences between the amount of the historical cost on non-current assets that have been consumed and the amount that have been financed in accordance with statutory requirements.

Capital Expenditure

This is expenditure on the acquisition of a non-current asset, or expenditure, which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing non-current asset.

Capital Financing Charges

This is the annual charge to the revenue account in respect of interest and principal repayments and payments of borrowed money, together with leasing rentals.

Capital Receipts

Income received from the sale of land or other capital assets, a proportion of which may be used to finance new capital expenditure, subject to the provisions contained within the Local Government Act 2003.

Carrying Amount

The Balance Sheet value recorded of either an asset or a liability.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

CIPFA is the leading professional accountancy body for public services.

Collection Fund

The Council as a billing authority has a statutory obligation to maintain a separate Collection Fund. This shows the transactions relating to the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates and its distribution to Local Government bodies.

Community Assets

These are non-current assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity which have no determinable finite useful life, and, in addition, any have restriction on their disposal. Examples include parks and historical buildings not used for operational purposes.

Contingency

This is money set aside in the budget to meet the cost of unforeseen items of expenditure, or shortfalls in income, and to provide for inflation where this is not included in individual budgets.

Contingent Liabilities or Assets

These are amounts potentially due to or from individuals or organisations which may arise in the future but which at this time cannot be determined accurately, and for which provision has not been made in the Council's accounts.

Council Tax Requirement

This is the estimated revenue expenditure on General Fund services that will be financed from the Council Tax after deducting income from fees and charges, General Fund Balances, specific grants, and any funding from reserves.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received, or services rendered, for which payment has not been made at the date of the balance sheet.

Current Service Cost

Current service cost is the increase in the present value of a defined benefit pension scheme's liabilities expected to arise from employee service in the current period, i.e. the ultimate pension benefits 'earned' by employees in the current year's employment.

Current Value

The current value of an asset reflects the economic environment prevailing for the service or function the asset is supporting at the reporting date.

Curtailement

Curtailements will show the cost of the early payment of pension benefits if any employee has been made redundant in the previous financial year.

Debtors

These are sums of money due to the Council that have not been received at the date of the Balance Sheet.

Deferred Capital Receipts

These represent capital income still to be received after disposals have taken place and wholly consists of principal outstanding from the sale of council houses.

Defined Benefit Scheme

This is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme other than a defined contribution scheme. Usually, the scheme rules refine the benefits independently of the contribution payable and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme. The scheme may be funded or unfunded (including notionally funded).

Defined Contribution Scheme

A Defined Contribution Scheme is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme into which an employer pays regular contributions as an amount or as a percentage of pay and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the scheme does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Depreciation

This is the measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful economic life of property, plant, and equipment assets.

Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC)

A method of valuation that provides a proxy for the market value of specialist assets.

Derecognition

Financial assets and liabilities will need to be removed from the Balance Sheet once performance under the contract is complete or the contract is terminated.

Discounts

Discounts represent the outstanding discount received on the premature repayment of Public Works Loan Board loans. In line with the requirements of the Code, gains arising for the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing have been written back to revenue. However, where the repurchase or borrowing was coupled with a refinancing or restructuring of borrowing with substantially the same overall economic effect when viewed as a whole, gains have been recognised over the life of the replacement loan.

Earmarked Reserves

The Council holds a number of reserves earmarked to be used to meet specific, known or predicted future expenditure.

External Audit

The independent examination of the activities and accounts of Local Authorities to ensure the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices and to ensure the Council has made proper arrangements to secure value for money in its use of resources.

Fair Value

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fees and Charges

Income arising from the provision of services e.g. the use of trade waste services.

Finance Lease

A finance lease is a lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a non-current asset to the lessee.

Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. The term 'financial instrument' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes both the most straightforward financial assets and liabilities such as trade receivables and trade payables and the most complex ones such as derivatives and embedded derivatives.

Financial Regulations

These are the written code of procedures approved by the Council, intended to provide a framework for proper financial management. Financial regulation usually set out rules on accounting, audit, administrative and budgeting procedures.

General Fund

This is the main revenue fund of the Council and includes the net cost of all services financed by local taxpayers and Government grants.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

This organisation was created by the Local Government, Economic Development and Construction Act, the GMCA assumed its powers and duties on 1 April 2011. It took over the functions previously the responsibility of the Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority (GMITA), which it replaced. It also took over responsibility for transport planning, traffic control and wide loads, assumed responsibility for transportation resources allocated to the Greater Manchester region and regional economic development functions. From 1 April 2018 it took over responsibilities for activities previously undertaken by the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority, the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and the Greater Manchester Police and Crime Commissioner.

Heritage Asset

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.

Housing Benefit

This is an allowance to persons receiving little or no income to meet, in whole or part their rent. Benefit is allowed or paid by Local Authorities but Central Government refunds part of the cost of the benefits and of the running costs of the services to Local Authorities. Benefits paid to the Council's own tenants are known as rent rebate and that paid to private tenants a rent allowance.

Impairment

A reduction in the value of assets below its value brought forward in the Balance Sheet, Examples of factors which may cause such a reduction in value include general price decreases, a significant decline in a non-current asset's market value and evidence of obsolescence or physical damage to the asset.

Infrastructure Assets

Non-current assets which general cannot be sold and from which benefit can be obtained only by continued use of the asset created. Examples of such assets are highways, footpaths, bridges and water and drainage facilities.

Intangible Assets

These are assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council. Examples include software, licences, and patents.

Interest cost (Pensions)

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period on the present value of the scheme liabilities which arises from the passage of time.

International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS)

Defined Accounting Standards that must be applied by all reporting entities to all financial statement in order to provide a true and fair view of the entity's financial position, and a standardised method of comparison with financial statements of the other entities.

Inventories

Amounts of unused or unconsumed stocks held in expectation of future use. Inventories are comprised of the following categories:

- Goods or other assets purchased for resale
- Consumable stores
- Raw materials and components
- Product and service in intermediate stages of completion
- Finished goods

Investment Properties

Property, which can be land or a building or part of a building or both, that is held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for operational purposes.

Joint Venture

A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties who have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

Leasing Costs

This is where a rental is paid for the use of an asset for a specified period of time. Two forms of lease exist: finance leases and operating leases.

Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO)

A LOBO is a type of loan instrument. The borrower borrows a principal sum for the duration of the loan period (typically 20 to 50 years), initially at a fixed interest rate. Periodically (typically every six months to 3 years), the lender has the ability to alter the interest rate. Should the lender make this offer, the borrower then has the option to continue with the instrument at the new rate or alternatively to terminate the agreement and pay back the principal sum without penalty.

Liabilities

These are amounts due to individuals or organisations which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Current liabilities are usually payable within one year of the Balance Sheet date.

Loss Allowance

The allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets, such as debtors.

Materiality

Information is material if omitting it or misstating it could influence the decisions that users make on the basis of financial information about the Council.

Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

This is a financial planning document that sets out the future years' financial forecasts for the Council. It considers local and national policy influences and projects their impact on the general fund revenue budget, capital programme and HRA. In Bury is usually covers a five-year timeframe.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

MRP is the minimum amount which must be charged to a Council's revenue account each year and set aside as provision for credit liabilities, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)

DLUHC is a central government department with the overriding responsibility for determining the allocation of general resources to Local Councils.

National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) (also known as Business Rates)

This is the levy on business property, based on a national rate in the pound applied to the 'rateable value' of the property. The Government determines national rate poundage each year which is applicable to all Local Councils.

Net Book Value (NBV)

The amount at which non-current assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical cost or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

Net Debt

Net debt is the council's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

Outturn

Actual expenditure and income compared to the budget.

Pooled Aligned Budget

A pooled fund, arising from a Section 75 Agreement between Bury Council and Bury NHS CCG/NHS GM Bury Locality (from 1 July 2022), but the partners' respective financial contributions to such a fund are held in their own bank accounts.

Pooled Budget

A pooled fund, arising from a Section 75 Agreement between Bury council and Bury NHS CCG/NHS GM Bury Locality (from 1 July 2022), comprising financial contributions from both partners hosted by one of the partners in its bank account.

Pooled Fund

This can be either a Pooled Budget or a Pooled Aligned Budget.

Precept

The amount collected by the Council on behalf of other bodies. For 2023/24 the major precepts were payable in relation to the GM Mayor as Police and Crime Commissioner and the Mayoral General Precept (Including Fire Services).

Premiums

These are discounts that have arisen following the early redemption of long-term debt, which are written down over the lifetime of replacement loans where applicable.

Prior Period Adjustments

These are material adjustments which are applicable to an earlier period arising from changes in accounting policies or for the correction of fundamental errors.

Provisions

Amounts set aside to meet liabilities or losses which it is anticipated will be incurred but where the amount and/or the timing of such costs are uncertain.

Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)

An arm of Central Government which is the major provider of loans to finance long-term funding requirements for Local Councils.

Related Parties

Related parties are Central Government, other Local Authorities, precepting and levying bodies, subsidiary and associated companies, Elected Member, and all senior officers. For individuals identified as related parties, the following are also presumed to be related parties:

- Members of the close family, or the same household; and
- Partnerships, companies, trusts, or other entities in which the individual, or member of their close family or the same household, has a controlling interest.

Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability

Remeasurement of the Net Defined Liability (asset) companies:

- Actuarial gains and losses
- The return on plan assets, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), and
- Any change in the net effect of the asset ceiling, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset).

Reporting Standards

The Code of Practice prescribes the accounting treatment and disclosures for all normal transactions of a Local Authority. It is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), International Accounting Standards (IAS) and International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) plus UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) and Financial Reporting Standards (FRS).

Reserves

Amounts set aside to help manage future risks, to provide working balances or that are earmarked for specific future expenditure priorities.

Revaluation Reserve

The Reserve records the accumulated gains on the non-current assets held by the Council arising from increases in value as a result of inflation or other factors (to the extent that these gains have not been consumed by subsequent downward movements in value).

Revenue Contributions

The method of financing capital expenditure directly from revenue.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provision but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset that has been charged as expenditure to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Section 75 Agreement

An agreement made between a Local Authority and NHS body under the powers of the National Health Service Act 2006 which facilitates the pooling of resources to improve the delivery of health and social care. Locally the agreement is between Bury Council and Bury NHS CCG.

Subsidiary

A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership, which is controlled by the Council.

Treasury Management

This is the process by which the Council controls its cash flow and its borrowing and lending activities.

Treasury Management Strategy (TMS)

A strategy prepared with regard to legislative and CIPFA requirements setting out the framework for treasury management activity for the Council.

Trust Funds

These are funds administered by the council on behalf of charitable organisations and/or specific organisations.

Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing

This is borrowing for which no financial support is provided by Central Government. The borrowing costs are to be met from current revenue budgets.

